



St. Paul's ePistle from McHenry
March 15, 2017



New and Notable...



*Thoughts from Lori
A personal note*

It's an awesome thing to turn 70. What I didn't understand until a few years ago is that whatever my chronological age, I don't feel any different inside. Oh, to be sure, there are physical differences. Things I can't do anymore. But for the most part, I still feel like the same person inside myself. And I think this is a common experience, not at all unique to me, but one that young people don't understand. It's just something we have to learn for ourselves as we age. When I was very young, 70 seemed ancient! One foot in the grave already. So it's a nice surprise to not feel that way. I do wonder, though, if being 70 will change people's perceptions and expectations of me.

I must admit that thoughts of my mortality have begun to creep into my thinking. But that's not a bad thing. It may sound corny, but I'm much more aware of what's important and what's not; of the treasure of relationships and the value of time. So I'm truly celebrating this milestone in my life.

Speaking of which, thank you for aiding and abetting that celebration! The cake at Coffee & Conversation last Sunday and the cards and expressions of birthday wishes have been very touching. I am deeply grateful. May we all, as we share this life together as sisters and brothers in Christ, be reminded of the love of God that we celebrate week after week. Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,
Lori

A NEW / OLD CUSTOM DURING LENT

Those of you who have been Episcopalians for a long time remember that it was our habit to enter the church in silence before worship in order to pray and prepare for the liturgy. You are gently invited to practice that tradition during the season of Lent.

"WE ENTER SPEAKING TO GOD.
WE LEAVE IN COMMUNITY SPEAKING WITH ONE ANOTHER."

Let's try it.

LENTEN STUDY

One Book, One Diocese

**Living into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America
by Dr. Catherine Meeks**

In response to our Bishop's invitation to the whole diocese, we will be discussing this book at Coffee & Conversation during Lent. The subject of racism is not an easy one, and we will approach it prayerfully. Several of us have purchased the book, and that will facilitate and shape our discussion, but everyone is invited to participate in the conversation. If you are reading the book, here is the schedule:



March 19	Lent 3	Chapters 4 & 5
March 26	Lent 4	Chapters 6 & 7
April 2	Lent 5	Chapters 8 & 9
April 9	Palm Sunday	Asking the Question: Now what?

The Bishop will also be leading an online discussion via the diocesan website. See below for more information.

During Lent, which began March 1, Bishop Lee and other diocesan leaders will hold an online book discussion of "Living into God's Dream: Dismantling Racism in America," a collection of essays edited by Dr. Catherine Meeks. Congregations are also encouraged to hold their own discussions of the book.

"Living into God's Dream" combines personal stories and theological reflection with real-world examples of new conversations about race. The book is available online from Church Publishing, Amazon, and other retailers.

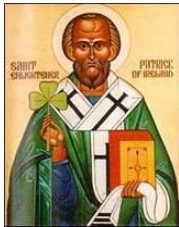
There will be an online discussion each Wednesday evening. Use this link to participate.

<https://www.episcopalchicago.org/our-stories/2017/01/04/one-book-one-diocese-living-gods-dream>

A Word from The Rev. William P. McLemore

Feast of St. Patrick of Ireland

This Friday, March 17th, is the Feast Day of Patrick, Bishop and Missionary of Ireland, c. 390-461. He was born to a Christian family in the northwest coast of Britain, and when he was about 16, he was captured by a band of Irish slave-traders, and carried off to Ireland, where he was forced to serve as a shepherd. Five years later, he managed to escape his captivity, and returned to Britain, where he received an education as a Christian. He became ordained as both priest and then bishop, and after a vision in a dream, he returned to Ireland around 431.



He then began a remarkable journey of missionary work, converting non-Christians to the faith, which he did until his death in 461. He established and built many churches throughout the country, the largest being at Armagh, which even to this day, is regarded as the mother church of Ireland.

What we learn from Patrick is that our faith always has with it a struggle. The collect for his day aptly describes this, "Almighty God, in your providence you chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of you: Grant us so to walk in that light that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life." (*Holy Women, Holy Men, Church Publishing, Inc., 2010, p. 273.*)

Children's Chapel

This week's lesson will be "Jesus' Last Supper."
Leaders will be Kerry and Tommy Obermeyer.



All children are welcome to attend after the service for a snack, bible story, and activity.

In case you missed it....

For Your Consideration: A Lenten Act of Generosity!

As an act of alms giving during Lent, please consider filling a **Personal Care Bag** to be given to our guests at the next **Mobile Food Pantry at St. Paul's** on Saturday, **April 29th**. A list is attached to each bag with suggestions for full-sized items for personal care. These are things that cannot be purchased with food stamps. When you have filled a bag (or more), **please return the personal care bag(s) to St. Paul's on or before Easter Sunday, April 16th**. The Food Pantry truck ministry is a shared project of the three Episcopal Churches in McHenry County. Thank you for your generosity and compassion, The Rev. Bill McLemore - St. Ann's; The Rev. Fran Holliday - St. Mary's; The Rev. Lori Lowe - St. Paul's.

Reconciliation of a Penitent

(BCP, pages 447-452)

Though individual confession is not required in the Episcopal tradition, it is available. Two forms are provided in the Book of Common Prayer for those who desire to make a formal confession. It is true that confession is good for the soul. Although we may receive forgiveness directly from God, sometimes it is beneficial and healing to actually hear the words of absolution through a priest. If you believe this would be helpful to you, please call me to set aside a time. My cell phone number is 706-957-2446.

lml+



If you have not signed up already, we invite you to share in the 2017 Lenten email series from Episcopal Relief & Development. Each day during Lent you will receive a daily reflection, co-authored by a group of Anglican Communion and other faith leaders. During this season of reflection on our Christian faith, their writings will enhance your spiritual journey as they both inspire and challenge you. Each daily meditation is presented in both English and Spanish.

***[Sign up to Receive our Daily Lenten Meditations by Email](#)

[Subscribase para recibir nuestras Meditaciones de Cuaresma Diarias por correo electronico](#)

Other materials are available on our [Lenten Resources](#) page

***Please note that the sign-up form is bilingual and contains both Spanish and English. To sign up for the Lenten Meditation emails, you only need to fill in the fields marked First Name, Last Name and Email Address. Thank you.

The usual fare...

Servants for March 19th

Terry Jaworski, Don Jaworski - *Ushers*

Rick Carlstedt - *Lector*

Barb Moriarty - *Intercessor*

Michelle Wiejaczka, Jeff Zabor - *Eucharistic Ministers*

Rick Carlstedt - *Vestry Person of the Day*

Ryan Bell - *Children's Crucifer*

Lessons and Hymns
Sunday, March 19th
Third Sunday in Lent - Year A
by the Rev. William P. McLemore

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

First Lesson: Exodus 7:1-7. Moses and the people in the wilderness complain of being thirsty and God gives them water from a rock.

The Psalm: Psalm 95. This psalm rejoices in the privilege and honor of worshipping God. "Come, let us sing to the Lord."

Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-11. Paul discusses his thoughts on being "justified by faith."

The Gospel: John 4:5-42 Jesus encounters the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well.

THE HYMNS:

Processional Hymn: No. 686. "Come thou fount of every blessing." This hymn was written by Robert Robinson in 1757 when he was 22 years old. The words reflect our wandering nature and how God seeks us out and leads us home through Christ. The tune, "Nettleton" is a melody from "A Repository of Sacred Music" (1815).

Sequence Hymn: No. 679. "Surely it is God who saves me." Based on the First Song of Isaiah, this popular contemporary hymn was composed by the Rev. Dr. Carl Pickens Daw, Jr., before he studied at the University of the South and was ordained an Episcopal priest in March of 1982. He served on the Committee on Texts for the 1982 Hymnal and currently lives in Watertown, Maine. The tune was composed by Ray W. Urwin.

Presentation Hymn: No. 658, "As longs the deer for the cooling streams." This is an adaptation of one of the Songs of David (1696) and is a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1-7. You may wish to look at the stained glass window just behind the organ (which I also display in the attached photo) as you sing this beautiful hymn. The tune, "Martyrdom" goes well with the prayer-like words of the music.

Communion Hymn: "Let the broken ones be healed." This short song will be used for our communion hymn during Lent. It was written by the Rev. Michael Hudson in his "Songs for the Cycle," (c) 2004.

Recessional Hymn: No. 690. "Guide me O thou great Jehovah." This hymn was written by William Williams (1717-1791) who was the chief hymn writer of Wales and one of her greatest poets. Though ordained an Anglican priest, he later withdrew from the Established Church and joined the Calvinist Methodist Connection. He composed over 800 hymns in Welsh and 100 in English. This hymn was later re-written and translated into English by another Welshman, Peter Williams, (1722-1796) a biblical scholar. The tune, "Cum Rhondda," was composed by John Hughes (1873-1932). The hymn reflects the biblical image of God's people on a pilgrimage, "For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water." (Revelation 7:17a)

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



Join Our
Mailing List

Quick Links and Info

[St. Paul's Website](#)

Phone: 815-385-0390
Fax: 815-385-3936
St. Paul's email - stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net
Lori's email - lorilowe@stpaulmchenry.com


Vestry Minutes

[November 2016](#)

[December 2016](#)

[January 2017](#)

[***Diocese of Chicago***](#)
[***Episcopal News Service***](#)
[***Lectionary Calendar***](#)
[***Forward Day by Day***](#)
[***Diaper Bank of Northern Illinois***](#)

 Like us on Facebook

 Forward to a Friend

St Paul's Episcopal Church, 3706 W. Saint Paul's Avenue, McHenry, IL 60050

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by stpaulmchenry@sbcglobal.net in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today