



The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: The Fruit of the Holy Spirit: Peace

The spiritual virtue of peace is the subject of this article. This virtue is profoundly important in New Testament teaching. For example, St. Paul writes, "Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by all means" (*II Thessalonians 3:16*). The risen Lord Jesus Christ Himself reassures His fearful disciples in the upper room with the words, "Peace be unto you!" (*St. John 20:19, 21, and 26.*)

In Christian doctrine, peace can mean a number of things. It can mean freedom from inner turmoil, and it can mean the state of good favor and harmony between God and man brought about through the reconciling death of Jesus Christ on the cross and experienced by believers when they turn away from sin and believe in Christ. It describes a believer's relationship with

God in Christ, with fellow Christians, and with all people so far as it lies in a Christian's power to live at peace with everyone. It also describes a believer's own spiritual harmony with himself and includes freedom from a sense of guilt and from inner conflict.

Our peace results



from God's reconciling the world to Himself through His Son as well as from our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. St. Paul writes, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (*Romans 5:1*). This is the fundamental

meaning of peace: the good relationship we have with God because our relationship with Him has been restored through the atoning death of Jesus Christ and because we have come to experience that peace through faith in Him.

The peace that we have with God through our Lord Jesus Christ must also be expressed in our relationships with fellow-Christians and, as far as possible, with all people. As Jesus tells His disciples, "Salt is good: but if the salt have lost its saltiness, where-with will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves,

and have peace one with another" (*St. Mark 9:50*). Like the Hebrew concept of *shalom*, Christian peace must be expressed in our relationships. The peace we have with one another is like the salt that seasons the sacrifice; it seasons our lives as a

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The Fruit of the Holy Spirit: Peace

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living sacrifice to God. The fact that Jesus had to tell His disciples, “Have peace one with another” means that Christians have to ensure that they are at peace with one another— it is by no means an automatic virtue or grace!

In the *Book of Com-*

people. In the same Office, the Prayer for the President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority (page 18) contains the petition “that... we may dwell secure in Thy peace.” In this prayer, God’s peace includes not only harmonious relationships at all levels of society within our country but

also freedom from violence and war. The Prayer for all Conditions of Men includes these petitions for the Catholic (Universal) Church: “that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life” (pages 18-19). Our Collect for the Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity is a beautiful prayer linking the forgiveness of sins to peace and a “quiet mind”. The Benediction at the end of Holy Communion, which quotes *Philippians* 4:7, blesses the people with God’s peace. Finally, at the end of each service at St. Luke’s, the words of the Dismissal, “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord”, remind all of us that we are bearers of Christ’s peace, and we carry that peace on our mission to the world.

But how shall we always be filled with peace? Firstly, we must know that we have peace with

God through the Lord Jesus Christ and by our faith in Him. Faith in Christ is necessary if we are to experience that peace. Peace and trust in God are linked in *Isaiah* 26:3-4: “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the LORD forever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.”

Secondly, we must aim, like St. Paul, to preserve a good conscience (*Acts* 23:1; *II Corinthians* 1:12; *I Timothy* 3:9) so that no persistent sinful habit may take hold of our mind and life and mar our peace with God. St. Paul clearly shows that all who are in the Lord Jesus Christ have peace since they live their lives in union with the Holy Spirit and directed by Him (*Romans* 8:1-2 ff.). Such a way of life embraces good relationships with fellow-Christians especially but also with family members, friends, and with all people as far as possible (*Romans* 12:18; *I Thessalonians* 5:15). This holy way of life is life-giving and peaceful, since the Holy Spirit directs it: For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace (*Romans* 8:6).

Thirdly, to continue living in the peace of the Holy Spirit, we must learn to abstain from all

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mon Prayer, frequent references to peace occur. For example, the Collect for Peace in the Daily Office of Morning Prayer reminds us that God is “the author of peace and lover of concord”, a phrase which underscores the importance of peace in relationships among

***Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.***

***Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.***

***Peace, perfect peace, with sorrows surging round?
On Jesus’ bosom naught but calm is found.***

***Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away?
In Jesus’ keeping we are safe, and they.***

***Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?
Jesus we know, and He is on the throne.***

***Peace, perfect peace, death shadowing us and ours?
Jesus has vanquished death and all its powers.***

***It is enough: earth’s struggles soon shall cease,
and Jesus call us to heaven’s perfect peace.***

– Edward Henry Bickersteth, 1875

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit: Peace

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anxieties and instead submit our concerns and prayers to the Lord with thanksgiving and rejoicing (*Ephesians 5:18-20; I Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:6-7; I Peter 5:6-7*), so expressing the trust in God which ensures peace.

All this is not easy, nor can these things be done just once and the machine switched on, as it were. Day by day, we must continue in peace

with God. So we must persevere in times of peace and quiet with the Lord, reading the Bible meditatively, waiting on the Lord, and being attentive to the words of the Holy Spirit.

Christians are called to be “peacemakers” (*St. Matthew 5:9*), for such are the children of God. This does not mean that we are called to broker peace between one nation and another, but that all our behavior must make

for peace, not discord and enmity. To do this, we lead our lives in a humble, gentle way, considering others better than ourselves, and not ourselves better than others. Let us encourage one another and so build up the Church of God, including this congregation of St. Luke’s Chapel in the Hills.

– *The Reverend Christopher Parrish*

Shining Our Light

Those of you who are My Friends on Facebook know that I often rail against the overuse and abuse of electronic “connections.” I am perpetually pleading everyone to “put down your blasted phones!”

That said and put aside, there are potential positive uses for Social Media. Our St. Luke’s Chapel has a Facebook page which was set up by Deacon Vogel and to which I try to contribute several times a week. As I write this, we currently have 71 “Likes,” which means that when something is posted on our page 71 of our Friends (anyone who has clicked “like” on our page) have the potential to see the post, and last week something was posted on our

page which reached 252 people!

Typical posts are of current events and our upcoming worship and program schedule, plus Collects of the Day and prayers. I have also launched a “Love Out Loud” Campaign, which shares inspiring quotes, comments, and suggestions to help us spread Christ’s Love to the world.

Beyond Facebook, there is another group which brings together neighbors: Nextdoor.com. If you are even a bit on the internet, this website may be of great interest to you. Nextdoor is a product of Facebook, but groups users by neighborhood and location, so that the news, commentary, and events are pertinent by locale. I will admit, that as with Facebook, there are

some distractions of frivolous chatter and, unfortunately, over-the-fence bickering, but those things put aside, Nextdoor helps to unite folks in a neighborly way.

I encourage you to look into Nextdoor also, because it offers another forum for us, as a St. Luke’s Chapel Family, to share our activities with others in our area. I do encourage all of us to use the site judiciously, but some of our activities such as our Craft Fair and even our Bible Study might be events that you would feel comfortable sharing with your neighbors—yet another way for us to use electronic/social media to let our St. Luke’s Light shine out into the Electronic World.

– *Lee Ann Vojvoda*



More Holiness Give Me

More holiness give me, more striving within.
More patience in suffering, more sorrow for sin.
More faith in my Savior, more sense of His care.
More joy in His service, more purpose in prayer.

More gratitude give me, more trust in the Lord.
More zeal for His glory, more hope in His Word.
More tears for His sorrows, more pain at His grief.
More meekness in trial, more praise for relief.

More purity give me, more strength to o'ercome.
More freedom from earth-stains, more longings for home.
More fit for the kingdom, more useful I'd be,
More blessed and holy, more, Savior, like Thee.

– Phillip Bliss, 1873



Parish Postings

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, November 8th, immediately following the noon worship service. Anyone who would like to observe the meeting is welcome to do so.

Vestry

If you would like to order a 2016 ordo calendar marked with liturgical dates and colors, please write a check payable to St. Luke's Chapel in the hills for \$12.00 and convey your wishes to Father Parrish by Tuesday, November 10th. Thank you!

ORDO

The Altar Guild will have a work party on Saturday, November 14th, to

prepare for Advent. Please meet in the Sacristy at 10:00 AM. Thank you!



The Portola Valley Pony Club, where our sister Anna Waldern rides, is offering fresh wreaths and greens for Christmas. A brochure of available items is available in McNeely Hall on the small table. If you would like to place an order, please fill out the order form as appropriate and make your check payable to Portola Valley Pony Club. The final day orders will be accepted is Sunday, November 15th.



Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ on Thursday, November 26th, at 10:00 AM for a Thanksgiving Day celebration of Holy Communion. Thanks be to God, this Thanksgiving marks the 51st anniversary of the first worship service at the Chapel in the Hills!



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Parish Postings

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There will be a parish-wide work party on Saturday, November 28th, to prepare the Chapel for Advent. We will clean the light fixtures, decorate the Sanctuary, and do other such tasks as we have time and volunteers. Please meet in the Chapel at 10:00 AM, and bring a picnic lunch. Thank you!



Ladies, please note that—because the work party mentioned above conflicts with our usual meeting time—there will be no meeting of Joanna's Circle this month.



November 29th, the First Sunday in Advent, is the beginning of the new liturgical year as well as of a new liturgical season. The 10:00 AM Holy Communion service will feature the Children's Presentation of the Crèche, an always-lively and beautiful event. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join you as we start this season of anticipation!



Bridgitte Parrish wishes to thank everyone who generously supported the Craft Fair on November 1st by contributing items for sale, working at the event, and buying crafts, baked goods, and gifts. The proceeds will be used to purchase Christian books and DVDs.



The Vestry has chosen to raise funds for Doctors without Borders as the Chapel's fourth quarter Community Missions Project. Doctors Without Borders works worldwide to provide emergency medical aid to those affected by conflicts, epidemics, disasters, and exclusion from medical care. Eighty-seven cents of every dollar raised is spent on providing this medical care. For more information, please visit:

www.
DoctorsWithoutBorders.
org

If you wish to donate to this Community Missions Project, please

make a note of your contribution on your check memo line or offertory envelope so that our Treasurer may know how to allocate your donation. Thank you!



A Bible Study class meets at 9:15 AM in McNeely Hall, and all are welcome. Our current study is *Hosea*, the story of God's faithful love and redemption of His people in the face of our unfaithfulness to Him. Bring your Bible!



Kindly take a few minutes each Sunday to sign greeting cards and to scan the small table for new issues of Chapel DOW, and REC newsletters. Please also consider signing up to provide refreshments on an upcoming Sunday. Thanks!



Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 8th

The Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity

*Bible Study: **Hosea***

9:15 AM

Office of Daily Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Holy Communion

noon

Vestry Meeting

immediately following the noon worship service

Tuesday, November 10th

Deadline for 2016 ordo calendar orders

Saturday, November 14th

Altar Guild work party to prepare for Advent

10:00 AM

Sunday, November 15th

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity

Last day to order greens from Portola Valley Pony Club

*Bible Study: **Hosea***

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Friday, November 20th

Deadline for submissions to the December issue
of *The Hillside Messenger*

Sunday, November 22nd

The Sunday next before Advent

*Bible Study: **Hosea***

9:15 AM

Office of Daily Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Holy Communion

noon

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Upcoming Events

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Thursday, November 26th

Thanksgiving Day

51st anniversary of the first worship service
at the Chapel in the Hills

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Saturday, November 28th

*Work party to prepare the Chapel for Advent—
please bring a picnic lunch!*

10:00 AM

Sunday, November 29th

The First Sunday in Advent

*Bible Study: **Hosea***

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Children's Presentation of the Crèche

10:00 AM

Sunday, December 6th

The Second Sunday in Advent

*Bible Study: **Hosea***

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM





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A PUBLICATION OF
ST. LUKE'S CHAPEL IN THE HILLS
ANGLICAN CHURCH

A PARISH OF
THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST,
THE REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
A FOUNDING JURISDICTION OF
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

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Visitor

Worship Schedule

St.

Luke's Chapel in the Hills is a traditional Anglican parish which uses the 1928 edition *Book of Common Prayer*. We invite you to join us for worship soon!

*"A place
where the Bible is taught."*



*Biblical in teaching.
Liturgical in worship.
Loving in practice.*

First Sunday of each month

Holy Communion with Healing Service
10:00 AM

Second and fourth Sundays each month

Office of Daily Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Said Holy Communion
noon

Third and fifth Sunday each month and Feast Days

Holy Communion
10:00 AM