

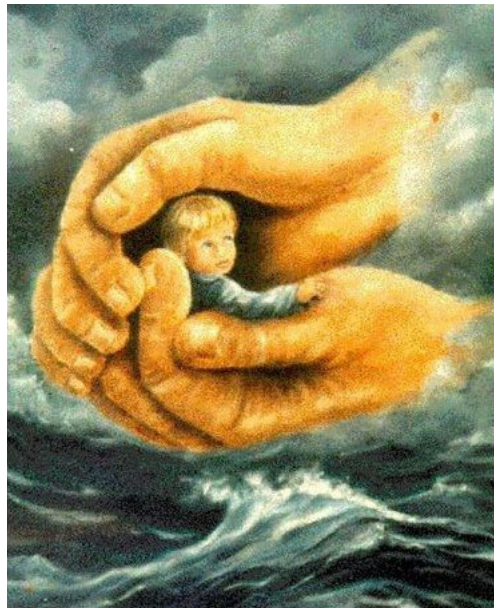
# The Hillside Messenger

## A Message from the Rector: Reflections on Psalm 139:1-12

Many of the faithful have occasionally felt that God seems absent from them. In *Psalm 139*, we read that God is always present and knows everything about everyone. This truth is both daunting and comforting. It is daunting in that we are challenged to put away all sin from our lives that God may not find us doing evil. Yet it is comforting in that if we are making every effort to live a life pleasing to God, while believing in the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins and for salvation, God is always at hand to strengthen and reassure us.

The Hebrew word for “search” in *Psalm 139:1* and *139:23*, *chakar*, means to dig deeply, examine carefully. At the beginning of this psalm, the psalmist proclaims that God has searched him and known him. This is not a superfi-

cial knowledge, but a very deep and intimate knowing. The Lord knows all the psalmist’s movements, actions, and thoughts (*Psalm 139:2*). The psalmist’s statements about God’s knowledge of everything about him



apply to all human beings— that is how deeply God has searched out all our thoughts and feelings. The author of the *Epistle to the Hebrews* testifies more briefly about God’s omniscience when he writes:

Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

*Hebrews 4:13*,  
KJV

Since God knows all our words before we speak them and all our thoughts before we think them, there is nowhere we can go to escape His presence, nowhere in all the universe (*Psalm 139:8*). His omniscience and omnipresence are both a challenge and a comfort to all the faithful.

In these times, when we see so little of one another except via teleconferencing, it is tempting to think that somehow we are hidden from others. Often people do not know one another extremely well unless they have been friends for many years. But God knows all of us, and there is no virtual

(Continues on page 2)

### Inside this Issue:

Our Chapel Family Prayer List	4
A Prayer for Our Congregation	5
In Times of Great Sickness and Mortality	5
For Social Justice	5
Voices of St. Luke’s	6
Parish Postings	7
Upcoming Events	11

## Reflections on Psalm 139:1-12

(Continued from page 1)  
background that can hide our lives from God nor any mask through which He cannot see. Although human knowledge and science have advanced incredibly even over a few centuries, God's knowledge remains incomparable to our limited knowledge as human beings. Therefore, the psalmist rightly concludes:

Such knowledge  
is too wonderful  
for me; it is high,  
I cannot attain  
unto it.

*Psalm 139:6, KJV*

What is the effect of God's unsurpassable knowledge of each person in the world? For all those who have rejected the life-giving Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the realization of God's searching and comprehensive knowledge of their lives will be too much to bear when the sun becomes dark, the moon red, and there is a great earthquake that shakes every mountain and island:

And the kings of  
the earth, and the  
great men, and  
the rich men, and  
the chief captains,  
and the mighty men,  
and every bondman,  
and every free man,  
hid themselves in the  
dens and in the rocks  
of the mountains;  
and said to the

mountains and  
rocks, Fall on us,  
and hide us from  
the face of Him  
that sitteth on the  
throne, and from  
the wrath of the  
Lamb: For the  
great day of His  
wrath is come;  
and who shall be  
able to stand?

*Revelation 6:15-17, KJV*

There will be no place to hide on Judgment Day. It is better that we all realize that now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation (*II Corinthians 6:1b*), when we must be reconciled to God, repent of all our sins, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and live life following Him as Lord.

But for us who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, what is the effect of God's omniscience and omnipresence in our lives? We must lay aside closely-clinging weights and unnecessary burdens and run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus Christ our Lord, the Author and Finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:1-2). We must realize continually that sin and temptation must be resisted strenuously while we trust in the Lord for His grace. We must also persevere in prayer and intercession for all the faithful and for those who will receive Jesus Christ as Lord as a result of our witness.

Not only in prayer and intercession, but in all the trials of the Christian life, we must remain strong and faithful, persevering to the end. God's omniscience and omnipresence must remind us, too, of the precious value of the Christian faith with which we have been entrusted, and we must make every effort to know our faith, so as to share it effectively and teach it to others.

Finally, the omniscience and omnipresence of God must encourage us, as we know that we continually serve God in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, who is our Advocate and Guide, leading us in all God's truth, as He has revealed it in Jesus Christ our Lord.

— *The Reverend  
Christopher Parrish*

## *Reflections on Psalm 139:1-12*

---

### *Psalm 139:1-12*

*O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me.  
Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising,  
Thou understandest my thought afar off.  
Thou compassest my path and my lying down,  
and art acquainted with all my ways.  
For there is not a word in my tongue,  
but, lo, O Lord, Thou knowest it altogether.  
Thou hast beset me behind and before,  
and laid Thine hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is high, I cannot attain unto it.*

*Whither shall I go from Thy spirit?  
or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?  
If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there:  
if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there.  
If I take the wings of the morning,  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;  
Even there shall Thy hand lead me,  
and Thy right hand shall hold me.  
If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me;  
even the night shall be light about me.  
Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee;  
but the night shineth as the day:  
the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee.*

---

## Our Chapel Family Prayer List

***This prayer list  
was current  
as of September 6th,  
and the people  
of St. Luke's  
will pray  
for each need  
until we are notified  
that it has been met.  
Please contact  
Father Parrish  
to add or remove  
names.  
Thank you!***

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that Thou wouldest be pleased to make Thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for Thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, 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. Finally, we commend to Thy fatherly goodness:

Archbishop  
Foley Beach;  
Bishop  
Bill Ilgenfritz;  
Bishop  
Richard Lipka;  
Canon  
Michael Penfield;  
Father Chris Parrish;  
Deacon Peter Vogel; and  
Deacon Linda Bracken;  
also all those who serve  
as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:  
President  
Donald Trump; and  
Governor  
Gavin Newsom;  
as well as all those who  
are any ways afflicted, or  
distressed, in mind, body,  
or estate; especially those  
for whom our prayers are

desired:

the soldiers, sailors,  
marines, airmen, coasties,  
police officers,  
firefighters, and pilots  
who protect us every day;  
our persecuted Christian  
brothers and sisters  
throughout the world;  
all refugees;  
all who are suffering  
from Covid-19,  
the medical personnel  
treating them, and  
all those who work  
with the public;  
all who have suffered  
loss or displacement  
due to wildfires  
and those who provide  
disaster relief;  
those who have suffered  
loss or displacement  
due to rioting;  
Jim and Edna Davis;  
Estelle Wilson;  
Joya de Rossett;  
Debbie;  
Scott;  
Brittany;  
James and Tanya Theiler;  
Dale Quinn;  
Brian Quinn;  
Mark Quinn;  
Lisa;  
Ben;  
Marion;  
Flo;  
Max;  
Dan and Kendra Pack;  
Ernst Hernandez;  
the Stanko family;  
Yoshihiko and Hideko  
Ikegami;

Lori Anderson;  
Ali Hemphill;  
Lori Hemphill;  
Pennel Magaw;  
Tracy Magaw;  
Mary Frances Reeves;  
Maryanne Sanchez;  
Kaitlyn Lindstedt;  
Brenda Terry;  
Elise;  
Thomas and MaryAlice  
Dunbar;  
Mrs. Kitt;  
Jon Carter;  
Marilyn;  
Frank Capone;  
the family of  
John Jerrehian;  
Rose Handwerker;  
Ann and Frank MacVoy;  
Gary Winiger;  
Bishop Ilgenfritz;  
Dave Shuman;  
Barbara Busch;  
Libby Codd;  
Bridgitte Parrish;  
Bill and Patsy Zahrt;  
Maria Fernandez;  
Helen;  
and for all those  
who are in our hearts,  
that it may please Thee to  
comfort and relieve them,  
according to their several  
necessities; giving them  
patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue  
out of all their afflictions.  
And this we beg for Jesus  
Christ's sake. Amen.

## *A Prayer for Our Congregation*

**O** GOD, Holy Ghost,  
Sanctifier of the faithful,  
visit, we pray Thee,  
the Congregation of St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills  
with Thy love and favour;  
enlighten our minds more and more  
with the light of the everlasting Gospel;  
graft in our hearts a love of the truth;  
increase in us true religion;  
nourish us with all goodness;  
and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same,  
O blessed Spirit,  
whom, with the Father and the Son together,  
we worship and glorify as one God,  
world without end.  
Amen.



## *In Times of Great Sickness and Mortality      For Social Justice*

**O** MOST mighty  
and merciful God,  
in this time of grievous sickness,  
we flee unto Thee for succour.  
Deliver us, we beseech Thee,  
from our peril;  
give strength and skill to all those  
who minister to the sick;  
prosper the means made use of  
for their cure;  
and grant that,  
perceiving how frail  
and uncertain our life is,  
we may apply our hearts  
unto that heavenly wisdom  
which leadeth to eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**ALMIGHTY** God,  
who hast created man  
in Thine own image;  
Grant us grace  
fearlessly to contend against evil,  
and to make no peace  
with oppression;  
and, that we may  
reverently use our freedom,  
help us to employ it  
in the maintenance of justice  
among men and nations,  
to the glory of Thy holy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Voices of St. Luke's

**I** take comfort from  
*Psalm 121:1.*

I lift my eyes to  
look to the hills—  
where does my help  
come from? My  
**help** comes from  
the LORD, the  
Maker of heaven  
and earth, indeed  
He who watches  
over Israel will nei-  
ther slumber nor  
sleep.

Joya de Rossett

**This month's question  
was submitted  
to our Chapel Family  
by Julia McNeely.  
She asked,  
"What is  
a Bible passage  
which gives you  
comfort or strength?"**

**I** have fond memories  
of *Numbers 6:24-26*.  
This particular Bible  
verse is one of my fa-  
vorites because I can  
still hear my Father's  
voice reciting it in the  
front of the Church  
during the Service. I  
can feel the sincerity  
and truth to God's  
word when I hear it.

The Lord  
bless thee,  
and keep  
thee: The  
Lord make  
His face shine  
upon thee,  
and be gra-  
cious unto  
thee: The  
Lord lift up

His countenance  
upon thee, and give  
thee peace.

Julia McNeely

**The** Great Commission  
(*St. Matthew 28:18-20*)  
energizes me to do what  
He is calling us to do by  
following Him, His Word  
and His ways. It comforts  
me knowing He is with  
me always.

And Jesus came  
and spake unto  
them, saying, All  
power is given unto  
Me in heaven and  
in earth. Go ye  
therefore, and teach  
all nations, baptiz-  
ing them in the  
Name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and  
of the Holy Ghost:  
Teaching them to  
observe all things  
whatsoever I have  
commanded you:  
and, lo, I am with  
you always, even  
unto the end of the  
world. Amen.

Bridgitte Parrish

**My** favorite passage is  
*Romans 5:1-5*, since it  
first of all declares how  
we have peace with God  
through our Lord Jesus  
Christ because we have  
been set in a right rela-  
tionship with God by  
faith. Therefore, we are at  
peace with God now. But  
this passage shows that in  
the same grace in which  
we stand, we rejoice in the  
hope of God's glory, that  
is, in sharing His glory  
forever. But this passage  
teaches us also to rejoice  
in our tribulations on ac-  
count of their value in  
bringing about patience,  
experience, and hope,  
which does not make us  
ashamed, since the love of  
God has been poured out  
in our hearts through the  
Holy Spirit. It is a beauti-  
ful passage in that it  
points to one great result  
of justification by faith:  
Peace with God. It directs  
us to consider the joyful

hope of resurrection and  
everlasting life with the  
Lord Jesus Christ.

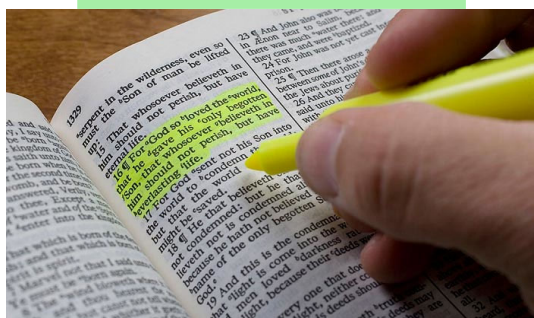
Therefore being  
justified by faith,  
we have peace with  
God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ:  
By whom also we  
have access by faith  
into this grace  
wherein we stand,  
and rejoice in hope  
of the glory of God.  
And not only so,  
but we glory in tribu-  
lations also:  
knowing that tribu-  
lation worketh pa-  
tience; and pa-  
tience, experience;  
and experience,  
hope: And hope  
maketh not  
ashamed; because  
the love of God is  
shed abroad in our  
hearts by the Holy  
Ghost which is giv-  
en unto us.

Father Parrish

**I** take comfort from *St. Matthew 28:20b*, which  
assures me that in every  
circumstance Jesus my  
Savior is always with me  
to hear me, help me, guide  
me, and teach me. I espe-  
cially rejoice that He caps  
His promise with *Amen*.  
How wonderful that our  
Lord, who spoke all Crea-  
tion into being, under-  
scores His pledge by add-  
ing "so be it."

... and, lo, I am  
with you always,  
even unto the end  
of the world. Amen.

Kim Vogel



## *Parish Postings*

**G**od is good! St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills, while continuing to comply with County of Santa Clara Health Department orders to slow the spread of Covid-19, is now able to offer additional opportunities for worship.

### **Saturday Afternoon Holy Communion September 12th and 26th 5:00 PM**

Celebrations of Holy Communion are held outdoors on the grounds of the Chapel. The sound system is used so that everyone is able to hear and fully participate in the worship. Please note:

- You will need to let Father Parrish know you plan to attend all outdoor Holy Communion services well in advance so that appropriate safety preparations may be made prior to your arrival.
- You will need to park on the right-hand side of the Chapel's main doors so that every folding chair is socially distant from the others.
- Please take a seat in whichever empty chair is nearest the altar upon your arrival, filling in the chairs from front to back, so that every worshipper's space is respected.
- All attendees must wear face masks.
- The restroom will be available for hand washing. You may wish to bring and use hand sanitizer before the service begins.
- Father Parrish will wear gloves. Holy Communion will be administered with sterilized tweezers (intincted wafer only), and the wafer will be placed in the hands of each Communicant. Communicants will come up one by one to receive Holy Communion. Please move to the open space at the rear of the chairs before unmasking to swallow Communion.
- The service will be a said service with no singing.
- A sermon will be delivered.

Father Parrish says, "I understand that some will not want to attend a service of Holy Communion under these constraints, but this opportunity is provided for those of you who do wish to attend Holy Communion, provided the necessary safeguards are in place." He further notes that a pastor in Santa Clara who has held indoor services has, in addition to risking worshippers' physical health, incurred several thousand dollars in fines on behalf of the church.

### **Sunday Morning Prayer Services via Zoom 10:00 AM**

Our Chapel Family continues to meet via Zoom teleconferencing for Morning Prayer on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Please join us, and invite your friends!

*Note:* If you prefer not to appear on the teleconference, you can still join us by phoning in to the meeting.

If you are new to using Zoom, the first thing to do is download the **free** Zoom app onto your computer, tablet, or phone. Do this well before the meeting.. It only takes a few minutes. Your device should have an internet connection, microphone, and speaker. Your device needs to have a camera if you want to see the group and be seen. Of course, smartphones and most computers already have all of that. On a Mac or PC just go to **<https://Zoom.us/download>** to get the app. To get the app on your phone, go to the appropriate app store and download it.

*(Continues on page 8)*

## *Parish Postings*

Father Parrish will e-mail a reminder with the meeting link and password a few days before we meet for Morning Prayer. He will also e-mail the bulletin for the weeks we worship via Zoom. If you have not received an invitation to a Zoom Morning Prayer service, please ask Father Parrish to add you to the list.

Then when it's time to begin Morning Prayer, click on our meeting link. If the site asks for the meeting password, type it in. Type in your name if it asks. The site may ask if you want to connect to the meeting with video or not. Then it will ask if you want to connect with computer audio; click that, and you're all set.



**ReVive!** Team members will meet via Zoom to watch and discuss the final American Anglican Council's "Rediscovering Evangelism" video at 2:00 PM on Friday, September 11th.



**The Vestry** will meet on Sunday, September 20th, at 11:30 AM. The meeting will take place via Zoom following Morning Prayer at 10:00 AM and a period of fellowship. Any interested parishioner is invited to attend (just remain on the teleconference from Morning Prayer).



**As** we cannot pass the Alms Basin during teleconference worship services, please mail your tithes and offerings to:

St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills  
26140 Duval Way  
Los Altos Hills, California 94022-4413

Thank you!



*(Continues on page 9)*



## Parish Postings

(Continued from page 8)

Father Parrish is offering a catechism class as part of the Chapel's renewed focus on evangelism and discipleship. This class will delve into what it means to be a Christian and give class members a refresher course on sharing the Gospel. The class is open to all who are interested, whether already confirmed or preparing for Confirmation at the next visit of the Bishop. Please let Father Parrish know if you would like to join this class.



Our ongoing ministry collecting non-perishable foods for the Downtown Palo Alto Food Closet is particularly important for our neighbors who are financially insecure during the Covid-19 pandemic. If you are able to make donations to the Food Closet, please do. The need is urgent. There are three ways you can help:

- **Bring food donations** to the Chapel when you come to an outdoor celebration of Holy Communion and place them in the wicker basket for delivery to the Food Closet.
- **Take grocery donations** to the Food Closet yourself. The Food Closet is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM (Thursday to 6:30 PM). Donors may bring groceries and distribution items to the Food Closet at 425 Hamilton Avenue in Palo Alto on the All Saints' Church campus. Use the side door which is located to the left of the trash area to avoid the line.
- **Send a monetary donation** to the Food Closet in care of All Saints' Church (please make the check payable to All Saints' Church and write *Food Closet* on the memo line):

All Saints' Episcopal Church  
555 Waverley Street  
Palo Alto, California 94301



## Upcoming Events

W

hile the Chapel itself remains closed in compliance with State of California and County of Santa Clara Shelter in Place orders to slow the spread of Covid-19, we continue to meet online for Morning Prayer and fellowship on Sundays and have been granted permission to meet outdoors for Holy Communion on Saturday afternoons. Please see *Parish Postings* for instructions on joining us for these services.

### **Sunday, September 6th**

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Office of Morning Prayer* via Zoom  
10:00 AM

### **Friday, September 11th**

Day of Fasting and Prayer

*ReVive! Team Meeting* via Zoom  
2:00 PM

### **Saturday, September 12th**

*Holy Communion* on the Chapel grounds  
5:00 PM

### **Sunday, September 13th**

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Office of Morning Prayer* via Zoom  
10:00 AM

### **Friday, September 18th**

Day of Fasting and Prayer

### **Sunday, September 20th**

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Office of Morning Prayer* via Zoom  
10:00 AM

*Vestry Meeting* via Zoom

11:30 AM

### **Friday, September 25th**

Day of Fasting and Prayer

### **Saturday, September 26th**

*Holy Communion* on the Chapel grounds  
5:00 PM

### **Sunday, September 27th**

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

*Office of Morning Prayer* via Zoom  
10:00 AM

(Continues on page 11)

## *Upcoming Events*

*(Continued from page 10)*

**Friday, October 2nd**  
Day of Fasting and Prayer

**Sunday, October 4th**  
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity  
*Office of Morning Prayer* via Zoom  
10:00 AM





# *The Hillside Messenger*

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

A PARISH OF  
THE CONVOCATION OF THE WEST,  
PART OF THE  
MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF  
ALL SAINTS IN  
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN NORTH AMERICA

26140 Duval Way  
Los Altos Hills, California  
94022-4413

Office phone:

650-941-6524

Rector's cellular:

669-245-9701

E-mail:

ChristopherParrish7@gmail.com

Website:

[www.StLukesChapel.church](http://www.StLukesChapel.church)

«AddressBlock»

## *Non-Pandemic Worship Schedule (We live in hope!)*

# 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, third, and fifth Sundays of each month**

Holy Communion  
(with Healing Service on First Sunday)  
10:00 AM

### **Second and fourth Sundays each month**

Office of Daily Morning Prayer  
10:00 AM

Said Holy Communion  
noon

Please note that both services on Feast Days occurring on these Sundays will be Holy Communion.