



The Hillside Messenger

A Message from the Rector: Preparing Ourselves for Christmas and for the Second Coming

The season of Advent is the season of the Church's year in which the faithful prepare themselves to meet spiritually with the Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas, as well as being the season in which they give attention to the Second Coming of Christ. For both these aspects of Advent, the liturgical color of purple is significant, since purple represents the penitence and repentance of the faithful. The prophetic call to prayer and fasting as found, for example, in the *Book of the Prophet Joel* (Chapters 1 and 2), is a call to sincere repentance, for the outward signs of fasting and mourning are of no use without an inward turning of the heart and mind back to God.

Someone might ask, "Have Advent and Christmas Day always been observed throughout the history of the Church?" The answer to this question is "No." The Festival of Christmas was first instituted at Rome in the fourth century and was likely at first a Christian replacement of a pagan winter solstice



holiday. In the sixth century, the Roman Church adopted Advent as a season of liturgical preparation for Christmas, and only in the eighth century was Advent first regarded as the beginning of the Christian year (page 90, Massey Hamilton Shepherd, Jr.: *The Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1950. Fifth Printing, 1955). In view of this, someone

might argue against celebrating Christmas if its antecedent was a pagan festival. To this argument I reply as follows: The Church's Festival of Christmas was not intended to perpetuate a pagan festival, but to replace it with the celebration of a profoundly important event, namely the Incarnation of the Son of God through the Holy Spirit's over-

shadowing of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so that she conceived and gave birth to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. His conception by the Holy Spirit and His miraculous birth to the Virgin Mary are fundamental to our Christian faith, making this Festival worthy of celebrating every year. Advent, though it began as a liturgical preparation for Christmas, also

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Preparing Ourselves for Christmas and for the Second Coming

took on the theme of preparation for the Second Coming of the Lord. While we must never forget that in Advent, while we prepare ourselves to meet with Christ spiritually in the celebration of Christmas, we also use this season to examine ourselves to discern whether we are ready to meet the Lord Jesus Christ at His Second Coming.

Someone will ask what we must do to prepare ourselves for Christmas and for the Second Coming. Generally, people know what to do to prepare their homes for Christmas, and they know about purchasing Christmas gifts for their families and friends, but have they any idea of how to prepare themselves spiritually to meet with the Lord?

One question we might ask ourselves in this season is whether we have even a simple rule of life, and if we do, to what extent do we live according to it. Do we set aside time every day to read, study, and meditate on passages from the Bible?

Do we set aside time every day to pray to the Lord and wait on Him in silence for His Spirit to speak to us? Do we confess our sins to the Lord at the end of every day? Are we exercising self-control in our daily lives? Are we using our spiritual gifts and abilities in God's service, in ministry to our families, to our fellow-believers, and to others? How do we help the poor and needy? Are we contributing regularly to our church and to its mission? Do we attend corporate worship at church every Sunday, or as often as we can? There are many such questions we can ask ourselves to test whether we are living a life of total commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. St. Paul encouraged Christians to examine themselves:

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you are disqualified.

II Corinthians 12:5, NKJV

The ecclesiastical year is not meant to be merely a procession of changing liturgical seasons with their various colors, nor the prayers of the Prayer Book simply empty repetitions of vague intentions or requests. We must make these seasons and prayers our own by immersing them in the depths of our own devotion to the Lord, ascending to Him daily and continually.

St. Paul reminds us to offer ourselves to God continually:



I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:1-2, NKJV

The offering of ourselves to God as a living sacrifice is a "reasonable service," since it is the worship of God that follows reasonably as our loving response to Christ's sacrifice of Himself on the cross to redeem the world from sin and all its destructive effects. God requires of us not to be conformed to this world in its innate rebellion against Him, but to be transformed, or completely changed, by the renewing of our mind, in which we engage by reading, studying, and obey-

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ing God's word, as well as by our continual prayer and service.

In the seventh verse of Hymn 151 (*1940 Hymnal*), hymn writer Thomas Ken issues this direct invitation to God:

Direct, control, suggest, this day,
All I design, or do, or say;
That all my powers, with all their might,
In Thy sole glory may unite.

Whatever concerns we may have about the world, our nation, our politics,

our economy, our Province (Anglican Church in North America), our Diocese, our Parish, our community, our family, spiritual renewal must begin with each one of us. We must test and examine ourselves to see whether we are living out our Christian faith sincerely so that we may be effective witnesses to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

— *The Reverend Chris Parrish*

Great Commission Campaign and ReVive

So, we are now at the end of our Great Commission Campaign. At this point, I can hear some of you saying, “Oh, we are finally at the end of this; I thought it would never end!” Sorry—we are not quite done yet. We now need to consider where the steps we have taken over the past year are leading us.

The goal of this series of articles was just to make note of small, simple things that we can do to deepen our relationship with God. When you meet people, does your life reflect your love for the Lord?

What kind of relationship do you have with the Lord? Do you want a better, closer walk with Jesus? Do you feel that you have a solid communion with Him? Our lives are very busy and non-stop. Things easily get complicated, allowing us to shift our priorities. It is very easy to push things aside that need to be permanently on the top of our daily list. Where does the Lord Jesus stand on your list of priorities?

If tending to your relationship with our Savior has slipped from first place in your life, today is a good day to start correcting this error. You know the old sayings, “*Today is the first day of the*

rest of your life” and “*No pain, no gain*”. Making changes in our lives is hard, but the reward is a closer walk with Jesus. Achieving this will require a bit of work. Are you ready to do the work?

Prayer is the foundation of our relationship with God. It gives us an opportunity to come to our Lord humbly and openly. This encourages us to keep our relationship strong and faithful to Him.

The Lord God is our Father. He wants us to come to Him. He is here for each of us, but we all need to seek Him, acknowledge our crying need for Him, and praise Him for all His goodness.

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:13

I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify Thy name for evermore.

Psalm 86:12

Every relationship really does require work and even a bit of sacrifice. If



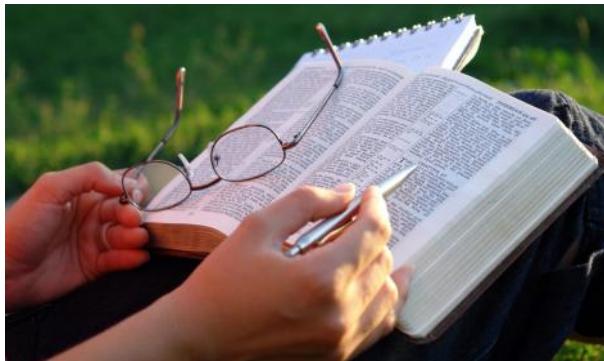
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we don't work at maintaining a relationship, it will become weak and taken for granted. Having a relationship with God requires our willingness to commit to that relationship. We who believe in the atoning death of Jesus for our sins are God's children. The Fifth Commandment orders us to honor our earthly parents, which is good and proper. How much more so should we honor our heavenly Father! Our commitment shows the Lord God our Father how much we love, honor, and praise Him for all the blessings He has bestowed.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass.

Psalm 37:5

As we commit ourselves to the Lord, it is important to strengthen that



relationship physically by attending church regularly. This allows us to spend time with like-minded people. Regular church attendance not only reinforces our relationship with God, but also strengthens our relationships with one another in the community of faith. God wants us to join together in prayer and song to praise Him.

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.

St. Matthew 18:20

I remember growing up, there were always a couple of members of the congregation who did not attend church regularly; we only saw them on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter or the odd Sunday or two. These are what we could call the "occasional Anglicans". ***Hebrews 10:25*** commands Christians not to forsake assembling together. We are obligated to attend church regularly. At-

tending church consistently feeds our faith, strengthens our bond with God, and encourages our relationships within our church family.

By us praying, making a commitment to God, and attending church regularly, we are putting God first. Prioritizing God is very important for our spiritual health. Putting God first aligns us with our sovereign God and His will and purpose for our life.

We pray to the Lord for our blessings, and we give thanks to Him for those blessings by committing to Him as our Lord and Savior. We show our faithfulness to Him by attending church services regularly. We have a solid connection to Him because doing all this makes God a priority in our life. As our Father, He wants us to come to Him. Because our heavenly Father really does know best, we must submit to Him. The Lord accepts us for who we are and what we are. He has made us, after all, and He knows us better than we know ourselves. Even so, He desires a close personal relationship with His children. He just wants us to humbly come to Him in prayer. Submit to the Lord your Father.

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

St. James 4:6-8a, 10

As Christians (or should I just say as human beings), we all need a manual, a manual for life. Well, think about it... your major appliances have one, even your car has a manual. It is important to read the manual to see how best to use and maintain the machines in our lives. Fortunately, we have the Bible, the Word of God, as our manual for life. We need to read and study God's Word daily. In it, God gives us life lessons and in-

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structions to help us through life's ups and downs.

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

St. Matthew 4:4

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105

Reading the Word of God and doing as it instructs is all part of how we keep God first in our lives. The Bible is God's presentation of His blueprint for life. It explains what God expects of us.

The intention of the steps I have presented is to get all of us to think about our relationship with the Lord and perhaps to make positive changes to increase the intimacy of our relationship with the Lord.

It is important to be an accurate reflection of God. We should all be an example to others. First, before anything else, we need to love everyone as God loves us. Look at *I St. John 4:11-19*:

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

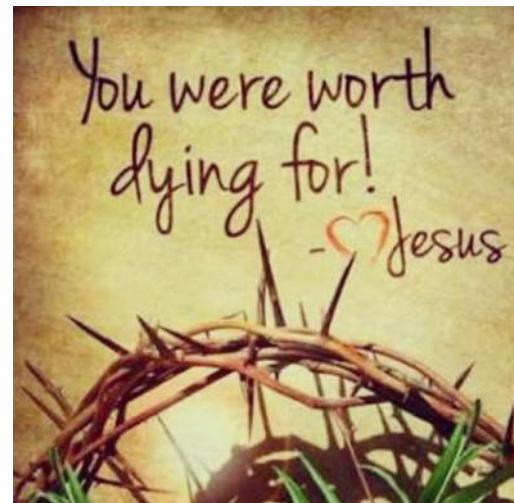
No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love

casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us.

The primary way Christians are to be recognized is by our love (see *St. John 13:34-35*). This is not merely what we feel, but what we do for others. True, godly love is the most powerful evidence of being "born again" as a child of God. This love comes from God, who loved us before we loved Him. When we live in obedience to God, according to love, we can be confident in our relationship with Him. We have no need to fear His judgment.

The Lord God our Savior is the One who makes our lives worth living. The Church should be the focal point that brings all of us together. Our worship reinforces this. As we come together in the house of the Lord, we should do so willingly, even eagerly, and with happiness, joy, and great enthusiasm. This shows God our commitment and faithfulness to Him. Adoring worship also demonstrates that we are together to prioritize how much we love and thank God for all His grace toward us. It makes our relationship with Jesus reciprocal. In *Romans 12:11*, the apostle Paul encourages believers to love and serve one another not only sacrificially but also enthusiastically: "do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord". To say this a bit more plainly. Christians are not to be lagging in diligence but ardent in spirit and in serving the Lord. GotQuestions.org notes, "Spiritual fervor should not be confused with emotionalism. Godly zeal must be tempered with a solid foundation in Bib-



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lical truth, discernment, and spiritual perception.”

Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for [those Jews who have rejected Christ] is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Romans 10:1–4

Without



knowledge, spiritual enthusiasm can become seriously misguided. This fact explains why we need to read the Bible.

God’s Word dictates that we need to worship the Lord with meaning and passion. God knows the truth if you don’t really mean what you say or state what is truly in your heart. *St. John 4:23* records Jesus’ words to His disciples: But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.

You could say that the Lord is your best friend, protector, or counselor, but most of all He is the One who knows what is best for us. We should not doubt

Him but trust that God wants us to follow Him. This is part of connecting with the Lord and keeping a strong bond with Him. We may not understand God’s answers to our prayers. Sometimes the answers to our prayers and requests are NO or NOT YET. We need to be patient in obediently following the Lord and see what He has in store for us. Acceptance sometimes is hard, but trust is everything. *Proverbs 3:5* reminds us to “trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

All this ultimately leads to the question “How will you as an individual and we as a Chapel Family serve the Lord? To know God is to serve Him. I can’t say it better than GotQuestions.org:

The fact that we *should* serve God is obvious in Scripture. Why we should *want* to serve God is a more difficult question. Every Christian asked might have a different reason for serving God; different people are motivated by different things. However, the Bible does make clear that, when a person is in a real relationship with God, he will serve God. We should want to serve God because we know Him; an inherent part of knowing Him is a desire to serve Him. As *St. Luke 4:8* records: And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind Me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.

Self-reflection or taking a self-inventory can be beneficial. The steps of the Great Commission Campaign are small ways that we can evaluate what we are doing in our own lives to if we need to make changes to enhance our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let’s start: Pray. Commit to the Lord. Attend church with other followers who want to make God their first priority. Church is a safe place for you to submit to the Lord. Join a church that is Bible-based, “a place where the Bible is

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taught". Love one another as the Lord loves us. Be joyful in the Lord and worship with enthusiasm, meaning, and passion. Fear the Lord by respecting Him as a child would honor his father. Trust in what the Lord is doing in your life. Show the Lord your gratitude and love by serving Him. Be a reflection of the Lord's love and grace that He has given to us.



The Great Commission is recorded in **St. Matthew 28:16-20**:

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

I understand this to mean that God has given us a directive to share the Gospel with others and teach them about Jesus. But before we do that, we need to be strong and have a good command of our own faith so that we can fulfill the Lord's assignment.

So here is what I am now asking: I'm asking you to consider participating in ReVive, a program which encourages participants to understand and delve deeper into our own individual beliefs and personal faith. It will help us understand the challenges we face as Christians. It will also give us a chance to strengthen our church family and achieve our community purpose.

When I attended this class, I felt a revitalization of my faith which in turn encouraged my worship and evangelism. It will revive (hence the name of the class) and, I think, rejuvenate our belief in Christ and inspire our work for Him.

I have been reading the book **ReVive** by the Reverend Canon Mark Eldredge. I have found it very enlightening personally. For your reference, I have copied the text from the back of the book:

ReVive: Bringing Health, Vitality, and Growth Back into Your Church

How do we move a church from maintenance to mission?

Through patience and diligence; there are no easy fixes. It takes a long, faithful journey in the same Great Commission direction. It requires zeal to persevere, to never quit moving forward for the sake of one more person coming to know Jesus Christ and finding a full life within His church.

That's where this guide comes in, to accompany you as you take each faithful step. Each section focuses on the building blocks needed to foster revitalization, the first and most important of which is spiritual renewal. The book then moves through current challenges in evangelism, how to navigate preferences in worship styles, ways to foster transformation through discipleship, strategies to build authentic worshipping communities, and it ends with how to explore the gifting and potential in your congregation to help you complete your journey together.

ReVive is a guide to give hope to those like you who are on the front lines of God's harvesting laborers. Each of the book's five sections has questions for individuals or groups to discuss and



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apply these concepts to your particular context. Although it can be read in one sitting, this book was designed so that one chapter a day could be read over six weeks to allow the concepts to sink in, making it an ideal read over seasons like Advent, Lent, and Easter, during which a small group or parish council can discuss and apply it to your church.

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Canon Mark Eldredge was born near Buffalo, New York, but escaped the frigid north for life in sunny Palm Coast, Florida. Life without Christ, however, was not so sunny, and after years of wandering and wondering, he gave his life to Jesus Christ and began to pursue life in His Church. After 15 years in ministry, Canon Mark continued his vocation of bringing revitalization to churches by joining the American Anglican Council (AAC), a non-profit ministry in partnership with the ACNA dedicated to developing, equipping, and reforming the Church in North America and around the world. Canon Mark is the Director of Church Revitalization for

the AAC and is passionate about helping local congregations better fulfill the Great Commission in our times.

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So, this is my **formal invitation** to **YOU** and every member of St. Luke's to join me in this special class (date and time to be announced). Before we can move forward as a church, we need to understand where we have been so that we are then able to comprehend where we are now and then discern where we need to proceed. I believe it will encourage us to succeed and comply with Christ's Commandment in the Great Commission and thrive as a church.

It is my understanding that Canon Eldredge will be leading this class. I encourage everyone to attend. If we can get a significant number of attendees, it will be worth everyone's time and effort. Please contact me if you are interested in attending this class. I think you will enjoy it and find it very rewarding.

—Julia McNeely



A Note from the Brackens

F

ather Parrish and congregation of St. Luke's:

It was so nice to visit St. Luke's after nine years since our last visit to California. We loved the familiar church service, which is somewhat different than our Episcopal Church in Minnesota currently.

We loved seeing everyone that day! We wish St. Luke's the best in the future and thank you for your ministry all these years.



St. Luke's may be small, but one thing, among many, was that we had a place to come every week for worship with people who truly cared for each other—sort of like a religious family in the heart of Silicon Valley where things are moving so fast, with companies with world-wide reputations, and impersonal focus on life.

Parishioners at St. Luke's care about each other, worship with a traditional focus, and love the Lord. A real gem in Silicon Valley.

Love,
Deacon Linda
and Tom Bracken

Voices of St. Luke's

K

im Vogel made this request of our Chapel Family: As Advent marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year and since new years are often accompanied by resolutions, please share with us what God-focused resolutions you are making this Advent. These are the answers:

I have found that these simple words keep me focused and balanced. They center my heart on the One True Thing:

Lord, I trust You.

And I am striving to say them now and forever as I go through my day.

Lee Ann Vojvoda

These are my resolutions:

1. Keep God as a priority.
2. Organize my time better so I can

read my Bible and pray more.

3. Self-reflection to improve myself to do God's will, not mine.

Julia McNeely

Thanks be to God! He has revealed to me lately that my daily rule has become a bit threadbare, so I am resolving to reevaluate my daily discipleship with the aid of the Holy Spirit and mend or replace steps as He directs.

Kim Vogel

My resolution is to spend more time resting in the Lord.

Father Chris Parrish

If you have a question for our Chapel Family, please let Father Parrish or Kim Vogel know!

Our Chapel Family Prayer List

***This prayer list
was current
as of
November 24th,
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 Steve Wood, our Primate;

Archbishop Samy of the Diocese of Egypt;

Bishop Julian Dobb, our Provincial Dean;

Bishop Darryl Fitzwater, our Bishop Ordinary;

Canon Michael Penfield, our Vicar-General;

Father Chris Parrish, our Rector;

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, 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;

Jim and Edna Davis;

Debbie;

Scott;

Brittany;

Tanya Theiler;

Mark Quinn;

Lisa;

Ben;

Marion;

Flo;

Max;

the Pack, Stanko, and Bouchard families;

Dan Hubbard;

Yoshihiko Ikegami;

Mary Frances Reeves;

Mrs. Kitt;

Jon Carter;

Linda Capone;

Rose Handwerker;

Ann and Frank MacVoy;

Bishop Ilgenfritz;

Moe Martinez;

Victoria Grace;

Christina;

John and Heidi Donnelly;

Carl;

Judith Boreham;

Heather;

Susan;

the family of the late Patrick Slattery;

Julie Sine;

James Kitchin;

Molly Ferguson;

Bridgitte Parrish;

Kim Vogel;

John Bainbridge;

Alan;

Mark Askew;

Rosalia Ortiz; and

Joanna Watney and her family,

Our Chapel Family Prayer List

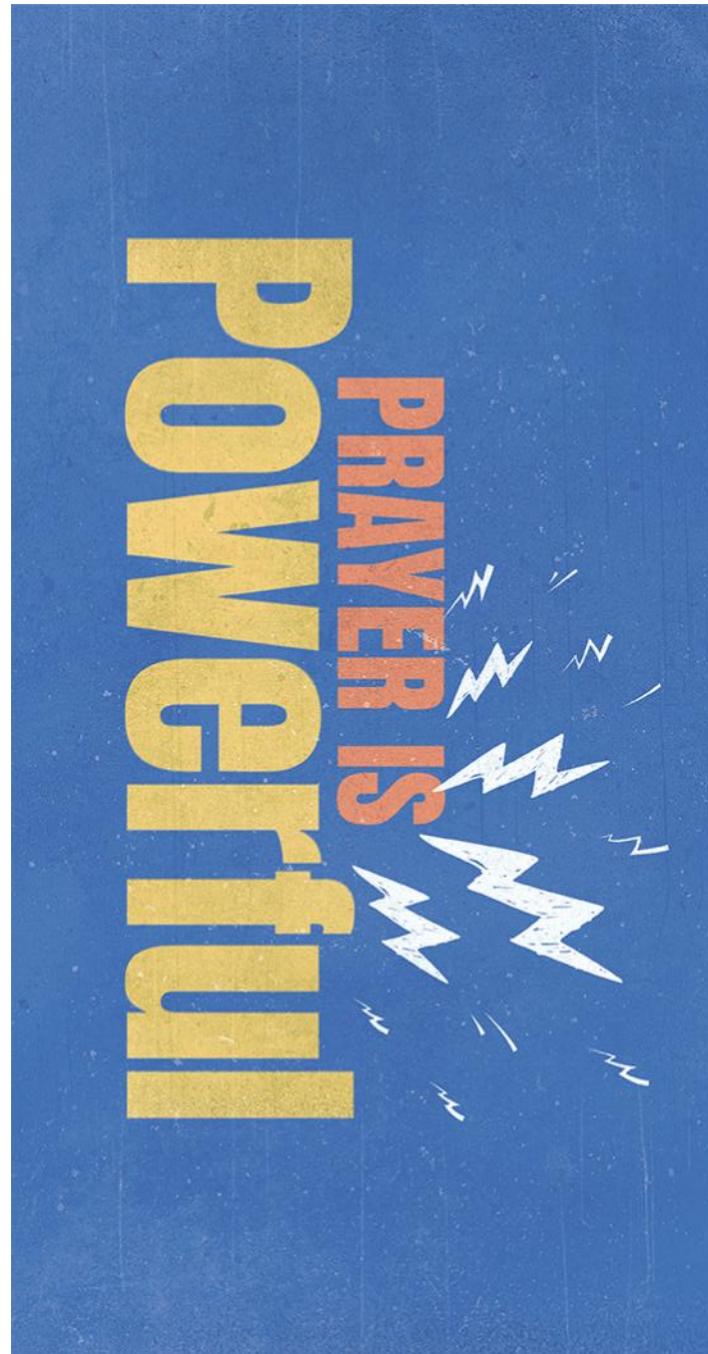
that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

A Prayer for the Middle East

God of all comfort and hope, Who in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, proclaimed good news to the poor, bound up the broken-hearted, and set the captives free: We remember before You this day all who are affected by the violence of October 7, 2023, and we ask You to heal the wounded, comfort those who mourn, and bring justice and peace to the land of Israel. Look with mercy upon the peoples of the Middle East, that, in Your great compassion, the light of Christ may shine in the darkness and bring hope to every nation. As Simeon rejoiced to see Your salvation, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel, so we pray that Jesus, the Messiah, would be known as the true hope for all the earth. May Your Kingdom come, and may Your peace reign in every heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer for Our Congregation

OGOD, Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray Thee, the Congregation of St. Luke's 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.



Parish Postings

The beautiful service of Lessons and Carols will be celebrated on Sunday, December 14th, at 10:00 AM. Please join your Chapel Family for the reading of Messianic prophecies and the singing of beloved Christmas and Epiphany carols.



Winter Ember Days are an observance of penance and prayer (fasting/abstinence). They occur this year on Wednesday the 17th, Friday the 19th, and Saturday the 20th, marking the start of winter and a time of thanksgiving for harvests and for priestly vocations. These days symbolize the betrayal, crucifixion, and burial of Christ.



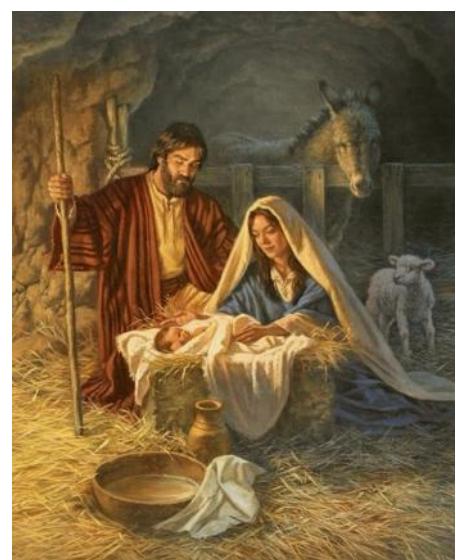
When you do your holiday baking this year, please set aside some your home-made treats so that we may give a box of goodies to the men and women at El Monte Fire Station. Please bring your contributions to the Chapel with you on Sunday, December 21st. Thank you!



Parishioners and friends of the parish may offer poinsettias in memory of loved ones to decorate the Chapel for Christmastide. The Altar Guild asks for \$10 donations for poinsettias. Please make a note of your donation on your offertory envelope or check memo line, and please let Kim Vogel know the names of those you wish to honor. Donations and dedications are due by Sunday, December 21st. Thank you!



St. Luke's will observe the Festival of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with a candlelight celebration of Holy Communion on Wednesday, December 24th, beginning at 11:15 PM. Please note that there will be no Christmas Day service at the Chapel.



Parish Postings

City Team Ministries is our fourth-quarter Community Mission Project. CityTeam is a community united by the belief that God has called us to love our neighbors as ourselves. It's a place where all are welcome, and where everyone from volunteers to donors and staff all play an important role in living out God's restorative love to our neighbors in need. Learn more at CityTeam.org. Please make a note of your donation on your offertory envelope or check memo line when contributing to this mission. Thank you!



You may be aware that Joanna's Prayer Circle meets each Sunday at 9:15 AM in the Nursery, but did you know you don't have to join the Circle in order to ask for prayer on your behalf? If you have a prayer need, please let Julia McNeely know!



Emergency food donations are critically needed due to funding cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Please add a few non-perishable food items to your weekly grocery cart to

help feed the hungry. Bring your donations to church with you on Sunday and place them in the large wicker basket on the floor of the Narthex. They will be delivered to the Downtown Palo Alto Food Closet.



St. Luke's offers several aids to worship to assist those who need some accommodation so that they may fully participate in worship services. If you need any of these aids, please let Father Parrish or Deacon Vogel know.

- Gluten-free Communion wafers
- In-pew Communion
- Large-print and extra-large-print publications
- Sermon print-outs
- Sound system
- Zoom worship services and Pay-Pal offerings

**EVERYONE
IS
Welcome!**

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 7th

The Second Sunday in Advent

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting

9:15 AM

Holy Communion with Holy Unction

10:00 AM

Sunday, December 14th

The Third Sunday in Advent

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting

9:15 AM

Festival of Lessons and Carols

10:00 AM

Wednesday, December 17th

Ember Day

Friday, December 19th

Ember Day

Saturday, December 20th

Ember Day

Sunday, December 21st

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Cookies for Firefighters donation day

Final day for poinsettia offerings and dedications

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Wednesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

Holy Communion

11:15 PM

Sunday, December 28th

The Festival of the Holy Innocents

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting

9:15 AM

Holy Communion

10:00 AM

Saturday, January 3rd

Vestry Retreat

11:00 AM

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 4th

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Joanna's Prayer Circle Meeting
9:15 AM

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
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.org

«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 Festival 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.