

SUNDAY MESSENGER

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 19, 2017



WELCOME TO ST PAUL'S CHURCH

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today, and to receive Communion or a blessing. Feel free to take any information about the parish located at the entrances. Don't be afraid to tell us more about yourself by filling out one of the cards located in each pew or on information tables.

Join us as we strive to make northeast Bergen County a place where God's grace is freely known and shared by all!

ABOUT THE LITURGY & SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY

Today was anciently called "the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman." This story, which will be read as the Gospel today, is one of the classic biblical passages for those preparing for Baptism at Easter. As the woman in her meeting with Jesus was gradually enlightened about who he was and about her relationship to God, so the candidates are growing in their relationship with God during Lent. They look forward to receiving in Baptism the "living water" of God's Spirit in their lives.

In the first reading, we move forward in the history of salvation from the call of Abraham and Sarah to the account of Moses and Israel in the exodus from Egypt. This is another story of Israel's continuing struggle to believe and follow God's leading during their wandering in the wilderness. Moses comes into conflict with the Israelites because they have no water and want to return to Egypt where water was plentiful. Following God's instructions, Moses makes water flow by striking a rock. The point of the story is that faithful living is obedience to God, not finding plentiful resources.

Today's psalm is one of series of psalms which may have been sung by pilgrims as they approached the temple precincts. It recalls the steadfast providence of God in contrast to the



faithless complaints of the Israelites related in the story from Exodus 17.

The second reading, from Romans, is an exposition of the new life we have in God through Christ. Jesus gave up his life for us, in order that we might be put right with God. In his death and resurrection the estrangement between God and humanity is being repaired. We, in Baptism, have been reconciled with God.

In all of Paul's letters there is no other passage which carries such a powerful message. Faith has established our new relationship

with God. We now receive many additional blessings – endurance in suffering, hope of standing the test of our faith, reconciliation with God. These come to us because of God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. All of this has been brought about through the death and resurrection of Jesus who died for us.

As people in the desert thirst for water, so Christians find in their Lenten living the thirst for life which only God can quench. All of us, both the baptized and those preparing for Baptism, are, like the Samaritan woman, being enlightened and filled with the grace of the living water which comes from our Savior.

HOLY DOODLING OR YOUR NOTES FROM TODAY'S SERMON & WORSHIP

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 17:1-7; ROMANS 5:1-11; JOHN 4:5-42; PSALM 95.

Don't forget to take the
2017 Parish Pulse!
<http://bit.ly/ppulse2017>

PRAYERS

For those in need of immediate prayers: *Douglas Hammond; Richard Glaspie; Elvis Santos; Asha Rai, Tami Fitzherbert and the Davis Family.*

For those in need of continuing prayer support: *Sally Ricottone; Nazera Wright; Yvonne Baldwin; David Eversley; Lilliam Gonzalez; John Herbert; Ina Martinez; Jeffrey McAllister; Cynthia McDonald; Trey Nelson; Fredelia Smith; Carol Yaner; Phillipa McLeod; Sharon Wells.*

For those serving in the military or in harm's way: *Austin Herbert, Nicholas C. Basile, Kablil Savery, Justin Sheldon and Nagelia Harrison Sheldon, Ken Lambert, Nadi Kassem, Justin Coca, Antonio Ramirez, Joseph Hill, Marc McDonald and Gregory Halstead.*

For those celebrating birthdays this week. *Douglas Hammond, Ina Martinez, Jerona Babb, Junius Carter III, Bria Nelson, Trey Nelson, David Arrigoni, Mark Trautman.*

Cycle of Prayer, Anglican Communion: *Uganda; in the Diocese of Newark: St. Luke & St. Mary, Hope & Belvidere; All Saints, Hoboken.*

Our partners in faith: *Light & Salt Korean Presbyterian Church, St. Michael Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahado Church, Church of the Good Shepherd, Fort Lee; and Congregation Kol HaNeshama.*

For those who have died, especially *Leona Fox, Anthony Clark (Son of Loretta Daniels), Emma Pestaina, David Greenblatt (Son-in-Law of Helen Yeisley),* and those who mourn them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR: Please join us after the 10:30am service in the Parish Hall for fellowship and refreshments. Thanks to our host today, Andrea Bills.

NEXT BIG SCREEN MOVIE DISCUSSION GROUP: *Fences*. This highly acclaimed film will be shown (*for free*) here at St. Paul's on Sunday, March 19 at 6pm, in the Reception Room. A discussion of the film will follow on Monday March 20 at 7pm, in the Vestry Room.

LENTEN VESPERS: Join us this Sunday at 5pm for Lenten Vespers, a program of readings and music presented by the choirs of St. Paul's and First Presbyterian Church of Englewood. The choirs will present a wide variety of works by Moses Hogan, Gustav Holst, Bobby McFerrin, and more. There is a suggested donation of \$20, \$10 for students and seniors. Everyone is welcome!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Reception Room, Friday March 24 at 7:30pm. The group is led by Deacon Joanne O'Neill. Please invite friends and family who have experienced a loss. This is a friendly, respectful, and welcoming environment. All sharing is held in strict confidence.

SHAWL MINISTRY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Sunday March 26 at the 10:30 service. If you wish someone to receive a shawl, please complete one of the forms available in the Atrium (by the name tags) and give it to either Betty McLoone or Deacon Joanne. Forms will also be available in the Parish Office.

DON'T FORGET! We have lots of opportunities for you to join with others in our Lenten journey. You'll find them on the next page.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41; Psalm 23.

CHOIR SCHOOL CONCERT: The St. Paul's Choir School will present a concert on Sunday March 26 at 4pm at the Convent of St. John the Baptist, 82 West Main Street in Mendham. Please consider coming to support our Choir School! There is a \$20 suggested donation and everyone is welcome!

KEYBOARDS: Do you have an electronic keyboard that is no longer in use? The Choir School is looking for more

keyboards for our piano program. For more information, contact Mark Trautman in the Parish Office.

FLOWERS AND GREENS may be given in memory of loved ones, or in thanksgiving. Please notify the Parish Office or sign up on the bulletin board in the Atrium. Flowers may be given at any time in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving. Contributions are always welcome toward the weekly cost of \$50.

THE WEEKLY PRAYER list in the Sunday announcements includes those members and friends of the Parish who are in a temporarily serious or critical situation. Names placed on the weekly list will be removed after thirty days unless the Parish Office is notified to keep them in continual prayer. Intercessions will remain on the continuing prayer support for an additional 60 days unless further intentions are requested. Please remember in your prayers all those listed. If you would like to ask for specific prayers or seek pastoral care, please contact the clergy through the Parish Office by phone or email.

HELP! We need your help in the Parish Office on Wednesdays! See the sign-up poster in the Atrium or call the Parish Office for more information!

NAME TAGS: Please help by wearing your name tag. Name tags are on the table in the Atrium. If you can't find your name, or you would like a name tag, please sign up for a name tag with a pink slip as they are prepared during the week. Slips are on the name tag table, just drop it in the basket.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Mar 19 *Fences*. Screening, 6pm
- Mar 19 Lenten Vespers with the St Paul's Choir School, St Paul's Choir, and the Adult Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Englewood.
- Mar 20 Big Screen Movie Discussion, 7pm
- Mar 26 St Paul's Choir School Concert, Convent of St John Baptist, Mendham, 4pm
- April 1 Lenten Quiet Day
- April 8 Second Saturday Youth Event, 6pm-9pm
- April 9 Palm Sunday: Holy Week begins

EGIVING AT ST PAUL'S

Please feel free to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please visit online through your electronic device: stpaulsenglewood.org/egiving.html or follow the *qr* code to the left with your capable electronic device.



Scan here

**STEWARDSHIP IS
COMMITTING OURSELVES & OUR
RESOURCES TO JOIN GOD'S MISSION**

DON'T FORGET!

LENTEN ADULT FORMATION

Lenten Adult Forum Series

A Garden's Tale: Moving from Crisis to New Life Through Lent

Sundays of Lent, the Guild Room, 9:15am with Video reprise the following Sunday at 11:45am. Join Carrie Allport for an in-depth exploration of the grace that Christ brings that moves us from the chaos and broken of our lives to the abundant new life through Christ's Resurrection. Using the Lenten scripture and horticultural images as a primer, we will explore the themes of Crisis; Burial; Fertilizer/Living Water; Light; and New Life.

Lenten Bible Study

Wednesdays in Lent with Soup Supper, 7pm in the Conference Room, following the 6:30pm Healing Service. Join Fr Allport in a manuscript study of the book of *Revelation*. No requirements for you except a willingness to ask questions and enter scripture in community. The study gives an foundation to understand the this unique and misunderstood portion of scripture.

Lenten Series: Big Screen Theology

Sundays of Lent, the Reception Room, 6 pm, for movie screening, and Mondays of Lent, the Library, 7 pm for discussion. Come on Sunday evening, 6 pm to the Reception Room to watch the film of the week. Then join us on Monday evening at 7 pm in the Reception Room for discussion and discovery.

Films will include: *Fences* (PG-13, 2016) with Denzel Washington and Viola Davis; *A Thousand Words* (PG-13, 2012) with Eddie Murphy; *Moana* (animated, 2016).

Lenten Quiet Day

Take a mini-retreat to center your heart and spirit during Lent at our Quiet Day. Saturday, April 1. 9am-2:30pm. Dcn. O'Neill will offer a time of guided contemplation, periods of reflection, and prayer-filled community exploring the nature of *Forgiveness*. Bring your own lunch.



CAN YOU HELP BRING THE POWER OF EASTER RIGHT NOW?

A generous donor in the Parish Family has invited all of us to deepen our stewardship and giving from God's abundance as we journey towards Easter. The anonymous donor has offered to match your additional financial gift beyond your pledge or regular giving up to \$25,000. So if you can make a gift, the abundance is doubled. This additional stewardship and giving will mean \$50,000 of God's abundance and the transformation of our attention to further God's Mission through St Paul's. Make a gift online through Parish website and "Make a Gift" link, or use a labeled envelope available in the Atrium or front of the Historic Sanctuary. We can do it right now!!



We have raised \$3,500 of our matching gift goal so far. Can you make a gift today to help?

HEAD OF THE CHURCH

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

BISHOP OF THE CHURCH

The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith, Bishop

THE MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

All the People

2017 VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. William H. Allport, II, *Presider*

Michele Simon, *Warden*

Max McDaniel, *Warden*

Beverley Lannanman, *Treasurer*

Albert Griffiths (2019¹), John Herbert (2017¹)

George J. Hill (2019¹), Robin Jackson (2018³)

Rafael Martínez (2017¹), Aubrey McDonald (2017⁰)

Coralius Noble (2018²), Jonathan Stevens (2018¹)

Nicole Thomas (2019¹)

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

The Rev. Dr. William H. Allport II, *Rector*

The Rev. Joanne O'Neill, *Deacon of the Parish*

Kai Alston, *Director of Christian Formation*

Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music*

Colleen Habick, *Parish Administrator*

Lisa Keenan, *Financial Accountant*

José Sánchez, *Interim Sexton*

Gary Mason & George Gill, *Sunday Sextons*

Marteze Golden, *Housekeeper*

GET THE LATEST NEWS

Join the electronic communications of the Parish by following us on Facebook or signing up for daily messages (registration always available at the bottom of the website).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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