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The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: *The Joy of Christ's Resurrection*

Easter Day marks the beginning of Eastertide, and though the name *Easter* derives from the ancient heathen festival of Eastre (Old English) which was celebrated at the vernal equinox, in Christian tradition it is the name adopted for the day on which Christians celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Easter is a Great Festival—the most important Festival of the Church Year—because it celebrates the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, which is the reason for our faith and the basis of the future resurrection of all who believe in Him (*St. John 11:25-26; Romans 8:11; I Corinthians 15:13-23; I St. Peter 1:3-5*). Because we have been spiritually united with the Lord Jesus Christ by Holy Bap-

tism, we partake of His resurrection.

The joy of Christ's resurrection is evident in the Gospel accounts. The disciples, who had been mourning the death of their Lord, were comforted when they saw Him in

tomb early on the first day of the week. The faith of the disciples in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ was activated and strengthened through His resurrection appearances to the Twelve and to other disciples and apostles. As

the disciples had failed to understand the Lord's prediction of His passion, death, and resurrection, and since they were overwhelmed with grief at His death, it was hard for some of them to believe that He had been raised from the dead until He was actually standing before them and conversing with them (*St. Luke 24:41*).

Once Jesus had "opened their minds to understand the scriptures" (*St. Luke 24:45*), the inevitability of His resurrection after His death became clear, as did their own future



His risen body (*St. John 20:20*). These resurrection appearances led to the faith of the first disciples, although St. John believed Jesus' resurrection just from seeing the folded grave-clothes (*St. John 20:8*) in the empty

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The Joy of Christ's Resurrection

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mission resulting from their being witnesses of His resurrection.

Some may argue that the bereavement of the disciples after Jesus' death was easily overcome once He had risen from the dead and appeared to them on a number of occasions over forty days, whereas when Christians whom we love and know pass away, we cannot so easily be comforted, since the resurrection of those we love does not immediately follow a few days after their death. Our comfort in bereavement derives principally from the fellowship we have with the Lord Jesus Christ. He alone can comfort the sorrowing through the love and grace of His divine presence with all who love Him. He gives the Church this assurance in the Great Commission (**St. Matthew 28:18-20**), when He declares, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." St. Paul states essentially the same truth in **Romans 8:38-39**:

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us

from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Communion of the Saints is in the Lord Jesus Christ. This unites all Christians, whether we live in this world or have departed this earthly life, to Christ and to one another. We share the life of Christ and are always with Him; we are linked to one another through our fellowship with Him; and we have full participation in all the benefits of the salvation that He has wrought for us.

There is a progression of joy for the first disciples from being glad when they saw the risen Lord (**St. John 20:20**) to the point that even after the Ascension, when Jesus had departed from them and was taken into heaven (**St. Luke 24:51**), "they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God" (**St. Luke 24:52-53**). How was it that the joy of seeing Jesus after His resurrection did not revert to grief once He had departed into heaven? In the course of the Lord's resurrection appearances to His disciples and His teaching them things about the kingdom of God (**Acts 1:3**), He had strengthened their faith and hope in Him to the extent that their relationship with Him no longer depended on His physical presence

with them. It is the grace and love of the Lord with His people as they abide in Him daily that comforts us in our bereavements and times of trial.

Not only does the Lord comfort us with His grace and love, but He also comforts us with the hope of His second coming and the resurrection of the dead, when all Christians alive on earth will meet with Christ in the air together with all the Christian dead (**I Thessalonians 4:13-18**). This is the union of the Church Militant with the Church Triumphant at the first resurrection (**Revelation 20:5**). It is in this hope of the glory of God that Christians rejoice (**Romans 5:2**). St. Peter assures the faithful that God has begotten them again, or caused them to be born again, to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (**I St. Peter 1:3**). This is the hope of an incorruptible, eternal, and undefiled inheritance kept in heaven for all believers, whom God's power is guarding through faith (**I St. Peter 1:4-5**) leading to the salvation that shall be revealed in the last days. In this hope Christians rejoice greatly (**I St. Peter 1:6**), though they are distressed by many trials of their faith.

The great comfort of the Lord Jesus Christ giv-

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The Joy of Christ's Resurrection

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en to the Church through His resurrection is expressed by St. Peter in this beautiful paradox:

Whom having
not seen, ye love;
in Whom, though
now ye see Him
not, yet believ-
ing, ye rejoice
with joy unspeak-
able and full of
glory.

I St. Peter 1:8,
KJV

Loving the Lord Jesus and believing in Him leads to this unspeakable and glorious joy, because love for and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ foster a wholly new life lived under the lordship of Christ, a life with a new sense of purpose and direction. In conformity with this, the moral application of Christ's resurrection must be followed, as for example, the command to Christians to seek "those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on

the right hand of God" (*Colossians 3:1*). Christians must set their affections on heavenly things, not on earthly things, since through baptism they died with Christ and their life is hidden with Christ in God (*Colossians 3:3*; *Romans 6:1-6*). The meaning of dying with Christ for Christians is that they are dead to sin, being freed from it, and must yield themselves wholly to God (*Romans 6:11-14*; *Romans 12:1-2*). Repentance from sin and deliverance from evil go hand in hand with the transformation resulting from a renewed mind, a transformation which is the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit within each Christian. As we yield ourselves more and more to the Holy Spirit's work of grace within us, so the hope of sharing in Christ's glory grows stronger, as does the joy we have in the tribulations through which our

faith in God is tested, strengthened, and purified (*Romans 5:3-5*; *St. James 1:2-4*; *I St. Peter 1:6-7*).

The resurrection of Christ fills us believers with joy because it shows us our future destiny is resurrection and life everlasting with Christ and it reveals the power of Christ's life at work in ours through the forgiveness of sins and our reconciliation with God. His resurrection is proof of the effectiveness of His death on the cross in reconciling us with God the Father and securing our adoption as God's children. The joy that we have received comes from the new relationship we have with God through Christ.

What has the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ brought you? How has your life changed as a result?

— The Reverend
Christopher Parrish



Our Chapel Family Prayer List

***This prayer list
was current
as of April 4th,
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; 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 Ikegami; Mary Frances Reeves; Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter; Frank Capone; Rose Handwerker; Ann and Frank MacVoy; Bishop Ilgenfritz; Moe Martinez; Victoria Grace; Christina; John and Heidi Donnelly; Father Mike Keppler; Carl; Patsy Zahrt; Judith Boreham; Marie and Wade; and Gary Winiger; 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.

A Prayer for the MDAS Search Committee

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously upon Thy Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop Coadjutor for the Missionary Diocese of All Saints that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for Thy people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



A New Ministry

Do you take prescription medications? Did you know that your empty pill bottles (which are not easily recyclable) can be used to help others? I just learned about this from Matthew 25: Ministries, a humanitarian relief organization which accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies. Their pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing

countries and caring for our environment.

Since collected pill bottles have to be sent to Matthew 25: Ministries in Blue Ash, Ohio, I thought it would be easiest for us to pool our empties and send them off in large batches. To this end, a marked cardboard box will be placed in the narthex for any pill bottles you wish to offer.

Please note:

- All pill bottles must be empty.
- Any size pill

bottle may be donated.

- Each bottle must have a lid, and the lid must be all plastic.
- Labels should be removed.

When we have a sizeable donation, I will take care of packaging and mailing it to Matthew 25: Ministries— all you have to do is bring your empties to the Chapel with you on Sundays!

— Kim Vogel



Parish Postings

Our Chapel Family has been greatly blessed! The new paten and chalice we were gifted arrived before it was expected. With the authority granted to him for this purpose by the Right Reverend Richard Lipka, the Very Reverend Michael Penfield consecrated these Eucharistic vessels on Palm Sunday before the Reverend Chris Parrish used them to celebrate Holy Communion. Thanks be to God!



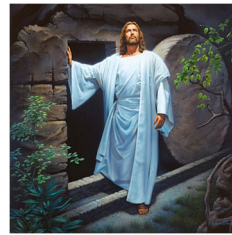
Maundy Thursday will be observed on April 6th. The 7:00 PM worship service will include foot washing, Holy Communion, and the solemn stripping of the altar. Please join us.



Evening Prayer will be said on Good Friday, April 7th, at 7:00 PM. Please join us as we continue to prepare for Eastertide.



Please join us at 10:00 AM on Easter Sunday, April 9th, as we celebrate the joyful anniversary of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! The Very Reverend Canon Michael Penfield will be the Preacher and Celebrant.



The Vestry will meet following the worship service on Sunday, April 16th. Any interested parishioner is invited to observe.



The Regional Synod and Clericus of the Anglican Convocation of the West will be held at Holy Cross Retreat Center, New Mexico, from April 18th to 21st. Our clergy representatives are Father Chris Parrish and Deacon Peter Vogel, and our parish lay delegates are Julia McNeely and Kim Vogel. Please pray that all attendees will meet in the

unity of the Holy Spirit and conduct the Convocation's business to the greater glory of God. Thank you!



St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills will celebrate British Day on April 23rd, the Second Sunday after Easter Day. Please join us for the Office of Morning Prayer from the 1662 **Book of Common Prayer** at 10:00 AM followed by a potluck luncheon of favorite dishes from the British Empire (a sign-up sheet is available in McNeely Hall).



The Vestry has chosen to collect funds to be donated to the Carter Center as the second quarter Community Outreach Mission project. If you wish to make a donation to the mission project, please write *Carter Center* on your check memo line or offertory envelope. Thank you!

THE
CARTER CENTER



Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 2nd

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion with Holy Unction

10:00 AM

Thursday, April 6th

Maundy Thursday

*Holy Communion with Foot Washing
and Stripping of the Altar*

7:00 PM

Friday, April 7th

Good Friday

Telephone Prayer Meeting

10:00 AM

Office of Evening Prayer

7:00 PM

Sunday, April 9th

Easter Day

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Friday, April 14th

Telephone Prayer Meeting

10:00 AM

Sunday, April 16th

The First Sunday after Easter Day

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Vestry Meeting

following the worship service

**Tuesday, April 18th,
through Friday, April 21st**

ACOW Regional Synod and Clericus

Friday, April 21st

Telephone Prayer Meeting

10:00 AM

Sunday, April 23rd

The Second Sunday after Easter Day

British Day

*Office of Morning Prayer
using the 1662 **Prayerbook***

10:00 AM

*British Day Potluck
following the worship service*

Friday, April 28th

Telephone Prayer Meeting

10:00 AM

Sunday, April 30th

The Third Sunday after Easter Day

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Friday, May 5th

Telephone Prayer Meeting

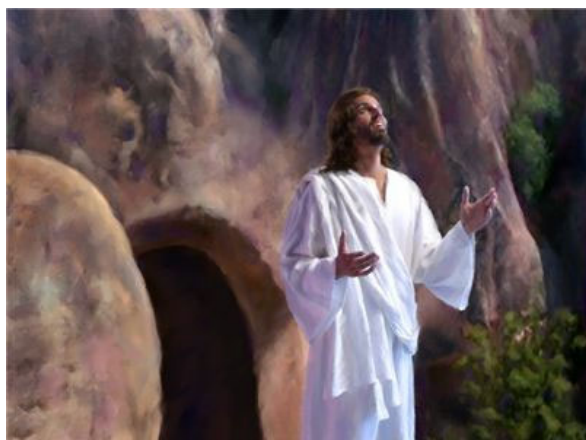
10:00 AM

Sunday, May 7th

The Fourth Sunday after Easter Day

Holy Communion with Holy Unction

10:00 AM



**"These things
I have spoken to you,
that My joy
may remain in you,
and that your joy
may be full.**

St. John 15:11



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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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

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

Second and fourth Sundays each month

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.