



## St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry

May 11, 2016



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## Holy Eucharist and the

## Laying on of Hands for Healing

Tonight at 6:30 p.m.

All are welcome!



## Thoughts from Lori



Last Thursday, the 5th, was Ascension Day, the day that Jesus ascended into heaven as his followers watched. [see Acts 1: 9-11] As he was about to finally leave them, his instructions were for them to go to Jerusalem and wait; that they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit and become his witnesses. So they went. They waited. Ten days later, the gift was delivered as promised.

**St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church**

3706 W. St. Paul Ave.  
McHenry, IL 60050  
815-385-0390

Church Email:  
stpaulmchenry  
@sbcglobal.net

Lori's Email:  
lorilowe@  
stpaulmchenry.com

**Quick Links**

**St. Paul  
website**

**Vestry Minutes**

December 2015  
January 2016  
February 2016  
March 2016

Diaper Bank

Episcopal News  
Service

Diocese of Chicago

Lectionary Calendar

Forward Day by Day

Add up the forty days from Easter to the Ascension and the ten days of waiting, and you get fifty. Thus, Pentecost. "Pente" being the Greek for five. That's what we celebrate this Sunday: Pentecost. The gift of the Holy Spirit. Some call it the birth of the church because it empowered the disciples - a motley crew if there ever was one - to share the gospel, baptize those who embraced it, and plant the seeds of the original Jesus Movement.\*

And a movement it was, with all the implications of a movement. Passion, commitment, sacrifice - even to the point of martyrdom - joy, excitement. And did I say commitment? All that and more. In many ways, it was all over the place, literally and theologically. It spread throughout the Mediterranean world and into what we now call Europe and the British Isles. There were theological conflicts right from the start. For example, Paul and some of the elders among the Jewish converts had very different ideas of how one could become a Christian. [see Acts 15] There were Christians who practiced numerology and other things we would consider pretty weird. But they believed in Jesus. They broke bread and shared the cup. They told his story, and so it spread.

It took about three hundred years for that movement to morph into an institution, something we would recognize as the Church. Remember those characteristics of a movement? Passion, commitment, and all that? Well, the characteristics of an institution are things like buildings, hierarchy, rules, dogma. The purpose of a movement is to spread its message, share its stories, recruit converts. The purpose of an institution is to perpetuate itself. While one of the benefits of the Church as an institution is that it has survived and ensured that the gospel of Jesus would endure, and without doubt it has promoted much goodness in the world, even a cursory review of Church history exposes the damage it has also done.

So here we are in the early 21st century and we're worried about the demise of the Church as we know it. There's much handwringing and wailing about declining membership and attendance, about diminishing resources and church closings. But here's the thing: what if this is the Holy Spirit at work in a new way? What if, as our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, says we are being invited to join a new \*Jesus Movement? What if, instead of people attending church because it's the social expectation (ala the 50's), people are coming because they are searching for passion? For something to be committed to, something worth sacrificing for? For a place to find joy?

What if they - we - come looking for Jesus? Will we find him here at St. Paul's? I hope so!

Faithfully,  
*Lori*

Join Our  
Mailing List

Like us on Facebook 



KEEP CALM  
AND  
WEAR RED  
ON  
PENTECOST

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## NEWCOMERS RECEPTION

This Sunday, Pentecost, we will celebrate the newcomers among us at a special reception after the Eucharist. Please join us for this occasion. If you're new at St. Paul's in the past year, allow us to make sure you know how glad we are that you're here. If you're a regular or a long-timer, come greet the newest members of the family.

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## THIS SUMMER

The next three Sundays - Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and Memorial Day weekend - we will simply enjoy... well, coffee and conversation. Beginning in June, we will focus our conversation on the news - anything EXCEPT politics! Bring news stories from the Internet, the newspaper, or any other sources and we will discuss them "through theological lenses." In other words, how do we interpret the world around us, near or far, through our understanding of God in Christ Jesus? Should be interesting. Bring the news or just come and put in your two cent's worth.



## WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY IN JUNE

The group that gathers for Women's Wednesday will meet in June - on the first, as it happens - and discuss "Good Goats," by Dennis Linn. It's available online as a paperback or as an e-book. Short and easy to read. We'll talk about how this compares and contrasts Lewis's "The Great Divorce." You won't have any trouble following the discussion even if you haven't read the book(s), so don't stay away for that reason. We're creating an opportunity for women to come together for community, learning, and spiritual growth. Check it out!

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### *St. Paul's Flower Guild*

We're getting our supplies ready and preparing to officially launch the Flower Guild as Bill Lang finishes up the wonderful work he's been doing in the upstairs kitchen, which will become our work area. (Thank you so much, Bill!). We'll have a meeting this **Sunday, May 15th** upstairs at 11:30 to create our schedule for this ministry. So bring your calendar for the summer months!



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### **Here is the latest Northern Illinois Food Bank newsletter:**

[http://solvehungertoday.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/4674\\_FULL-PLATE-summer-2016\\_6\\_Approved\\_K.pdf](http://solvehungertoday.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/4674_FULL-PLATE-summer-2016_6_Approved_K.pdf)

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## **Upcoming Events**

**Pentecost** - May 15 (Wear red!)  
**Newcomer's Reception** - May 15 following the service  
**Flower Guild Meeting** - May 15, 11:30 a.m.  
**Vestry** - Wednesday, May 25, 7:15 p.m.  
**Women's Wednesday** - June 1, 7:15 p.m.  
**Men's Breakfast** - Saturday, June 4, 8:00 a.m.

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## **Lessons and Hymns**

Sunday, May 15, 2016

Day of Pentecost

*by the Rev. William P. McLemore*

### **THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

**First Lesson:** Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9. The reading from Acts tells of the Pentecost event in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit fell upon the followers of Jesus. Genesis is the legend of the "Tower of Babel."

**The Psalm:** Psalm 104:25-35, 37b. "I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being."

**Second Lesson:** Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21. The passage from Romans has Paul noting that the people have received the Spirit of Adoption. The Acts passage is described above.

**The Gospel:** John 14:8-17 (25-27). Jesus tells Philip that "I am in the Father and the Father is in me."

### **THE HYMNS:**

**Processional Hymn:** No. 507. "Praise the Spirit in creation." This hymn was written by Michael Hewlett (1919-2000) and touches on many biblical images of the Holy Spirit: the breath of God, source of enlightenment, wind of heaven, fire of the human heart, and the essence of creation. The tune, "Finnian," was composed by Christopher Hugh Dearnley (1930-2000), a British organist at Salisbury and St. Paul's Cathedrals. While organist at St. Paul's, he would amuse choir members by showing up in his bicycle riding clothes after delivering newspapers.



**Sequence Hymn:** "Celtic Alleluia." This was written and composed by Fintan O'Carroll, born July 31, 1922 in Wexford, England. On completion of his secondary school studies, he took up a position as a clerk in the national railway. He won first prize in a traditional music competition, aged 12, playing violin, and went on to study violin at home, taking lessons as the opportunity arose. His heart was in music, and he left his railway position in 1967 after 27 years of service, whereupon he completed his degree at Trinity to gain his Bachelor of Music degree.

**Presentation Hymn:** No. 510. "Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove." This Isaac Watts hymn was published in his "Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1707." Isaac Watts (1674-1748) was a prolific hymn writer and there are 17 of his hymns in the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal. Unfortunately a fourth stanza was omitted: "Dear Lord! and shall we ever lye at this poor dying rate? Our love so faint, so cold to thee? And thine to us so great?" The tune, "St. Agnus," was composed by John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876) and is a popular common meter tune.

**Communion Hymn:** No. 508. "Breathe on me, Breath of God." Edwin Hatch (1835-1889) wrote this hymn for his own private hymn collection, "Between Doubt and Prayer," in 1878. It became so popular that it entered the Anglican hymnal in 1916. It reflects our philosophy of Christian conversion which generally looks to a gradual life of holiness ending in the "perfect life of thine eternity". The son of non-conformist parents in Derby, England; he joined the Church of England in 1853 and was ordained a priest in 1859. Though primarily a scholar, his writing of this hymn reflects a deep belief that God transforms the human heart through the Holy Spirit. The tune, "Nova Vita," literally means "New Life" and was composed by Lister Peace, organist at Queen's College. This hymn lends itself to being sung softly but with a deep breath to reflect the meaning of the words.

**Recessional Hymn:** No. 507. Described above. At the procession, verses 1-3 will be sung and at the recession, verses 4-6.

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### **May 15th Servants**

Ushers: Beth and Jim Lukas

Lector: Barb Moriarty

Intercessor: Judy Robel

Eucharistic Ministers: Pam Dietmeyer, Michelle Wiejaczka

Vestry Person of the Day: John Patnaude

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From the cartoons created by  
*the Rev. William P. McLemore*



"Will it help my golf game?"

Church  
Bulletin  
Bloopers



*"The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, 'Break Forth into Joy'."*