



The Hillside Messenger

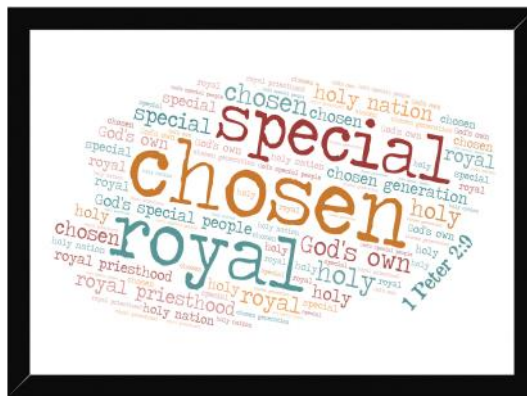
A Message from the Rector: Lent, Passiontide, and Easter

Every year the Church provides the opportunity, especially through Lent and Passiontide, for us all to obey more fully the Lord Jesus Christ's call, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (*St. Matthew 4:17b*, KJV). The Greek verb for *repent* expresses a complete change of heart, encompassing not only sorrow for sin but abhorrence of it, a complete turning away from sin to God and His righteousness. In the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer and in the service of Holy Communion, the Prayer Book furnishes us with a structured prayer (the General Confession) to confess our sins frequently, but the determination to repent and the implementation of repentance in our lives are our responsibility. In Christ we have been given a brand-new identity:

But ye are a cho-

sen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

I St. Peter 2:9,
KJV



Let us consider the details of the meaning of this verse. First of all, Christians are "a chosen generation." This means that all Christians, of whatever nationality, race, culture, or language, make up the elect offspring of God. We are a whole new race of people. We have been born

again, born anew, born of the Holy Spirit (*St. John 3:3, 3:5-6*). God has chosen all His people and given them new birth by His Holy Spirit. This implies that we have a spiritual unity beyond ourselves, created and given by God to all believers.

Secondly, Christians are "a royal priesthood."

This description (in the form "a kingdom of priests") was first used of the nation of Israel in *Exodus 19:6*. The phrase indicates the priesthood of all believers. Since all Christians are priests, we must understand what this priestly ministry entails. All

priests must know God's Word and be able to share it with others. It is our business to know the content of our faith, the prayers we have learned, and the commandments of God, as well as the teachings of Christ and His apostles. Then priests offer sacrifices to God. All believers, then, are called to offer their bod-

Inside this issue:

Our Chapel Family Prayer List	4
A Prayer for Our Congregation	5
A Prayer for the MDAS Search Committee	5
Parish Postings	6
Upcoming Events	6

Lent, Passiontide, and Easter

ies (themselves) to God day by day as a living sacrifice (**Romans 12:1**). To this end, we must not be conformed to this present age and its sinful culture but be transformed by the renewing of our mind through the reading and study of God's Word and by continual prayer. As priests of Jesus Christ the King, we must also offer Him the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving (**I Thessalonians 5:16-18**; **Ephesians 5:19-20**). Not only does this mean continually praising and thanking God in our daily lives, but also partaking frequently in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is itself a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, according to this petition in the Prayer of Consecration:

And we earnestly desire Thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

page 81,
**The Book of
Common Prayer,**
1928

Christians are thirdly "an holy nation." This identity was at first given to the nation of Israel on condition that they obeyed God's voice and kept His covenant (**Exodus 19:5-6**). Now, by being in Christ by being baptized into union with Him in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

(**Romans 6:1-11**), Christians are all one holy nation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Our nationality as Christians is far more important than our earthly nationality or citizenship since it is eternal and transcends all national boundaries. We can even say that our Christian nationality is global. This has profound implications for our attitude towards Christians of all nations. Just because they speak different languages, have different cultures, or are poor, does it mean they are inferior to American Christians? By no means! In God's kingdom, all are sinners saved by grace, all are adopted as God's children.

Lastly, Christians are called "a peculiar people" in **I St. Peter 2:9**. This does not mean they are strange people. The Greek used for this phrase translates better as "a people for God's own possession." Again, this description was used first of the nation of Israel in **Exodus 19:5**:

Now therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine.

Exodus 19:5, KJV

Just as ancient Israel was intended by God to be His chosen people, a

treasure more precious than any other nation, so now in Christ the Lord, all who believe have that calling through the Holy Spirit indwelling them and bringing them into full obedience to God's commandments.

All this has far-reaching consequences for how we view ourselves and other Christians and how we relate to them. For example, do we assume far too easily that there are very few Christians among the unemployed, or the homeless, or people of other nations, or among Democrats, or among Republicans? We will find Christians among all these groups and in both political parties. Even when two nations are at war, there may be Christians on both sides, in both armies. While one nation may be more in the wrong than the other in initiating or fighting the war than the other, one cannot write off all the people of one nation as non-Christian.

Finally, let us return to how we are to live out our calling as Christians. Lent and Passiontide bring into focus our call to follow the Lord Jesus Christ and obey Him fully, just as He fully obeyed the Father and was obedient even unto death, death on a cross (**Philippians 2:8**). Our vocation embraces our love for God, which must

Lent, Passiontide, and Easter

be wholehearted (*Deuteronomy 6:4-5*); our love for our neighbor (*Leviticus 19:18*); and our love for fellow Christians (*St. John 13:34*), just as the Lord Jesus Christ loves God, all humanity, and His followers. Our Savior has shown us how to live, and we are to follow His example.

For many Christians in the world, especially those in countries where

they are persecuted, Lent and Passiontide seem to continue year-round. We must pray for them, giving thanks also for their courage and witness for Christ in their times of trial. We also must pray for ourselves, Christians in the West, as opposition to the Christian faith from our culture grows stronger and Biblical illiteracy more widespread. Let us pray that our own witness for the Lord Jesus Christ will be more determined

and effective in the face of the spiritual warfare that we face.

Though we celebrate Easter every year, there is a revival coming, a renewal of Christian faith. Let each of us be vigilant, on the watch spiritually, and praying for God's kingdom to come in us and in the world around us.

– *The Reverend Christopher Parrish*

MY IDENTITY IN CHRIST

A CHILD OF GOD
FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
FREE MORE THAN A CONQUEROR
ADOPTED BY GOD

NEVER ALONE
FORGIVEN POWERFUL REDEEMED
SEALED UNDER GRACE
MADE ALIVE LOVED
BLESSED CHOSEN
WONDERFULLY MADE TRANSFORMED
EMPOWERED
CHOSEN HEALED CALLED
RECONCILED TO GOD FREE

STRONG IN THE LORD
A NEW CREATION
AN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST
FREE FROM CONDEMNATION
A CITIZEN OF HEAVEN
GOD'S A SAINT
WORKMANSHIP
A MASTERPIECE
AN OVERCOMER
UNDER GRACE
ACCEPTED
GOD'S TEMPLE
TREASURED JUSTIFIED VICTORIOUS EQUIPPED
BORN AGAIN
RESCUED
HEALED
CHOSEN
RIGHTeous

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, guardians, border patrol, coasties, police officers, firefighters, and pilots

who protect us every day; our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world; all refugees; the leaders and people of Ukraine; all who are affected by the war between Hamas and Israel; Jim and Edna Davis; Joya de Rosset; Debbie; Scott; Brittany; Tanya Theiler; Mark Quinn; Lisa; Ben; Marian; Flo; Max; Dan and Kendra Pack; the Stanko family; Yoshihiko Ikegami; Mary Frances Reaves; Mrs. Kitt; Jon Carter; Frank Capone; Rose Handwerker; Ann and Frank MacVoy; Bishop Ilgenfritz; Moe Martinez; Victoria Grace; Christina; John and Heidi Donnelly; Father Harley and Donna Crain; Carl; Judith Boreham; Marie and Wade;

Heather;
Susan;
Helen Vanderberg;
Farshad;
Deacon Herman and Betty Roark;
Philip Slattery;
Patrick Slattery;
Gerald Glenn; and
Julie Sine;

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.

* * *

Please note: This prayer list was current as of January 25th, 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!

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.

Parish Postings

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, March 17th, following the worship service. Any interested parishioner is invited to observe the meeting

Vestry

Please join us for these Holy Week and Easter Sunday services:

March 24th
Palm Sunday
Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

March 28th
Maundy Thursday
Holy Communion
with Foot Washing and
Stripping of the Altar
7:00 PM

March 29th
Good Friday
Evening Prayer
7:00 PM

March 31st
Easter Sunday
Holy Communion
10:00 AM



It is the custom at St. Luke's to offer lilies to beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday in memory of those who, though with us in spirit, are not physically present to celebrate this great feast with us. If you would like to offer one or more lilies, please e-mail your dedication to Father Parrish by Palm Sunday. The Altar Guild asks for a \$10 donation to cover the cost of each lily. Thank you!



The Vestry remains the same after the February 18th Annual Meeting:

Ray Boreham,
Senior Warden
Clark Patteson,
Junior Warden

Elodia Fernandez,
Treasurer
Deacon Peter Vogel,
Bookkeeper
Jana Baldwin,
Secretary
Father Chris Parrish,
Clerk
Julia McNeely
Bill Zahrt
Patsy Zahrt

We are grateful to all of them for their continuing service!



Our Community Mission Project for this quarter is to collect funds for the repair or replacement of the fence separating our driveway from our neighbor. When donating to this project, please write *Chapel Fence* on your check memo line or offertory envelope. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 1st

Telephone Prayer Meeting
10:00 AM

Sunday, March 3rd: The Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion with Holy Unction
10:00 AM

Friday, March 8th

Telephone Prayer Meeting
10:00 AM

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 10th: The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Office of Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting
12:00 PM

Friday, March 15th

Telephone Prayer Meeting
10:00 AM

Sunday, March 17th: Passion Sunday

Holy Communion
10:00 AM

Vestry Meeting
following the worship service and fellowship

Friday, March 22nd

Telephone Prayer Meeting
10:00 AM

Sunday, March 24th: Palm Sunday

Office of Morning Prayer
10:00 AM

Thursday, March 28th: Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion
with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar
7:00 PM

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday

Telephone Prayer Meeting
10:00 AM

Evening Prayer
7:00 PM

Sunday, March 31st: Easter Sunday

Holy Communion
10:00 AM

Sunday, April 7th: The First Sunday after Easter

Holy Communion with Holy Unction
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

Father Parrish's cellular:
669-946-2645

e-mail:
ChristopherParrish7@gmail.com

Deacon Vogel's cellular:
408-569-7067

e-mail: vogel.peter@gmail.com

Website:

www.StLukesChapel.church

«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

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.