

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Children's, Youth & Family Ministries

*That which we have heard and known,
and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from our children.*

*We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of God,
and the wonderful works God has done.*

Ur Psalm 78:3-4

August 17, 2014

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Vol. 6, Issue 35

From Mary Anthony

Today our lessons from the Lectionary are Isaiah 56:1,6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a,29-32, and the gospel is Matthew 15:10-28.

During the summer there will be a Godly Play Story time for the younger children ages 3 to 7 or grades Pre-k – 2nd. Older children ages 8 and above will attend church with their parents. This week the children will hear The Story of Joseph. Joseph was a leader, a dreamer and an interpreter of dreams. This story addresses the famine in Egypt and how Joseph communicated with God through dreams, stayed close to God, and listened to him. He told the Pharaoh and the People of God to save grain, but they were jealous and sold him into slavery. Kathleen Chase is our Storyteller this week. Weather permitting the children will go outside following the story for outdoor activities.

Please mark your calendars now for our upcoming Parent Meeting, next Sunday, August 24 following our 10 am service. This meeting will be to discuss the upcoming school year, sign up to teach, discuss Youth Group activities, and to discuss Vacation Bible School for next summer. I hope all of our parents can attend this planning meeting.

Looking ahead, Rally Sunday and Church School Registration will be Sunday, September 7 and Sunday School will start the following week on Sunday, September 14. Youth Group will begin September 10.

Collect for Sunday

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



☞ Sunday Schedule ☛

- 9:00am – Nursery opens
- 9:45am – Godly Play Choir (during the school year)
- 10:00am – Godly Play Class (Pre-K – 5th grade)
- 6th – 12th grades meet Wednesday evenings 6 – 9 pm
- 10:00am – Holy Eucharist
*Children join their parents in
Church at the Peace*
- 11:45am – Youth Choir (during the school year)

Nursery (Infants to age 3)

Unless otherwise noted, the Nursery is open from 9:00 am until the end of the **10am** service. Please sign your child in and out, and remain in the building in case of an emergency. Our Nursery Attendant is **Cara Mickens**. Please come meet Cara.

Summer time Primary - (Ages 3 - 7)

The Godly Play classroom is located in Canterbury House, just inside the door on your left. The goal of Godly Play is to teach children the art of using religious language - parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action - to help them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives. The ideal Godly Play session has four parts-Opening, Hearing the Word of God, Sharing the Feast, and Leaving the Space. Led by **Storytellers Mary Anthony, Kathleen Chase, Heather Coyle, Linda Garman, Carol Goslee, Kim Hennigan, Melinda Rucinski, Tracy French, and Michelle Meade** on a rotating basis. Visit them in the classrooms. If you would like to make a difference in the lives of some great children and have fun doing it, contact Mary Anthony about assisting on a rotating basis in the Godly Play class. See the sign-up calendar on the Christian Education Bulletin Board.

Summer time Intermediate (Ages 8 - 11)

During the summer months children ages 8 and above will attend church with their parents. This is a great way for the older children to learn the different parts of the service.

Middle School & High School (6th - 12th Grade)

The Middle and High School Sunday School Class are on hiatus during the summer. The youth attend church with their parents.

Youth Group (6th Grade & Up)

The Youth Group meets are on hiatus during the summer. The youth go on a Mission Trip every year during the summer for a week.

Children's Ministry Committee

Fr. Eric Funston, Mary Anthony, Heather Coyle
Rosana Powell, Kim and Sean Hennigan and
Melinda & Steve Rucinski.

For Parents

THE BLESSING OF A B MINUS Top Measuring And Comparing

Dr. Wendy Mogul, PhD. writes; *“Our society measures teenagers at every turn: Are you good? Better? Best? What’s your rank? Shall we select you or reject you? What will you major in? Music. Music and what else?”*

Even for kids who rank at the top of every field and are accepted to the college of their choice, this brutal measurement process feels like the opposite of acceptance. It tells them they are only as good as their last test score. By constantly criticizing our teens, we send the message that we, too, are constantly measuring and comparing.

Sometimes the best way to show acceptance of your teen is to bite your tongue. Try not to pollute interactions with your teen with constant suggestions for improvement:

Yes, a B plus is fine. But remember, I suggested that highlighting the book and making a written outline might have been a better approach.

Did you know that twenty minutes of aerobic exercise every day significantly enhances brain function?

You’ve got another paper coming up next week, so consider getting started a bit earlier this time...and, by the way, too many carbs can make you sleepy.

Instead, let affirmation---“Yes, a B plus!---stand happily alone.

Some parents sneak in criticism by disguising it as encouragement, by upping the ante every time their child does something well. This is the “What about varsity?” school of parenting. If the child is a good listener, we encourage her to join the school peer support team. If she makes second chair in the orchestra, we suggest that next year she aim for first. If he plays a team sport at school, why not move up to a club sport? If junior varsity, why not go all the way?

Perhaps the best and most radical way to stop measuring and comparing your teen is to keep yourself from mentioning college before the eleventh grade. Clench your teeth if you have to. Every year at the back-to-school night for parents of tenth graders at the Oakwood School in Los Angeles, dean Erin Studer gives the parents two messages: “Don’t talk about college this year *at all*, and remember, they aren’t very good drivers yet even if they have a license.” I agree.””

Next week: “Treasure Your Homely, Holy Teen”
From “The Blessing of a B Minus” by Wendy Mogul, PhD.

In Church School this week:

Each week, the children's and youth Sunday School classes focus on a passage from Scripture. These follow the same Revised Common Lectionary that provides readings for Sunday services. We use a curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*, to tailor a lesson for each class that is interactive, fun and age appropriate. This section features the Scripture learned that week in Sunday School, along with some questions to ask about during the week.

Focus Scripture: Matthew 15:10-28

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

Jesus left Gennesaret and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

~From the Lectionary Page

What's it all about?

Pharisees have come to Jesus asking why his disciples break the oral law, which they believe to be God-given and to have equal status with Mosaic Law: why do they not wash before eating? (v. 2) He has pointed out to them that at times they give priority to the oral law over the biblical Law. The Pharisees teach rules of human, rather than divine, origin.

Now (v. 10) he tells the crowd a "parable" (v. 15), a saying with a hidden meaning. He sees moral behaviour ("out of the mouth", v. 11) as important, not food laws ("into the mouth"). When the disciples point out that he has offended the Pharisees (v. 12) by his reply to their question, he is blunt: do not follow them; being "blind" (v. 14), they and their followers will be judged adversely ("pit"). When Peter asks for an explanation, Jesus addresses all the disciples ("you", v. 16, is plural). What is eaten, Jesus says, even though ritually clean, ends up unclean ("sewer", v. 17), so food laws are unimportant (in spite of being in the Law). The "mouth" (v. 18) was seen as the channel by which the "heart", the very being, expressed itself. Immoral behaviour ("evil intentions ...", v. 19) does alienate one from God ("defile", v. 20) but breaking laws of human origin does not.

Now a "Canaanite" (v. 22) woman, from Phoenicia ("Tyre ...", v. 21) and probably a Gentile, calls for help. She recognizes him as the Messiah ("Lord, Son of David", v. 22). Even though the disciples advise sending her away and Jesus says that his mission is to "Israel" (v. 24), she manages to kneel before him (v. 25). He tests her (v. 26): the "children" are Jews, their "food" the gospel, and "the dogs" the Gentiles. Her answer, that he can still help her, demonstrates her faith in him.

~From Revised Common Lectionary
Chris Haslam 1996-2014

Questions:

- ? What is the difference of out of the mouth vs. into the mouth that Jesus is talking about ?
- ? What two laws do the Pharisees believe to be of equal value?

Prayer:

God of the foreigner and outcast,
your arms reach out to embrace
all those who call upon you.
Teach us as disciples of Christ
so to love the world
that your name may be known
throughout the earth. Amen.

~From The Revised Common Lectionary

Meditation

May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.
~Psalm 67

Happy Birthday...

None this week!!!



Planning Ahead

Sunday, August 17

- Nursery opens at 9:30 am
- Godly Play Story time and activities, Grades Pre-k -3rd, 10 am,
- Children and Youth grades 3rd and up attend church with their parents

Wed, Thurs, Fri, August 20, 21, 22

- Volunteers helping to paint Sunday School classrooms in Canterbury House, 9 am- 2 pm

Saturday, August 23

- Volunteers helping to paint Sunday School classrooms in Canterbury House, 9 am- 2 pm

Sunday, August 24

- Nursery opens at 9:30 am
- Godly Play Story time and activities, Grades Pre-k - 3rd, 10 am
- Children and youth Grades 3rd and up attend church with their parents
- Parent/Teacher Meeting following 10 am service

Contact Information

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Acolyte Reminders!

August 17: Nicholas Coyle

August 24: Dylan Powell

Please remember to get a sub by the Wednesday before you are to serve if you are unable to make your commitment, and then let the office know no later than that Wednesday before.