

THE CHIMES

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

March 2020

Volume 23 Issue 3



Dear Trinity Community,

In my preparation for Lent I have been thinking about my trip to Israel four years ago. There is one day of the trip, in particular, to which I'm drawn. It's the day we travelled to the Jordan River and then to the wilderness.

"Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him...And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished." (Matthew 3:13, 16-4:2).

The portion of the river to which we went is very narrow and you can see people on the other side...in Jordan. Some of us chose to put our feet in the murky water. One young woman from our group was actually baptized! It is a powerful place to which I felt deeply connected to God and Jesus and the Spirit. This place of baptism is a place of refreshment and renewal. It is a place of God proclaiming the beloved-ness of the one baptized. It is the place where God's love for each of us fills us with the strength and power to do whatever is next.

For Jesus, his next stop was the wilderness, so it was directly to the wilderness that we went after our Jordan River experience.

Growing up in Ohio I always imagined the wilderness as forest but the wilderness of Jesus

was in a desert. One picture I took is from this vantage point with the arid wilderness all around. The sky was big, the rolling hills went on forever, down and to the right we could hear people talking and camels grunting but we couldn't see them.

And there was a winding road that went in and out of the rolling hills. One couldn't see the beginning or the end of the road or even all the parts in between.

As I look at this photograph I am, once again, drawn in to this experience. I know I (and all of us) are on this journey of life and on this spiritual journey with Christ. Jesus is with us and the road is before us. It is a windy road that includes places yet to be discovered and uncovered.

There will be dry, arid parts of the journey but we have been claimed by God as God's beloved! And so we follow in the way of Jesus and embark on this Lenten journey of fasting and praying during which time we are tempted to do that which we have said we would not do.

I do not believe God expects us to be perfect. I believe God desires for us to be faithful to the journey and that we will be made more like Jesus in our faithfulness.

As it says in the Book of Common Prayer on page 265, "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word."

In Christ's love, *Rev. Sue*



OUR SYMPATHIES

To **the family of George Middleton** who died on February 5, 2020.

THANK YOUs

Ann Shea for coordinating the Superbowl party. About 40 people participated in fellowship, eating, watching the game and playing games.

Dee Mulholland and the Hospitality Committee for providing such a wonderful luncheon following George Middleton's funeral.

Jan Waldman and Ed Benisz for folding the 300 funeral bulletins.

Monica Borrello, Pat Maxim, Bruce Sherbeck along with **Rayechel Berger and the choir** for providing us with an uplifting worship experience on February 16 with contemporary music.

Our **Sunday School children** who created lots of Alleluias that were "buried" on Sunday and will be "resurrected" on Easter.

Trinity's **Vestry** for putting on the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper that supports Food of Faith.

DID YOU NOTICE?

Phase One of the kitchen remodel is complete! Please take a look and see the progress. We will soon have a quote for Phase Two and we will keep you posted.

NOISY OFFERING

Our children collect change (noisy money) along with paper money to go to the ministries they choose on the second Sunday of each month. March 15th's offering will go to the Rescue Mission.

CONTEMPORARY PRAISE MUSIC

Please join us on the second Sunday of each month in the church from 9:30-9:50am as we continue to sing and learn some contemporary Christian music.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee has been responding to the feedback you provided in the Worship Survey. In January we had an Instructed Eucharist and in February we had a service with contemporary music and liturgy. This month's special service on **March 15 will be a high church experience**. Please be aware that **we will be using incense** at this service and although we use hypoallergenic incense those who are quite sensitive to smoke will want to act accordingly. Also, in response to your feedback we will be using the Rite One liturgy for the season of Lent which lends itself well to our high church worship.

Remember that **this is an experiment and we want *all* your feedback**. We want to know what you like, what you'd like tweaked and what you don't like. Members of the Worship Committee are: Steve Beckert, Rayechel Berger, Archie Duncan, Sue Hoyle, Mickie Leibrand, Rev. Sue Rich, Anne Trahan.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

*Rev. Sue is offering a **Lenten class** focusing on Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's The Way of Love. We will be exploring the seven practices for a Jesus-centered life. The seven practices are: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest. We will meet in the Guild Room on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm. Please join us!

*All are invited to participate in Lent Madness, the fun March madness-like experience that pits two saints against one another each day during Lent until the winner receives the revered Golden Halo. The large bracket has been placed on the wall in the Parish Hall and Sainly Scorecards are available as well.

*Lenten daily devotionals are available at each church entrance.

YOUTH/TEEN FAITH ALIVE

On March 12 we will be continuing the Faith Alive experience for our youth and teens. Since the person scheduled to lead this group in September was stuck in Hurricane Dorian we are thrilled to be able to have some of the team return to give our young people the opportunity to participate in this event. Please speak with Don Middleton or Rev. Sue with any questions.



Birthdays

Pat Maxim
Emily Gray
Sean Brady
Sue Clements
Adam Culler
Denise Morin
Ken Fowler
Jane Moulthrop
Steven Beckert
Matthew Smith
Moria Brady
Carla Maxim
Morgan Salazar
Tracey Krzysik

St. Elizabeth's Guild will meet for lunch on March 10th at Castaways at 12:30. All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you. Castaways is at 3940 Boy Scout Rd. "on the Kawkawlin River".

**Trinity Church
Her People, Her Building
Then and Now**

The Anchor, Christian Symbol of Hope

The anchor has been a symbol of safety since ancient times. As a noun, anchor means a heavy weight to secure a ship or boat; as a verb, to anchor means to fix firmly in a particular place. As a Christian symbol, it signifies safety and security as well as hope for the future and that Christ is the unfailing hope of all who believe/trust in Him.

Because early Christians were persecuted and often had to hide their faith, the anchor became an early symbol of Christianity. It predates the ship as a symbol of faith from the early first century. Used in Roman catacombs, the anchor was often etched on the tombs of departed Christians and symbolized their firm hope in eternal life in their Savior.

Sometimes called the “Mariner’s Cross,” part of the design displays a cross and camouflages what would later be the most widely used symbol of Christianity. St. Clement of Rome, a first century Church Father, was martyred by being tied to an anchor and thrown into the sea. For that reason, the anchor is also called a St. Clements’ Cross.

The author of the Epistle to the Hebrews is the first to connect the idea of hope with the symbol of the anchor: “We have this hope set before us as an anchor for the soul, sure and firm.” Hebrews 6:19



Border detail in the Parable of the Talents” window where Christ says “Well done thou good and faithful servant.” In loving memory of Carl H. Weber, the window has many nautical themes that were part of early Christian symbolism: the ship, symbol of the Church; the sextant, instrument to guide the sailor; the anchor, Christian symbol of hope. Mr. Weber served in the U.S. Navy and was later a well-known local contractor. His widow, Jean Weber Anderson, met with the design team to incorporate his life, work and faith in the creation of this window. Costing \$4,000.00 and installed in 1974, it is made in the traditional pot-metal method of medieval stained glass and was among the last four windows installed in the nave of Trinity Church. It is one of 12 windows made by Willet Studios of Philadelphia, PA and is found on the western nave wall.

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

It's a New Day: The Choice Is Yours

by Max Lucado from *Let the Journey Begin*
Posted Wednesday, January 29, 2020 on
Faith Gateway Today's email newsletter:
newsletter@e.faithgateway.com.

It's quiet. It's early. My coffee is hot. The sky is still black. The world is still asleep. The day is coming. In a few moments the day will arrive. It will roar down the track with the rising of the sun. The stillness of the dawn will be exchanged for the noise of the day. The calm of solitude will be replaced by the pounding pace of the human race. The refuge of the early morning will be invaded by decisions to be made and deadlines to be met. For the next twelve hours I will be exposed to the day's demands. It is now that I must make a choice.

*Because of Calvary, I'm free to choose.
And so I choose.*

I choose love. No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves.

I choose joy. I will invite my God to be the God of circumstance. I will refuse the temptation to be cynical... the tool of the lazy thinker. I will refuse to see people as anything less than human beings, created by God. I will refuse to see any problem as anything less than an opportunity to see God.

I choose peace. I will live forgiven. I will forgive so that I may live. I choose patience. I will overlook the inconveniences of the world. Instead of cursing the one who takes my place, I'll invite Him to do so. Rather than complain that the wait is too long, I will thank God for a moment to pray. Instead of clinching my fist at new assignments, I will face them with joy and courage.

I choose kindness. I will be kind to the poor, for they are alone. Kind to the rich, for they are afraid. And kind to the unkind, for such is how God has treated me.

I choose goodness. I will go without a dollar before I take a dishonest one. I will be overlooked before I will boast. I will confess before I will accuse. I choose goodness.

I choose faithfulness. Today I will keep my promises. My debtors will not regret their trust. My associates will not question my word. My wife will not question my love. And my children will never fear that their father will not come home.

I choose gentleness. Nothing is won by force. I choose to be gentle. If I raise my voice, may it be only in praise. If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer. If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.

I choose self-control. I am a spiritual being. After this body is dead, my spirit will soar. I refuse to let what will rot, rule the eternal. I choose self-control. I will be drunk only by joy. I will be impassioned only by my faith. I will be influenced only by God. I will be taught only by Christ. I choose self-control.

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithful-ness, gentleness, and self-control. To these I commit my day. If I succeed, I will give thanks. If I fail, I will seek His grace. And then, when this day is done, I will place my head on my pillow and rest.

This devotion is excerpted with permission
from *Let the Journey Begin*
by Max Lucado, copyright Thomas Nelson.



March 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00am Worship 2:30pm Food of Faith	2 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	3 6:30pm Lent Class	4 10 am ACM 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir	5 6:15pm Choristers 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	6 8pm N.A.	7
8 9:30- 9:45am Contemporary Music Sing-a-Long 10 am Worship & Noisy Offering 11 am Blood Press. Clinic 2:30 Food of Faith	9 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	10 6:30pm Lent Class	11 10am Worship Committee 10 am ACM 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir	12 6:15pm Choristers 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	13 8pm N.A.	14
15 10:00am Worship High Church with incense 2:30pm Food of Faith	16 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	17 6:30pm Lent Class 	18 10 am ACM 11:30am Worship 12:30pm ACM Moving movies 6 pm Bell Choir	19 6:15pm Choristers 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	20 8pm N.A.	21  5pm - Saginaw River Marine 6pm Perceptions
22 10:00am Worship 2:30pm Food of Faith	23 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A. 7pm Vestry	24 9:30am Historical Guild 5:30pm Altar Guild 6:30pm Lent Class	25 10 am ACM 11:30am Worship 6 pm Bell Choir	26 6:15pm Choristers 7pm O. A. 7pm Senior Choir	27 8pm N.A.	28
29 10:00am Worship 2:30pm Food of Faith	30 10 am O.A. 7pm N. A.	31 6:30pm Lent Class	<p style="text-align: center;">LEGEND</p> <p>O.A. - Over Eaters Anonymous N. A. - Narcotics Anonymous A.C.M - A Couse in Miracles (outside group)</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  TBD - To Be Determined </div>			



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