



ST. JAMES

Episcopal
CHURCH

the
PILGRIM

AUGUST 2021

O God, heavenly Father, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to all those who seek thy kingdom and its righteousness all things necessary to sustain their life: Send us, we entreat thee, in this time of need, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth, to our comfort and to thy honor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAY

for

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From the Rector

Parish Family,

Fall is fast approaching and we prepare for our new schedule, beginning Sunday, September 12th. Sunday worship will be at 8 & 10 am. The early service will not include music and the later will include both traditional and contemporary music. Our choir will sing every Sunday, beginning September 19th.. Traditional and contemporary formats will alternate weekly. During the hour between the services, we will offer a variety of activities, such as a coffee fellowship, adult book study, children's and adult choir, et al. We will continue live-streaming on Sunday mornings (10 am) so that our homebound parishioners will be able to attend worship. Please make every effort to be with us on Sunday mornings for worship. It's going to be a great fall semester.

Faithfully,

Fr. Clark





Thank
you!

The Membership Committee sends a big thank you to **Rob Solem** for all the work he did getting the Parish Hall ready for our Potluck Picnic! Rob literally cleaned from the windows to the floors, from the ovens to the counters! He also set up all the tables and the chairs, sanitized them, and at the end of the day took out the trash! So - thank you Rob, the picnic would not have happened if it hadn't been for your willing hands and can do attitude.



Thank you!



August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9a 9 am Worship Service 2p Gethsemane Zoom Worship Service 5p Outdoor Service	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	11a Family Promise Learning Center 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6p 4th Day Tuesday AM (women) 10p Compline	7a 4th Day Wednesday AM 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6p OSL Healing 6p OSL Study 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	7a Friday Men's Bible Study 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	9a Hope Group 8p AA Group
9a 9 am Worship Service 2p Gethsemane Zoom Worship Service 5p Outdoor Service 5p Youth Group 6p Gender Expansion Project	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 3p Family Promise Governance Committee Mtg 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 5:15p CWC 6p 4th Day Tuesday AM (women) 10p Compline	7a 4th Day Wednesday AM 9a Worship Committee 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6p OSL Study 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	7a Friday Men's Bible Study 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	9a Hope Group 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry 8p AA Group
9a 9 am Worship Service 2p Gethsemane Zoom Worship Service 5p Outdoor Service	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 5:30p Finance Committee Meeting 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 5:30p Executive Committee Meeting 6p 4th Day Tuesday AM (women) 10p Compline	7a 4th Day Wednesday AM 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6p OSL Study 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	7a Friday Men's Bible Study 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	9a Hope Group 8p AA Group
Fr. Greg Celebrating Saint Mark's 125th 9a 9 am Worship Service 2p Gethsemane Zoom Worship Service 5p Outdoor Service 5p Youth Group 6p Gender Expansion Project	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6:30p Girl Scout Mtg-Jordan 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 12p League of Women Voters Book Study 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 5:30p Vestry Meeting 6p 4th Day Tuesday AM (women) 10p Compline	7a 4th Day Wednesday AM 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 6p OSL Study 10p Compline	12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	7a Friday Men's Bible Study 12p Gethsemane Noonday Prayer 5p Gethsemane Evening Prayer 10p Compline	9a Hope Group 8p AA Group
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From Bishop Marty Stebbins

Hospitality, Tithing and Interdependence

In Matthew 23:23, Jesus rails against the religious leaders that they give to God 10% of their fragrant and savory herbs, but ignore more important matters of justice, peace and faith. Most of the world faiths have a concept of offering a percentage of our labor or the fruits of our labor to God. For Christianity, we inherited the concept of a tithe (one-tenth) from the Genesis story of Abram and Melchizedek, the king of Salem. Melchizedek brought bread and wine to the meeting and blessed Abram. Abram gave Melchizedek one-tenth of everything in response. A reading of the text suggests that because the king did not ask for anything and blessed and fed Abram for his action (see Genesis 14 for details), that Abram offered this spontaneously and of his own free will. The religious leaders of Jesus' time viewed tithing as a legal requirement, and nothing more would be required of them. They seemed to believe in a transactional God, not a transformative one. Nor did they seem to believe in a God that loved them radically.

But this interchange that we do around giving of our resources and talents is something more than transactional. Let's look at another tradition. When I was in seminary, our class was invited to be with the people of the Santo Doming pueblo on Epiphany. They had just elected their new chief. There was a big celebration with all the homes opened up for a huge breakfast.

Gifts are given to each other. Me and my classmates had large round loaves of fresh-baked bread pressed into our hands. A group of us ate a huge breakfast with about other twenty people at the new chief's house.

There were various kinds of meats, a variety of egg dishes, breads, homemade jams, etc. Basically, you could eat and not be hungry for a couple of days. The other household offered the same. No questions were asked of anyone who wandered in: they were just welcomed warmly, given a place at the circle and fed. Mind you, the poverty rate of the pueblo hovered around 1/3 of all the households. The chief and his family served all the guests and would only eat afterwards of anything that might be left. They were demonstrating radical hospitality, just as many of the other households were also doing that morning. In western terms, this was insane. This hospitality drained their resources. But it points to another Christian concept: interdependence and trust. From Acts 2:44-47, Our early model was that everyone held their resources in common and shared with all who needed.



God calls us to radical hospitality, to share not just one tenth of our resources, but dedicating everything to God and using it for the kingdom of God. For us to live into this, we have to learn to trust God and to trust one another first. To trust each other, we have to learn and live into the concept of interdependence. Interdependence is not frequently taught in our western society, nor is it often honored. We remain a transactional society: I do this so you will do that. In fact, there is a legal ruling in the US Court of Appeals about internships vs. employment where the primary beneficiary test says that “a worker can be considered an employee only if the employer benefits more from the relationship than the intern.”

Interdependence focuses on what the other person needs; transactional is focused on what I need. The former requires trust and relationship. The latter does not really require much of either. When the Episcopal Church talks about radical hospitality, we are not speaking of a generous transactional relationship with others. We are talking about growing into interdependence with other people (whether they are fellow congregation members or not) and with all of God's creation. I will leave you with the words of John Donne, an Anglican theologian and priest from 1600's England:

No man is an island entire of itself; every man
is a piece of the continent, a part of the main;
if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe
is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as
well as any manner of thy friends or of thine
own were; any man's death diminishes me,
because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore never send to know for whom
the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.



TOOLS FOR SCHOOL



TOOLS FOR SCHOOL: STUDENTS ARE GETTING READY TO HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL, AND MANY DO NOT HAVE THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES THAT THEY NEED.

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO TOOLS FOR SCHOOL, WHICH IS A JOINT PROJECT WITH FAMILY PROMISE AND SALVATION ARMY. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED: **BACKPACKS, PENCILS, PENS, CRAYONS, SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS, GLUE STICKS, AND RULED PAPER. IF YOU CAN DONATE. BINS ARE LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX AND THE OFFICE ENTRY. THANK YOU!**



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION PLEASE SEND A CHECK TO SALVATION ARMY WITH TOOLS FOR SCHOOL IN THE MEMO LINE. IF YOU KNOW OF A FAMILY THAT COULD USE ASSISTANCE WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES PLEASE HAVE AN ADULT MEMBER OF THE FAMILY CONTACT THE SALVATION ARMY.

TALENT AND SKILLS



Thank you to those who shared with us your talents and skills! If you didn't get a chance to share with us how you can support St. James, here it is again!

As the St. James Stewardship Committee, we believe that there are many ways that we can each contribute to benefit our parish community.

We would like to ask you to spend a few moments sharing with us what special talents and skills you have to offer in support of our community. Where can you dedicate energy to advance our church?

We also want to know if you have any specific needs that we may be able to provide for you. You'll see a question asking what that may be for you or anyone you know in our community.

SURVEY LINK:



<https://forms.gle/dmuSAVerZVaJ5Jun8>



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Godly Play will begin again after **Labor Day and we need story tellers and door keepers. If you are interested in volunteering with this extraordinary program, please contact Fr. Clark paran97@gmail.com and let him know. Getting started after months of Covid will not be easy, but we are committed to doing so. Our kids deserve our best. *Please prayerfully consider being a Godly Play volunteer.***

