

THE CHIMES

Jan 2017

Trinity Episcopal Church
815 N. Grant St.
Bay City, Michigan 48708

Volume 20 Issue 1



Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!

It is a gift to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ with you for the first time this year. Jesus came into the world to bring salvation to all and we are the benefactors - along with all creation - of this marvelous gift. Thanks be to God!

It is impossible to fathom the sacrifice it took for Jesus to leave the freedom of life in the heavens and take on human form with all its limitations. But he did! We worship a God who has experienced all that humanity experiences.

His life began in a meager way and it wasn't long before he and his parents became refugees in a land they didn't know. Eventually Joseph received the all-clear from an angel in a dream that it was safe to go home. Jesus was raised in a loving and God-fearing home with siblings and probably extended family nearby. Life was full of learning about God primarily from his mother during his formative years and later by the rabbis as he learned the family trade from his earthly father. We know that he obeyed his parents and was wise beyond his years.

As a man we know Jesus had compassion for those who suffered. He healed the sick, gave sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf. He celebrated at weddings, mourned the death of his friend and was pained by the betrayal of one close to him. He offered hope to the

hopeless. Jesus also endured oppression, false testimony, an unfair hearing and trial, a wrong conviction and suffered humiliation, beatings and a horrific death.

We know that death did not, and does not, hold the last word. Jesus rose victorious from death and taught all the world that out of death comes life. And this is a lesson he continues to teach. We know that life with him is life eternal!

A fellow priest and friend of mine was once asked what she believed to be the primary reason for Jesus' coming into the world. Her reply was, "Freedom". That we all may be free from whatever binds us, limits us, and keeps us from all we were created to be. I concur. God loved the world SO MUCH that we were sent God's only-begotten son that we may believe in him, and not perish but have everlasting life.

There's God's love bubbling up again! In our joys, in our sorrows, in our pain, in our fear, in our successes, failures and learnings God comes to each of us as a fragile child and King of All. May we each welcome and receive Jesus into our hearts and lives anew this year allowing God to break into our lives that we may experience and know the freedom there is in Christ. May we also be so full of the joy he brings that we share it with abounding love to all those in whom we come in contact and all the world!

In Christ's love,

Rev. Sue

**Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Christmas
Message 2016**

From Isaiah Chapter 9: *For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

These words of Isaiah are often seen as words that foretell and foreshadow the coming of Jesus of Nazareth, born of Mary. The truth is, these words befit Him because this child changed the world. This child changes lives. This child changes us.

I remember when our oldest daughter was a baby. My wife and I were young. We were footloose and fancy-free. It was just the two of us newlyweds, so if we wanted to go out to eat dinner, we went out to eat dinner. If we decided to go to a movie at the last minute, we just went. We actually felt like we had money back then. And we did have a little bit of discretionary income. We could pretty much do what we wanted to do, within reason, and we didn't have to think too much about the consequences or impact of a spontaneous decision and what we had to do to make that happen.

And then, all of a sudden, this little, innocent human being, a little child, came into our lives, and literally gained control over our entire world. Before we could do anything else we had to think about, "Who's going to keep the baby?" or "Is this a good time for us to go without the baby?" We soon learned

that we were not in control of our lives anymore. Even our sleeping patterns became very different. We would stay awake when the baby was awake and we went to sleep when the baby went to sleep. Literally this child began to control our lives and the child didn't even know she was doing it. And then we had a second one she did the exact same thing. And I've since learned that that's what babies do. When they arrive they take over! And their parents begin to develop their lives around this child. To mold their entire lives around this precious needy baby.

Isaiah wrote, "*Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given . . . and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*" This child who was born of Mary changes everything. This child born in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes changes how we live. This child born to the sound of angels singing Gloria in Excelsis Deo — this child to whom the wise ones came from afar bearing gifts — this child, changed the way the entire world works.

And this Jesus, born into a world torn by strife and hatred and division and pain and poverty, this child is born anew wherever men and women say, "I'll follow Him. I'll follow Him as my Savior. I'll follow Him as my Lord."

When this child grew up, He said His reason for coming, again quoting Isaiah, from the 61st chapter, he said, *The spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor, to proclaim*

release to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty all those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

This child, when He grew up, came to show us the way to live lives of love, lives of compassion, lives of goodness, lives of kindness, lives of justice. This child came to show us how to change the world. So this Christmas, make room for him to change us. This Christmas help us change the world. And make a new commitment, to go out from this day, to let this Christmas Day, be the first day of a new world.

God bless you. God keep you. Have a blessed Christmas. A Happy New Year. And go on out and change the world!

Confirmation Class forming in 2017

There has been quite a bit of interest in individuals desiring to be confirmed. Diocesan Confirmation will be Saturday, May 13 at St. John's, Saginaw. Mother Sharon Voelker, priest-in-charge at St. Alban's and I will be leading a class together!

If you are interested in being baptized/confirmed as an adult or to be received formally into the Episcopal Church or to reaffirm your baptismal vows please contact me. Our hope is to have a wide age range with many participants. We will be going through the Book of Common Prayer and the Baptismal Covenant. All are invited!

Peace, Rev. Sue

THANK YOU

to the Double Tree Hotel in downtown Bay City for providing a room for our tenor section leader on Christmas Eve so he did not have to make his 90 minute drive after the Christmas Eve service and then return on Christmas Day. Jett Whitehead arranged for the donation.

to everyone who helped put up the Christmas trees and lights and the Workers for Decorating on Dec 20th

Dave and Pat Maxim

George and Pat Middleton

Taylor Longstaff

Mickie Leibrand

Dee Mulholland

Bobbie Hunter

Mary K Freel

Shelley Whitehead

to everyone who donated to Friends of Music in November and December

to everyone who donated for Christmas Flowers in November and December

to the Senior Choir, Cantors and Choristers for all of their fine work in Advent Christmas

to Lauren McCullen who taking over the Card Ministry

to Mary K Freel is now in charge of a new on line directory. Expect to see her about having your picture taken.

to the Hool, Maxim and Sabourin families for hosting Coffee Hours in December

to the Hospitality Committee for the lunch after worship on December 4

to Pat Maxim for her work on the web site and other tech help in the office

to Dee Mulholland and Jill Boudreau-Wallaker for the Friends of Music receptions in November and December

SYMPHATHY

to Don and Mary K Freel in the death of Don's brother on December 5, 2016.

SCHUBERT MASS SETTING IN ADVENT

Just a note about the tempos used for the Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei. These were the composers own tempo markings from the full score. The slower tempo does give the music a more noble feeling. The slower tempos are also used at many other parishes.

JANUARY 2017

CHORAL MUSIC

- 1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love
Everett Titcomb

- 6 11:30 a.m. The Feast of the Epiphany
Arise, Shine for Thy Light Is Come
George Elvey

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Ralph Vaughan Williams

- 8 The Baptism of Christ
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
J. S. Bach

- 15 Epiphany 2 A
Ye Servants of God
Henry Coleman

- 22 Epiphany 3 A
Hide Not Thy Face
Richard Farrant

4:00 p.m. Choral Evensong
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis
C. Hylton Stewart

Jesus, Shepherd Be Thou Near Me
J. S. Bach

- 29 Epiphany 4 A
Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart
Healey Willan

Trinity will celebrate the **Feast of the Epiphany** with a sung Eucharist on Friday, January 6, 2017 at 11:30am. Friends of Music will host an English Tea in the Guild Room following the service. Please plan to attend this special Feast Day Celebration.

JANUARY EVENSONG

Evensong this month will be sung by Rayechel Berger our soprano section leader on Sunday, January 22, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. We are calling it Contemplative Evensong because all of the music will be of a reflective nature. That includes the organ music, hymns, canticles and anthem. In addition we will use more candles and icons to enhance the contemplative nature of the service. We will treat the Evensong in February the same way except it will be sung by the women of the choir and several choristers.

If you have an Icon we can borrow please contact Bob Sabourin

Report from the Standing
Commission on Liturgy and Music

Jessica A Nelson

The Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music gathered in Chaska, Minnesota, October 5 – 8, for a full meeting. Fruitful and collegial, the meeting was centered on developing processes for each subcommittee to complete work for the remainder of this Triennium, beginning with each subcommittee meeting with professional project managers to help design their work. To remove some of the mystery surrounding the SCLM and its work, it may be helpful for AAM

members to read the mandate (found at www.generalconvention.org/ccab/roster?id=632), which reads in part:

- Discharge such duties as shall be assigned to it by the General Convention as to policies and strategies concerning the common worship of this Church.
- Collect, collate, and catalogue material bearing upon possible future revisions of the Book of Common Prayer.
- Cause to be prepared and to present to the General Convention recommendations concerning the Lectionary, Psalter, and offices for special occasions as authorized or directed by the General Convention or Convocation of Bishops.
- Recommend to the General Convention authorized translations of the Holy Scripture from which the Lessons prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer are to be read.
- Receive and evaluate requests for consideration of individuals or groups to be included in the Calendar of the Church year and make recommendations thereon to the General Convention for acceptance or rejection.
- Collect, collate, and catalogue material bearing upon possible future revisions of the Hymnal 1982 and other musical publications regularly in use in this Church, and encourage the composition of new musical materials.
- Cause to be prepared and present to the General Convention recommendations concerning the musical settings of liturgical texts and rubrics, and norms as to liturgical music and the manner of its rendition.
- At the direction of the General Convention, to serve the Church in matters pertaining to policies and strategies concerning Church music.

The General Convention resolutions passed in 2015 that were referred to the SCLM ask us to design a process for the possible revision of the Prayer Book and Hymnal. (N.B.: We have not been instructed to revise the Prayer Book and

Hymnal.) The resolution passed along to the Subcommittee on Congregational Song, A060, asks us to “further the mission of the Episcopal Church by enlivening and invigorating congregational song through the development of a variety of musical resources; and... develop and expand the work begun in the World Music Project....” (The World Music Project is geared towards gathering resources for congregational song, especially for parishes in Province IX of the Episcopal Church, comprised of the seven dioceses of the Episcopal Church in the Caribbean and Latin America.) The subcommittee on Congregational Song is exploring ideas for a project that will both respond to A060 and be consistent with the SCLM mandate.

AAM members are encouraged to stay abreast of SCLM activities by reaching out to the members of AAM who serve on the SCLM (Martha Burford, Ellen Johnston, Shannon Johnston, Jessica Nelson, and Steven Plank), and especially by reading the published minutes of the SCLM, which can be found at the link above.

Bells and Christmas

The association between bells and Christmas can be traced back to the Middle Ages when church officials began to use bells for worship and celebration. Medieval European bell customs, in turn, developed out of a wide array of beliefs and practices associated with bells in ancient times.

People rang bells for many reasons in the ancient Mediterranean world, especially religious purposes. Jewish high priests hung tiny bells from the hem of their robes. It was believed the jingling bells repelled any evil spirits that might be lurking about the threshold of the temple. Some evidence suggests that the ancient Greeks also used bells in a number of religious rituals. The

ancient Romans sounded bells on many occasions: they rang during civic ceremonies, chimed alongside other musical instruments during festivals and feasts, announced the beginning of religious rituals, publicized the opening of markets and public baths and warned the people of fires and other emergencies.

As Christianity spread throughout Europe, Christian leaders slowly began to adapt bell-ringing traditions to Christian worship. Like the Romans, they used bells as a means of making public announcements. Since they wanted these announcements to carry over longer distances, they began casting large bells in addition to the smaller hand-held bells known since ancient times. They mounted these larger bells and sounded them by the pulling of ropes or other devices. In early medieval times monasteries began ringing bells to announce the start of religious services. By the 10th century churches throughout Europe, from cathedrals to tiny rural chapels, were equipped with bells for the same purpose.

Church bells were most commonly used for worship and celebration. The big bells adopted by churches during the Middle Ages rang to call parishioners to religious services. They also chimed at certain points during the service so that those standing outside or those at home or at work could join in the prayers. Churches also rang bells to announce local deaths. In medieval England Christmas bell-ringing began in Advent with a loud clang coming on the first Sunday in Advent to alert parishioners that they had entered the Advent season. However, many of these practices were discontinued by Protestant churches after the Reformation.

Today, fewer churches carry out the old Christmas tradition of bell ringing, and the folklore surrounding bells has been largely forgotten. However, there are still many bell-ringer guilds in England, and public imagination still often links bells with Christmas. A number of well-known Christmas poems and Christmas carols depict pealing or jingling bells as joyful emblems of the holiday. Bells appear as symbols of the holiday on many Christmas decorations. Finally, representatives of charitable causes seeking donations at Christmas time often announce their presence on street corners or in front of stores by ringing hand-held bells.

May the New Year find us ready and listening to all the sounds around us: the sound of friend or stranger who needs our listening ear, the sound of cries for justice, and especially the sound of bells calling us to worship the God who created us, redeemed us and sustains us.

“When I heard the church bells ringing, I thought I heard the voice of God.”

Albert Schweitzer



Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild



- 01 Diane Rapson Gabil
- 04 Noel Hart
- 11 Nancy Mayhew
- 14 Jack Esseltine
- 17 Gregory Marciniak
- 20 Gregory Scharich
- 21 Sharon Scharich
- 23 Peter Frantz
- 27 Susan Harris
- 30 Faith Culler

Anniversaries

- 05 George & Pat Middleton
- 07 Gregory & Heidi Marciniak
- 15 Robert & Emilee Sabourin

St Elizabeth’s Guild will meet on January 10th, Tuesday at Latitude 43 at 12:30. The address is 1013 N. Henry. We hope you will all be able to attend.

There is an open spot for flowers on January 15th if any of you would like to sign up for that. Please call the office and let Michelle know.

MASON JAR nightLIGHT

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:  **A**  **E**  **I**  **O**

" _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F
TH _ W _ RLD. WH _ _ V _ R
F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R
W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS."
J _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV



WORSHIP

Sunday – 10:00 AM - With Music
 Wednesday – 11:30 AM - Without Music

Food of Faith 2:30 P.M.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00AM– 4:45 PM
 CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12:30 – 1:15 PM
 Friday - Closed

CONTACT US

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VESTRY

| | |
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| Dale Smith – Jr. Warden | (989) 471-4114 |
| Cathy LaBerge - Clerk | (989) 662-4611 |
| Catherine Leibrand | (989) 906-3554 |
| Amy Salazar | (989) 272-5900 |
| Tod Meisel | (989) 894-2818 |
| Jett Whitehead | (989) 892-0719 |
| Pat Maxim | (989) 892-5949 |
| Adam Culler | (989) 892-3119 |

Steve Beckert

Treasurer

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 Bishop, Diocese of Eastern Michigan
 The Rev. Susan C. Rich

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| Mr. Terry J. Oliver | Sexton |

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