



The Messenger

March 2020

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 1028
400 Highland Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Clergy Reflections

"Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting....." BCP, p. 264-265

This is the opening sentence to the invitation to observe Lent that is in the liturgy for Ash Wednesday. What I love about it is line: *"The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection"*. The observance of Lent is an ancient practice. Christians around the world mark forty days before Easter by committing ourselves to greater prayer, scripture reading, and giving alms so that really let it sink in the magnitude of the great gift and cost of our salvation won by Christ. I think those in the recovery communities, such as AA and AL-Anon, have the best language for what is in effect the Lenten disciple of 'penitence'. It can be seen laid out in some of the steps:

4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Lent is a beautiful opportunity to begin again. Press the 'reset button' with our relationship with God and with others. Receive mercy and forgiveness for our sins, make amends, and resolve to learn and grow in love and grace. In the Church we have a specific liturgy for this called the Rite of Reconciliation. You can find it in the Book of Common Prayer on pages 447-452. In the Episcopal Church this liturgy is always available but not required. However, I want to make a special invitation to you to consider making a formal Confession during Lent. In my experience it is a powerful way to expose the Light of Christ on our shortcomings and to hear again the promise of forgiveness. If you are moved to do so feel free to set up an appointment with me. We will go to the Chapel together and I will lead you through the Rite.



Blessings for a peaceful and fruitful season of Lent! See you Sunday! *Patti* +



40 days, 40 items, 40 blessings...a way to give thanks for the gift of having enough! There will be United Thank Offering boxes in the entryway for those who would like to participate in a Lenten discipline that is focused on giving thanks for the blessing of having "enough" that we can share with others.

Each day of Lent, put a coin or paper money into the United Thank Offering blue box, giving thanks for the blessings of having enough. 40 days, 40 items, 40 blessings multiplied by all of us who participate!

Lenten Resources

Lent 2020: A Call to Prayer, Fasting, and Repentance Leading to Action - An Invitation from Presiding Bishop Curry to Turn and Pray on Behalf our Nation

As the season of Lent approaches, Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry invites Episcopalians and people of faith to turn and pray on behalf of our nation:

“On Ash Wednesday I will join with other Christian leaders observing this Lent as a season of prayer, fasting and repentance on behalf of our nation, with continued fasting each Wednesday until the Wednesday before Advent begins.

“For me, this call is rooted in my personal commitment to practice Jesus’s Way of Love, by which I turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go and rest in the way of our savior. Especially now, drawn together by love, hope and concern, and recalling the wisdom of our ancient traditions, I am grateful to join others in the spiritual practice of prayer, fasting and repentance for our nation. If you feel called to join us in this practice, the invitation is attached. The full text, together with the “Reclaiming Jesus” document can be found on the [Reclaiming Jesus website](#).”

For more information visit:

<http://www.reclaimingjesus.org/>

<https://episcopalchurch.org/invitation-to-fast>

Let us pray.

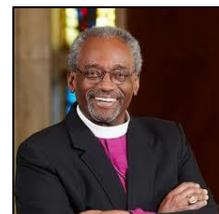
“Almighty God ... We humbly pray that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Your brother,

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Presiding Bishop and Primate

The Episcopal Church



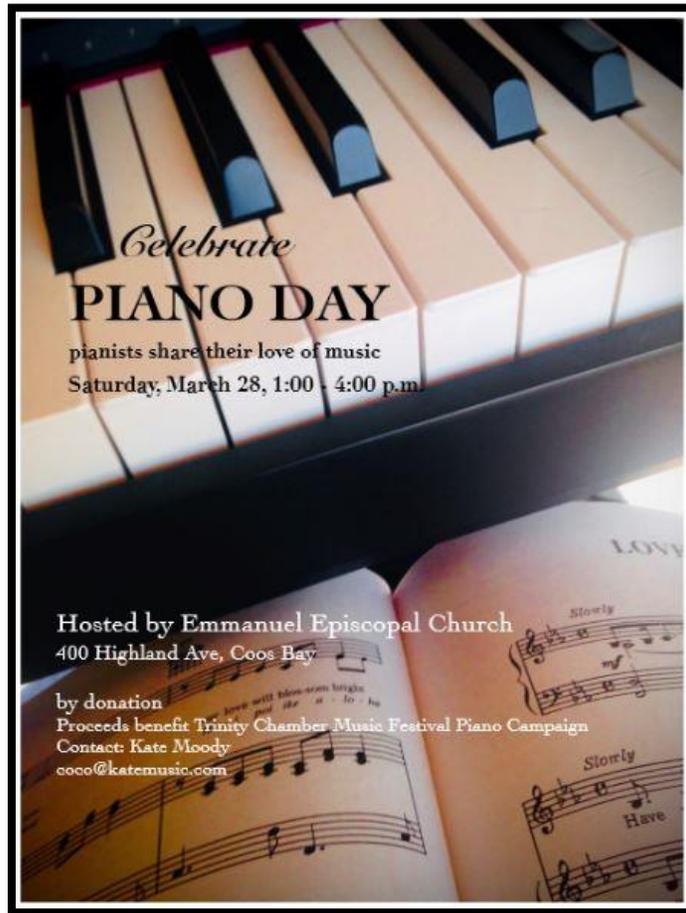
Wednesday Services with Rev. Patti to begin March 4

7:30 AM – Morning Prayer, II

12:00 PM – Healing Eucharist

Daylight Savings is March 8. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.





March Music

Thank you to Kerry Oxford for a beautiful rendition of Malotte's "Lord's Prayer" on February 16! You can once again hear Kerry's dulcet tones on March 22 in a solo "The Lord is My Shepherd." Other Sunday service highlights in March: on March 8 guest pianist Nancy Clarke will accompany the service, and on March 29 the choir will present a lively version of "Dry Bones."

Calling All Pianists! Emmanuel is hosting Piano Day 2020 on Saturday, March 28, at 1:00 PM. Piano players of all ages and all levels are invited to participate. If you or someone you know would like to play a piano piece you can find registration information and forms at http://katemusic.com/piano_day. Deadline for registration is Monday, March 9, 6:00 p.m. Questions? Contact me at coco@katemusic.com or (503) 701-1951.

From <https://www.pianoday.org/>: "Piano Day, an annual worldwide event founded by a group of like-minded people, takes place on the 88th day of the year – in 2020 it's the 28th of March – because of the number of keys on the instrument being celebrated. The aim of the day is to create a platform for piano related projects in order to promote the development of musical dimensions and to continue sharing the centuries-old joy of playing piano. Piano Day welcomes all kinds of piano lovers — young and old, amateur and professional, of any musical direction – to join in this year's festivities."

- Kate Moody, Choir Director

You may notice something a little different about the church pews for Lent...

The first three pews on the left side (facing the altar) are moved 90 degrees to face the piano. Our choir will gather at these pews for the 10:00 AM service instead of behind the altar for a trial period through Lent. Let us "make a joyful noise unto the Lord!"



Scrapbooks & Archives

Every week, there will be scrapbooks and archives from our parish library featured on the table under the Vestry and staff photos in the undercroft. Please take a moment to enjoy and if you know someone in the photos, write down their name and any other information you have about the photo on the post-its provided. Clean hands while handling are appreciated. Thank you.

Parents Night Out

February 7, 2020, was a night of fun, pizza, and activities. The parents of preschool kids had a chance for a night out while members of the congregation provided dinner and fun activities. Thirteen kids had a great time for 3 hours and their parents got a break. The playground came in handy for pre-pizza playtime.

Thanks for the donations of pizza go to Joe and Xandra McKeown, Barb & Dave Kronstiener, Al Rumsch, and Liz Cowden. Thank you to Teri and John Whitty for their donation. Other folks provided milk and snacks for the kids.

Activity stations included coloring, puzzles, stickers, dinosaurs, and blocks. There were enough activities to keep kids from about 8 years old to one year old busy. Paw Patrol on the big screen was a hit for everyone and new discoveries for some little ones.

Thanks to all the volunteers from young - Cullen Cribbens - and old, the rest of us - who helped entertain and tend to the kid's needs. As an aside, the preschool raised \$205.00 from this babysitting event.

This was a fun evening for all of us - Dave & Terrye Laird, Al Rumsch, Susan Vineyard, Nancy Lee Stewart & Cary Pugh, Barb & Dave Kronsteiner, Bruce Winterhalder & Sheryl Gerety, and our energetic Cullen Cribbens.

Respectfully Submitted, *David & Terrye Laird*



Congratulations, Fran and Wendy!



HOLY week

Holy Week Schedule:

- April 5 Palm Sunday, One Service at 10:00 AM, Rite I
Service begins in the Narthex with the Blessing of the Palms.
- April 9 Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 PM with foot washing and stripping of the altar.
Overnight Prayer Vigil in the Chapel beginning after the Maundy Thursday Service will be in one hour slots until Noon Good Friday Service. The sign up schedule is posted on the Chapel door.
- April 10 Good Friday Services, 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- April 12 Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 AM, at Sunset Beach
Easter Sunday, One Service at 10:00 AM, Rite II

Rev. Dr. Patti Hale, OP

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Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM