



VOLUME 18,  
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# The Hillside Messenger

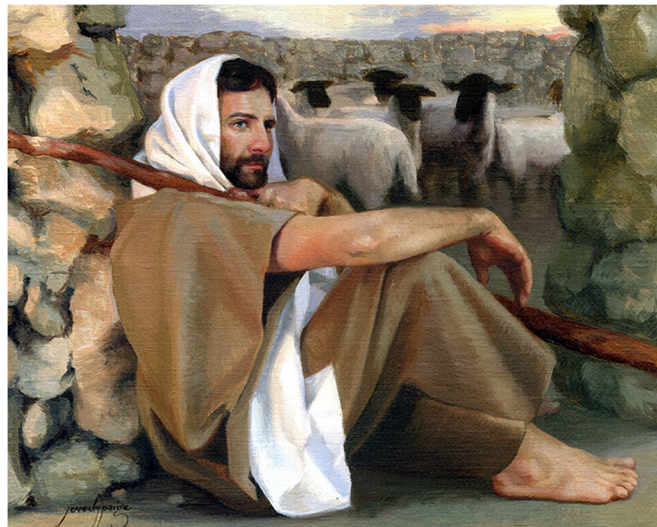
## *A Message from the Rector: Jesus is the Door of the Sheep*

Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.

*St. John 10:7-11,*  
KJV

**In** this short extract from the tenth chapter of the *Gospel according to St. John*, the Lord Jesus Christ states that He is both the door of the sheep and the good shepherd. The first

eternal life, the way to salvation and to communion with God the Father. As the sheep go in and out of the sheepfold by the door, so the faithful go about their daily work and enjoy their nightly rest by the grace and blessing of the Lord Jesus



of these two sayings, *I am the door of the sheep*, may be compared to “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me” (*St. John 14:6*, KJV). By *door of the sheep*, we can understand that the Lord Jesus is the gateway to heaven and to

Christ.

All the kings and leaders of Israel before Christ came were thieves and robbers (*St. John 10:8*), to whom the sheep, the people of Israel, paid no attention. What did the Lord mean by this? The

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## *Jesus is the Door of the Sheep*

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Lord Jesus Christ alone had a completely pure motive of divine love in coming into the world; preaching the Gospel; teaching God's word and commandments; and eventually laying down His life for the world by dying on the cross. His sole purpose was to redeem mankind from sin and effect reconciliation with God and forgiveness of sins for everyone who believes in Him. Describing the leaders that came before Him, whether they were kings, priests, or prophets, as thieves and robbers, the Lord Jesus Christ intended to convey that all these leaders were sinful and to a greater or lesser degree exploited God's people for their own gain. The result was that the people of God did not listen to them.

Entering heaven by the door means entering by the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, by repenting of sin, believing in the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and by receiving Him as Lord (**St. John 1:12; 3:16-17, 36**). Those who enter by Christ the door shall be saved and shall "find pasture," (**St. John 10:9c**, KJV) which means spiritual life and sustenance.

By contrast, the Devil and all who are motivated by him have a sinister agenda: to steal, to kill, and to destroy (**St. John 10:10a**). There are many in this world who have this purpose. Whenever

any murder, including a school shooting massacre such as the one that just happened in Uvalde, Texas, is committed, the same purpose is evident—to steal life, kill people, and destroy their future on earth. Not only that, but whenever people are bullied, slandered, exploited, deliberately underpaid, rejected for being poor or for being aliens or for being Christians, the same evil and destructive purposes are at work.

But the Lord Jesus Christ has come to give people life, so that they may have abundant and eternal life in communion with God and with all believers (**St. John 10:10**). Instead of destroying life, stealing, and killing, the Lord Jesus gives abundant life to all who believe in Him and receive Him as Lord. He has given His own life, that all people may receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Him. Therefore, He is rightly the Good Shepherd (**St. John 10:11**).

Since we do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and are following Him as Lord, we must make every effort to reflect His life-giving purpose in the Church and in the world. We must all live close to the Lord Jesus Christ by obeying His commands and reaching out to those around us with His divine love, remembering all the while that we are engaged in a great spiritual battle, not against people, but

against the spiritual hosts of evil (**Ephesians 6:10-20**).

The poet T.S. Eliot reminded his readers of the perpetual struggle of Good and evil in this world and wrote of the desert not only being in remote areas of the southern tropics but also "squeezed in the tube-train next to you, the desert is in the heart of your brother" ("Choruses from 'The Rock'", I). There is a great, wide desert in the hearts of many people today, many who have suffered the stealing, killing, and destroying acts of the Devil at work through sinful people. What great miracles can be done in their lives by reaching out to them in the love of God!

The Holy Spirit both empowers us to reach out to people in love and equips us with His gifts of grace (**I Corinthians 12:1-11; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:11; I St. Peter 4:10-11**). Each of us has received different spiritual gifts in addition to the natural abilities God has given us so that we may proclaim and share the Gospel with others and edify our fellow-believers. We see from all the violence, cruelty, and injustice in this world that there is an urgent need for people to hear and receive the Gospel. Scripture warns us that people will often oppose our witness to Christ

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## *Jesus is the Door of the Sheep*

(Continued from page 2)  
or mock it, but we must step out, firm in faith, constant in prayer and intercession for those who do not believe in Christ.

We must ask ourselves how we can direct people to the Lord and Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. First, we ourselves must love God with our whole being, and love our neighbor as we love ourselves. In our hearts, the Lord Jesus Christ must have full control. Day by day we must come before Him in prayer, listening in silence to His Holy Spirit speaking God's word to us. We must let the living water that is the Holy Spirit (*St. John* 7:39) wash over our soul, cleansing us from

all sins, and healing us of all hurts so that we can be instruments of God's healing in the lives of others. I end with this prayer attributed to St. Francis:

Lord, make us  
instruments of  
Your peace.

Where there  
is hatred, let us  
sow love;  
where there is  
injury, pardon;  
where there is  
discord, union;  
where there is  
doubt, faith;  
where there is  
despair, hope;  
where there is  
darkness, light;  
where there is  
sadness, joy.

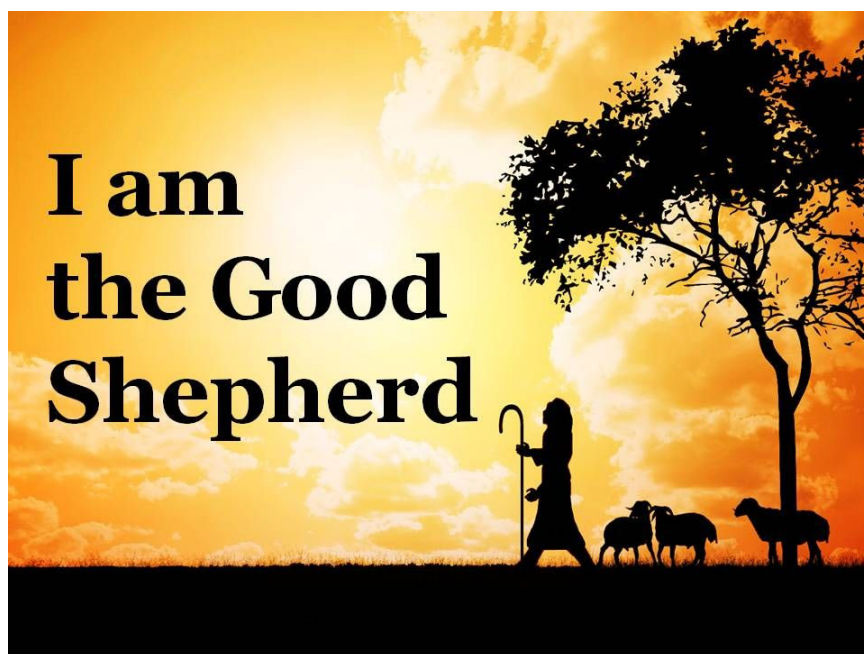
Grant that we  
may not so much

seek to be  
consoled as to  
console;  
to be understood  
as to understand;  
to be loved as to  
love.

For it is in  
giving that we  
receive;  
it is in pardoning  
that we are par-  
doned;  
and it is in dying  
that we are born  
to eternal life.  
Amen.

page 833,  
*The Book of  
Common Prayer*,  
1979

– *The Reverend  
Chris Parrish*



## Mea Culpa

**H**istory tells the sorrowful story: Even when the total human population was two and they lived in a perfect paradise, it has been our tendency to attempt to dodge personal responsibility for our own choices to sin.

Adam said, “It was this woman’s fault. She gave me the fruit, and I ate it” (*Genesis 3:12*).

The woman who would soon be named Eve said, “The snake tricked me, and I ate” (*Genesis 3:13*).

The subtext, of course, is “You told me not to eat that particular fruit, Lord, and I did hear You. I ate it anyway, but it wasn’t my fault.”

And we have all done this, haven’t we? Each of us has pointed the finger of blame at anyone other than ourselves at least once in our lives. I am not trying to cast stones here. I only want to remind myself and you that God keeps at us until we confess the truth to ourselves and to Him. He holds us accountable to ourselves, to others, and to Him.

I deliberately put the direct objects of that last sentence in that order. I can’t change anyone other than myself, and I can’t do even that *by* myself. I need the help of God’s Word to renew my mind (*Romans 12:2*). I need the indwelling Holy

Spirit to remind me of my identity as a Christian and to speak to me sharply when I want to turn away from God and go my own way (*St. John 14:17; 16:8-11*). I need my Chapel Family to bear with me when I must confess my sins before you (*St. James 5:16*), and I need the blood of Christ Jesus to wash me clean of the ugliness and stench of sin (*Revelation 1:5*). But, God help me, it really does start with me. I must first admit my failures to myself.

So do we all. The very beginning of repentance is admitting that we have done wrong and choosing to change our behavior (*Acts 2:37-38*).

We live in a fallen world full of encouragement to think, speak, and behave sinfully. Have you ever thought the world would be a better place if only that one certain someone weren’t in it? How many times have you heard someone declare, “I would kill for a [whatever]”? Maybe you’ve noticed how often others avoid the confrontations which really must take place in favor of initiating altercations over truly trivial matters. These are just examples. I simply want us all to consider how often and how carelessly we let ourselves slide. “It’s only a thought,” we tell ourselves, or “Come on, it’s just a figure of speech.” We even reassure ourselves (as if we had the

prerogative to judge), “So -and -so had it coming, so I was right to treat them spitefully.” Sin is insidious and temptation is ever-present, but the truth is that sin is sin and our self-justifications don’t fool God. We shouldn’t let them fool us, either.

I’m not in a good place right now. Things are happening in my life that I would not choose, and I have been and am seriously tempted to respond badly. Resistance is hard. It takes work, and I am ultimately the one who has to do it. God promises us an escape route when we are tempted (*I Corinthians 10:13*), but I have to look for that way out and then use it no matter how difficult the first step may be. When I want to spew my hurt feelings like a super-volcano, I have to cling with every fiber to the admonition to speak the truth with love (*Ephesians 4:15*). When the thought of retaliation entices, I must choose to take every thought and impulse captive to the obedience of Christ (*II Corinthians 10:5*). I have to keep reminding myself that sin lies at my door like a lion waiting to devour me but that God says I must overrule it by every means necessary (*Genesis 4:7*).

So I have to curb my thoughts. Breaking an evil thought train for me sometimes means reciting

*(Continues on page 5)*



# Mea Culpa

(Continued from page 4)

**Psalm 23** or singing Hymn 301 (Immortal, invisible, God only wise) through all four verses. For certain it always involves prayer. Fighting to not speak the wrong words can mean actually holding my hands over my mouth or praying “Your words, Lord, said Your way in Your perfect time” when I answer my phone or begin to respond to an e-mail. Keeping myself from running after evil might mean wearing a cross as a physical reminder to myself of my identity as a called child

of God. Sometimes resisting my temptations needs the assistance of the Church. The fight *always* needs God. I am only more than a conqueror because I am leaning on Him (**Romans 8**). I have to confess my need for Him to myself, to you, and to Him. Confession is the beginning of repentance, and repentance is the beginning of spiritual growth.

God is our Father. He joyfully adopts all who believe in and follow Christ (**Galatians 4:4-7**). Jesus is our Brother! Isn’t

that glorious? But family members have responsibilities. As children of God, one of ours is to work out our salvation in fear and trembling (**Philippians 2:12-15**). A *spiritual examen*, a holding oneself responsible for one’s choices and admitting our failings, is a practice which helps us to keep short accounts with God because it drives us to our knees. I need to make certain I am doing this at least once daily.

– Kim Vogel



## Our Chapel Family Prayer List

***This prayer list  
was current  
as of May 29th,  
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:

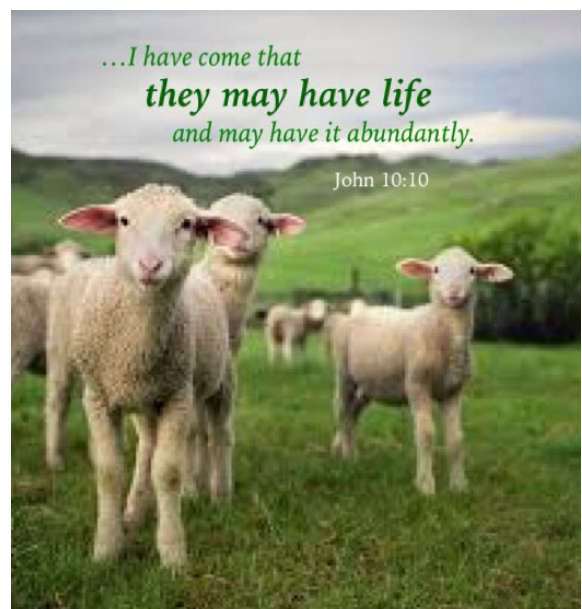
Archbishop Foley Beach;  
Bishop Richard Lipka;  
Canon Michael Penfield;  
Father Chris Parrish;  
Deacon Peter Vogel; and  
Deacon Linda Bracken;  
also all those who serve as Thy ministers in governing our nation and state, particularly:  
President Joe Biden; and  
Governor  
Gavin Newsom;

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;  
the people and leaders of Ukraine in this time of war;  
the victims of a school shooting at Uvalde, Texas, and their families;  
Jim and Edna Davis;  
Joya de Rossett;  
Debbie;  
Scott;  
Brittany;  
Tanya Theiler;  
Mark Quinn;  
Lisa;  
Ben;  
Marion;  
Flo;  
Max;  
Dan and Kendra Pack;  
the Stanko family;  
Yoshihiko and Hideko Ikegami;  
Mary Frances Reeves;

Mrs. Kitt;  
Jon Carter;  
Frank Capone;  
Rose Handwerker;  
Ann and Frank MacVoy;  
Bishop Ilgenfritz;  
Moe Martinez;  
Victoria Grace;  
Sharon Veach;  
Theo Frensch;  
Diane Ahlport;  
Christina;  
Father Thomas and Lora Vece;  
Haley and Gabriella;  
John and Heidi Donnelly;  
Ray and Elodia Boreham and Family; and  
Snigdha Sunkara;  
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*

**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.

## *For Rain*

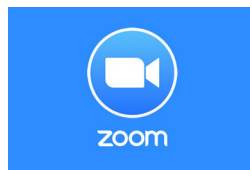
**O** GOD, heavenly Father,  
Who by Thy Son Jesus Christ  
hast promised to all those who seek Thy kingdom,  
and the righteousness thereof,  
all things necessary to their bodily sustenance;  
send us, we beseech Thee, in this our necessity,  
such moderate rain and showers,  
that we may receive the fruits of the earth  
to our comfort, and to Thy honour;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Parish Postings

Covid-19 diagnoses and hospitalizations continue to increase in all nine counties of the San Francisco Bay area. Please continue to wear masks indoors and practice social distancing—for the safety of yourself and everyone around you. Thank you!

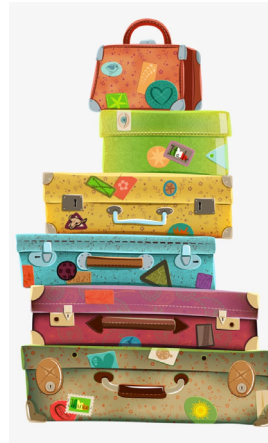


Please note that all our worship services are available via Zoom for those occasions when you cannot sit beside us in a pew due to illness or travel. Please contact Father Parrish to have your name added to the Zoom meeting invitation.



Please note that Father and Mrs. Parrish will be away on vacation from Wednesday, June 1st, through Wednesday, June 15th. Please pray for their refreshment and safe travels as they visit with

the newest member of their family.



Sunday Morning Bible Study resumes with the study of the *Frist Epistle of St. John* on Sunday, June 19th, at 9:15 AM. All are welcome!



The Vestry will meet after Morning Prayer and Fellowship on Sunday, June 26th. All interested parishioners are invited to observe.



Every Friday at 10:00 AM, Clark Patteson and Father Parrish have a tele-

phone call in which they pray for our parish. If you would like to take part in this brief telephonic prayer meeting, please contact Father Parrish or Clark Patteson.



Would you like to be baptized? If so, please contact Father Parrish at your earliest convenience. Infants and very young children may be baptized without delay, but older children and adults will need some instruction first.



Those who wish to receive Catechesis in preparation for Confirmation should contact Father Parrish right away.

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## Parish Postings

(Continued from page 8)



If you are looking for a way to serve, Martha's List of Parish Ministries suggests that you prayerfully consider becoming a Lay Reader. The Lay Reader reads the Psalm, Old Testament lesson, and Epistle appointed for the day during the Holy Communion service and reads the Psalm and lessons and leads the congregation in prayer during Morning and Evening Prayer. Any Confirmed parishioner may serve in this ministry, and training will be provided. If you are interested in serving as Lay Reader or if you have questions regarding this ministry, please notify Father Parrish or Deacon Vogel.



Parishioners are invited to offer flowers for the altar on any Sunday they find free on the Flower Chart in the Narthex. The Altar Guild requests an offering of \$35 unless you are bringing the flowers from your garden (kindly use an envelope from Flower Chart). Father Parrish requests that you send him your dedication the week before your offering so that he may include it in the appropriate worship service bulletin. Thank you!



The Vestry is collecting funds to paint the Chapel exterior. Please write *Chapel Painting* on your offertory envelope or check memo line when contributing to this project. Thank you!



Submissions to this newsletter are always welcome! If you need ideas for ways to add your voice to this publication, we suggest that you:

...# tell us about the

way(s) God is working in your life;

- ...# share what you have learned in Bible study or by serving in a lay ministry;
- ...# review a book which has helped you grow closer to God;
- ...# contribute a news item of general interest to the *Parish Postings* column;
- ...# suggest a question for the *Voices of St. Luke's* column; or
- ...# share a photo or photo essay which illustrates some work God has called you to perform.

Send your submissions to Father Parrish or Kim Vogel (they needn't be perfect— Kim will edit and format them to fit while blessing you for your generous assistance in providing content for the newsletter). Thank you!



## *Upcoming Events*

**Wednesday, June 1st, through Wednesday, June 15th**

Parrish vacation

**Sunday, June 5th**

Pentecost,  
*commonly called Whitsunday*

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

**Tuesday, June 7th**

Election Day

**Sunday, June 12th**

Trinity Sunday

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

**Friday, June 17th**

*Telephone Prayer Meeting*  
10:00 AM

**Sunday, June 19th**

The First Sunday after Trinity  
Fathers' Day

*Sunday Morning Bible Study*  
9:15 AM

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

**Friday, June 24th**

*Telephone Prayer Meeting*  
10:00 AM

**Sunday, June 26th**

The Second Sunday after Trinity

*Sunday Morning Bible Study*  
9:15 AM

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

*Vestry Meeting*  
11:30 AM

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## *Upcoming Events*

*(Continued from page 10)*

### **Friday, July 1st**

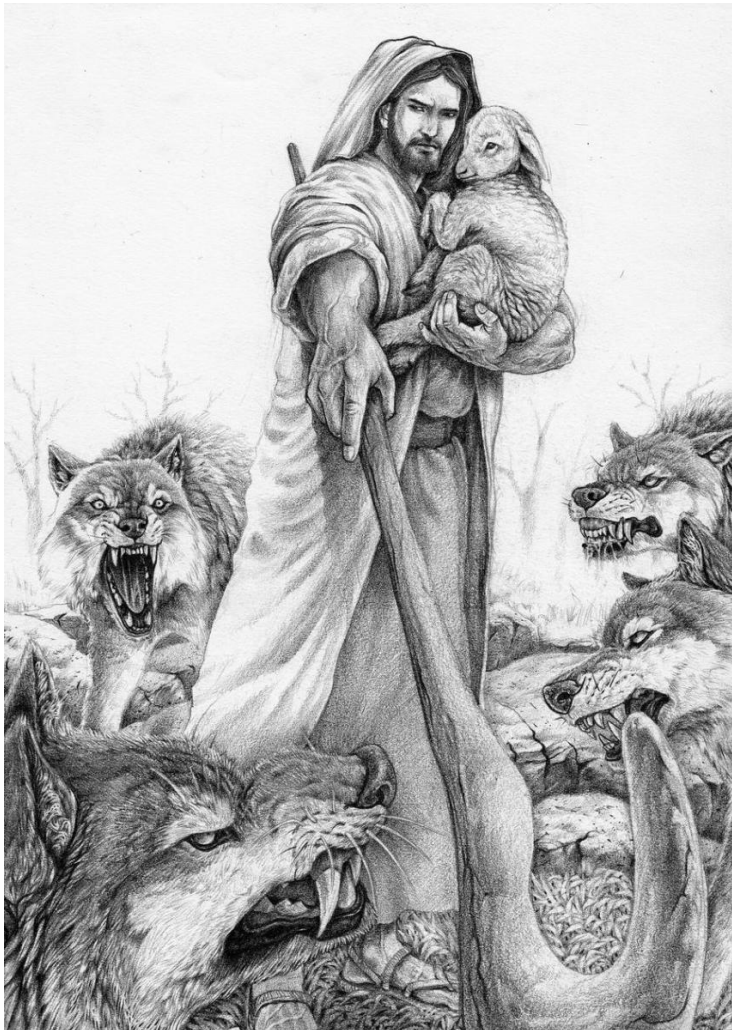
*Telephone Prayer Meeting*  
10:00 AM

### **Sunday, July 3rd**

The Third Sunday after Trinity

*Sunday Morning Bible Study*  
9:15 AM

*Holy Communion*  
*with Holy Unction*  
in the Chapel and 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

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«AddressBlock»

## *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 and fellowship 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**

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

(with Healing Service on First Sundays)

10:00 AM

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:15 AM

Office of Daily Morning Prayer

10:00 AM

Please note that Holy Communion will be celebrated on Feast Days occurring on second and fourth Sundays.

If you cannot join us physically in the Chapel,  
please contact Father Parrish  
to be added to each service's Zoom invitation.