

The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: Our Response in Times of Plague

Today, as the world is faced with increasing numbers of Covid-19 cases and deaths from the Delta variant of the novel coronavirus, as well as with the appearance of the Lambda variant, I believe it is appropriate to begin my article this month by quoting from the 1662

Prayer Book this truly relevant prayer to be used "In the time of any common Plague or Sickness."

O Almighty God,
Who in

Thy wrath didst send a plague upon Thine own people in the wilderness, for their obstinate rebellion against Moses and Aaron; and also, in the time of king Da-

vid, didst slay with the plague of pestilence threescore and ten thousand, and yet remembering Thy mercy didst save the rest: Have pity upon us miserable sinners, who now

now please Thee to withdraw from us this plague and grievous sickness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

page 40,
**Book of
Common Prayer,**
1662

This prayer is not afraid to admit the possibility that any current plague people may be facing could be the result of God's anger at His people's stubborn rebellion and willful, persistent sin. Such a conclusion

may be drawn from the Biblical record of God's infliction of plagues on His own people, Israel, at various times in their history. In **Numbers 11**, for example, after the people had complained to Moses about the lack of meat in

are visited with great sickness and mortality; that like as Thou didst then accept of an atonement, and didst command the destroying Angel to cease from punishing, so it may



Inside this Issue:

Book Review: <i>Gospel Reset</i>	3
Voices of St. Luke's	4
Our Chapel Family Prayer List	6
A Prayer for Our Congregation	7
In Times of Great Sickness and Mortality	7
For Rain	7
Parish Postings	9
Upcoming Events	10

(Continues on page 2)

Our Response in Times of Plague

(Continued from page 1)
the wilderness and God had brought them an abundance of quails, the people who had complained were struck dead by a plague (*Numbers 11:32-33*). Later, the ten spies who brought back a bad report of Canaan, and caused Israel to rebel against Moses and Aaron by refusing to enter the Promised Land, died of a plague before the Lord (*Numbers 14:36-37*). Also, when the congregation complained against Moses and Aaron, accusing them of killing God's people (referring to the sudden death of the rebellious Korah, Dathan, Abiram and others in *Numbers 16*), a plague broke out against the people. Moses commanded Aaron to take a censer, coals, and incense and make atonement for the people. Aaron did so, and the plague stopped, but only after fourteen thousand seven hundred people had died (*Numbers 16:49*). This prayer also alludes to the three-day plague inflicted on Israel because of King David's sin in a military census, which resulted in seventy thousand deaths, and stopped only because King David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings (*II Samuel 24:25*).

In the above prayer, it is also acknowledged that God's destroying Angel is responsible for a plague, but that a plague may be stopped by intercession based on the

atoning death of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is this prayer's attitude of humility before God, the acknowledgement of God's anger at our sin, and the truth that intercession based on Christ's atoning death can stop a plague, that make it a valuable prayer for use in our devotions.

But it is also useful to glean insights from the equivalent prayer "In Time of Great Sickness and Mortality" found in our 1928 *Prayer Book*.

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.

page 45,
*Book of
Common Prayer,*
1928

This prayer does not take a theological position on the origin of plagues, but it appeals to God for

help and deliverance, intercedes for health workers and all who minister to the sick, and asks God to prosper, or make widely available, the means made use of for curing the plague, whatever they may be. But there is another important petition in this prayer, and that is that the faithful may wholeheartedly follow "that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life" in view of the frailty and uncertainty of our life in this world. Like the 1662 prayer, the 1928 prayer also pleads that God will deliver people from the sickness of the plague and stop the plague; the 1928 prayer, however, is also concerned with the importance of salvation and that each believer apply his heart to the heavenly wisdom of the Gospel that leads to eternal life. In this way, if anyone should suddenly die of sickness, he will have prepared himself to meet with the Lord in heaven. Spiritual preparation for death is not something that should be indefinitely postponed. Rather, when plague and sickness surround us, at least then, we should turn even more to the Lord and apply ourselves to our faith and to obeying God's word.

The 1662 prayer also lays before us the need to pray to God for our society and our world, to examine deeply— and let the

(Continues on page 3)

Our Response in Times of Plague

(Continued from page 2)

Holy Spirit speak to us on this—the sins of this world in which we live, and to pray for all in authority in our cities, counties, and country, that we may live a godly and quiet life (*I St. Timothy 2:1-3*), not only as individuals but as communities and as a nation. We must pray for thorough repentance throughout our nation so that God may be glorified among us and so that everyone may live in a just society in which the freedoms of all are respected by all. For example, if more and more people are having to live in tents and RVs because their work-

ing incomes cannot keep pace with the cost of housing or living, something has gone terribly wrong. It may be argued that landlords must keep raising rents to pay their maintenance expenses, but if this trend continues, where will the poor live? How will they live? We will end up with a polarized society and an unjust one. But the standard God has set is this:

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to

walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 6:8,
KJV

Just actions, merciful deeds, and walking humbly with God are vital for a healthy church and a healthy society! By our continuing intercession, our walk with the Lord, by our kind deeds, by our witness to Christ's righteous standard for church and society, let us persevere in being God's ambassadors to our generation!

— The Reverend
Christopher Parrish

Book Review: Gospel Reset

I highly recommend *Gospel Reset* by Ken Ham to help us effectively share a message of salvation with others.

Our culture has changed. Christian values, traditions, and terminologies that were once common knowledge have become a thing of the past. The typical Sunday morning call to salvation is, sadly, like listening to another language for many people today. This book will help you effectively share a message of salvation with your children, grandchildren, friends, neighbors, and others in a way that actu-

ally makes sense. Hit the mark with a *Gospel Reset*!

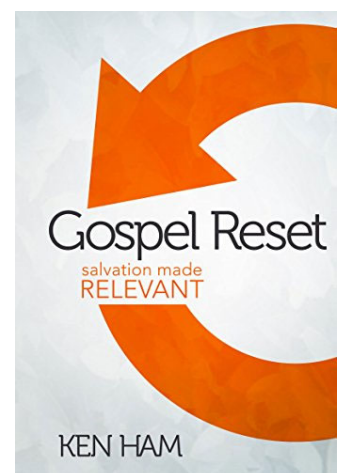
In his foreword, Bodie Hodge writes, "... God did not leave us in the dark. A careful analysis of Scripture and early missions work by the Apostles Peter and Paul reveal the answer. Ken Ham dives into this subject brilliantly to teach churches and Christians how to evangelize and preach Christ in our culture today. What we need, to share the truth of God's Word and Gospel of Jesus Christ in our changed Western World, is a *Gospel Reset*."

Dr. Brad Jurkovich,
Senior Pastor at First

Baptist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana, writes, "Ken Ham has provided an incredibly urgent, clear, and compelling resource that will help Christians everywhere to be strong in their faith and able to speak Gospel truth in today's culture. As a pastor, I am very excited to have this book as I know it will help our church in its mission to reach our generation for Christ."

Robby Gallaty, Ph.D.
Pastor, Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, Tennessee, writes, "Western culture is consistently moving further and further away

(Continues on page 4)



Book Review: Gospel Reset

(Continued from page 3)

from an understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In large part, this is due to the fact that many today do not have a foundational trust in the Bible. In *Gospel Reset*, Ken Ham builds the case for presenting the Gospel from *Genesis* to reach this current generation. Every follower of Christ will benefit from reading this book.”

Barry Cameron, Senior Pastor at Crossroads Christian Church in Grand Prairie, Texas, writes, “The unchanging Gospel of Jesus Christ is the hope of our ever-changing world. But what if our presentation of it keeps people from hearing it or responding to it? That’s the premise of Ken Ham’s new book. The majority of our young people leave the church when they leave home

and never return. Why? Because they were never taught how to defend their faith or how to deal with their doubts. What if we could change that? What if we could equip believers in every age and stage of life to boldly and effectively share the Good News and stand up for the truth of God’s Word instead of standing down when the Bible is under attack? The church no longer has a home-field advantage in the world. But we can still win, and Ken Ham shows us how.”

Dr. Ronnie Floyd, CEO of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and President of the National Day of Prayer Task Force (2017-2019), writes, “When we understand the times, we will know what to do. This even includes the way that we communicate the Gospel with other people. *Gospel Reset* by Ken Ham

presents the enormous challenges we face today, but, thankfully, it also gives us practical ways we can communicate the Gospel in a relevant way effectively. Anyone who desires to share Christ with other people or proclaim God’s Word in today’s world needs to read this book. Get one for yourself and then share another one with a friend.”

Ray Comfort, evangelist and CEO of Living Waters, an evangelism resource and training ministry, writes, “My friend Ken Ham is stubborn for the truth. He is a bulldog for the Gospel. When he gets his Aussie teeth into something, he won’t let go. His message is uncompromising, compassionate, encouraging, and most timely. Please read this book and pass it on to those you love.”

– Bridgitte Parrish

Voices of St. Luke's

Our Chapel family members were asked to answer the question “What is your favorite aid to Bible study, and how does it help you?”

My favorite aid to Bible study is the *New King James Version Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible* (Zondervan, 2017), since it contains many

useful maps, charts, and articles on the customs, background, and history of Israel and the nations of the Ancient Near East, which throw light on many Biblical passages, particularly those in the Old Testament. For example, the article, “How the *Book of Job* Differs from Ancient Near Eastern Thinking” explains the difference in themes between the *Book of Job* and other ancient Mesopo-

tamian literature. Other interesting articles are “Writing Materials in the Ancient World” and “Tabernacles and the Promise of Living Water”.

Father Chris Parrish

My favorite aid to Bible study is Logos Bible Software (www.logos.com), also available as an app on Apple and Google

(Continues on page 5)

Voices of St. Luke's

(Continued from page 4)

app stores). At first glance it may seem like a Christian book-centric Kindle, and, you can certainly use it that way. But the real joy in using it is for the Bible- and commentary-specific features built into it. Reading a passage in the King James Version and something isn't clear? You can instantly pull up side-by-side versions of the same passage in any translation you own (many are free). Select a word or phrase and instantly bring up a concordance showing the original language of the phrase, the typical translation of that phrase, how that phrase is translated elsewhere in the same translation, and how it was used in other works from the same time period. You can also access any commentary you own that references or relates to the verses you are reading.

In all honesty, there's no way I could do my weekday job **and** write a sermon every other Sunday without tools like Logos.

Deacon Peter Vogel

My favorite aid to Bible study is Bible Study Fellowship, which helps me understand the Holy Scriptures better and apply what I learn. I also am encouraged and learn

from the fellowship.

My second favorite aid is a concordance because it helps me locate verses in context.

Clark Patteson

My favorite aid to my Bible study is my *Life in the Spirit Study Bible*, King James Version, as it has great study notes, across-reference system, helpful articles, and a good concordance.

Bridgitte Parrish

I am not a Bible scholar by any sense of the word.

English versions of the Bible (and at least one version in dozens of other languages). When I have trouble with a difficult passage, it can be very helpful to see that passage rendered 54 ways in one list. This type of list is also useful for reading a passage until I see myself in it—application comes much more easily when words are translated in all their glorious contextual nuances.

Kim Vogel



My favorite aids to Bible “study” are *Forward Day by Day* and *Daily Bread*. I like reading the Bible passages, thinking about my spiritual response, and reading about how other people are affected. A little bit at a time, a bit each day, gives me a chance to really think about the messages and inspirations.

Lee Ann Vojvoda

I particularly like to use BibleGateway.com. This free website offers 54

*Do you have a question
for your
Chapel Family?
By all means, ask!*

Our Chapel Family Prayer List

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 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 Joe Biden; 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, guardians, 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 the coronavirus, all medical personnel treating them, and all those who work with the public;

Jim and Edna Davis;

Joya de Rossett;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

Tanya Theiler;

Dale Quinn;

Brian Quinn;

Mark Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marion;

Flo;

Max;

Dan and Kendra Pack;

the Stanko family;

Yoshihiko and Hideko

Ikegami;

Ali Hemphill;

Lori Hemphill;

Pennel Magaw;

Tracy Magaw;

Mary Frances Reeves;

Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter;

Marilyn;

Frank Capone;

Rose Handwerker;

Ann and Frank MacVoy;

Bishop Ilgenfritz;

Dave Shuman;

Barbara Busch;

Libby Codd;

Maria Fernandez;

Patricia Bowers;

Moe Martinez;

Victoria Grace;

Sharon Veach;

Theo Frensch;

Diane Ahlport;

the repose of the soul of Carol Wolff and the comfort of the Wolff and Stone families;

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.

***This prayer list
was current
as of August 5th,
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!***

Our Chapel Family Prayer List



*Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you:*

St. Matthew 7:7

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 ever-

lasting 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.

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all ... so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

In Times of Great Sickness and Mortality

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.

The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

St. James 5:16b

For Rain

O GOD, heavenly Father, who by Thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to all those who seek Thy kingdom, and the righteousness thereof, all things necessary to their bodily sustenance; send us, we beseech Thee, in

this our necessity, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort, and to Thy honour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

Zechariah 10:1

***Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you:***

St. Matthew 7:7

Parish Postings

Due to a spike in Covid-19 cases, the Santa Clara County Board of Health has mandated mask use for all persons who go into any enclosed public space. Please comply when you come to worship at the Chapel, or, if you prefer not to wear a mask, please worship with us via Zoom. Thank you very much!



The Vestry will meet on Sunday, August 29th, at 11:30 AM to conduct the business of the parish. Any interested member of the parish may attend this meeting.



Please remember the hungry in our community when you do your grocery shopping and pick up some non-perishable foodstuffs to add to the Chapel's collection basket for distribution to the Downtown Palo Alto Emergency Food Closet. The need is great, and every little bit helps. Thank you!



If you would like to offer flowers to adorn the altar, please consult the Altar Flower Chart in the Narthex and select a date to make your offering. Use an Altar Flower envelope to pay for your offering if you will not be bringing the flowers to church yourself. Please also remember to share your dedication with Father Parrish a week beforehand so that he may include it in the bulletin. Thank you!



Father Parrish is seeking Lay Readers, and the Vestry is in need of a Junior Warden. Please see Father Parrish for more information. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 1st

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Sunday, August 8th

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Office of Morning Prayer
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Sunday, August 15th

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Sunday, August 22nd

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Office of Morning Prayer
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Sunday, August 29th

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Vestry Meeting

11:30 AM

Sunday, September 5th

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion
in the Chapel and via Zoom
10:00 AM

Upcoming Events





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

«AddressBlock»

Worship Schedule

*“A place
where the Bible is taught.”*

##_

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

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 and fellowship soon!

First, third, and fifth Sundays of each month

Holy Communion
10:00 AM

Second and fourth Sundays each month

Office of Daily Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Please note that all worship services are also available via Zoom for those who are unable to join us in the Chapel.