

CROSSROADS



From the Priest

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Welcome to Eastertide. Easter, we believe, is a continuous celebration that lasts for 50 days, from the Sunday of Easter until the feast of Pentecost. During this whole time, the Paschal Candle will burn at all services near the Altar, reminding us of the Light of Christ that returned to the world at his rising. As we chanted at the Vigil: "Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning - he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever." The Paschal Candle is lighted throughout the Easter season and also at all celebrations of Baptism and Christian Burial.

So what did you think of Holy Week? The roller-coaster of Palm Sunday? The quiet and solemn contemplative Tenebrae? The tenderness of Maundy Thursday, or that feeling of collapse as the Altar is stripped? The Vigil, with all of its movements engaging all the senses taking us from the quiet of the grave to the glory of the resurrection? What did you think? If you loved it, if moved you and brought you closer to the story of the paschal mystery, talk about it. Not everyone came this year. If you tell them what a fantastic week it was, they might give it a try next year. That's evangelism. Holy Week is our best kept secret, and it shouldn't be a secret.

I'm incredibly grateful to all the people who contributed to Holy Week. Thank you: to the choir, under the direction of Pam Cordle, and particularly Andrea and Lia for their solos; to Helen, our organist; to all the lectors and Eucharistic ministers and Anna who was our thurifer at the Vigil; to everyone who brought food on Saturday night or Sunday morning; to Sue Wilson for helping the kids to pick up after that messy Easter Bunny spilled eggs all over the place; to Rae Ann who designed, printed, folded, stapled, and organized countless bulletins and readings and prayers; to Mary our Sexton who helped keep the church clean and safe; and finally to the Altar Guild, who set up and cleaned up for a different liturgy every day. Really, Holy Week is made possible by the work of the whole community, and it was good work, and it was well done, and I am grateful.

(cont'd)

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Holy Week is a drama, but it isn't a play. It's nothing more than the church gathered with intense focus around the central event of our faith: Jesus Christ died and rose again. Everything else hangs on this. Everything else in history leads to this moment, and everything since that moment is a living-out of that new truth. Once, we lived in a world where death seemed to be the end. And then one day death wasn't the end, because Jesus returned and was alive again. The resurrection changes everything.

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

-Chris+

Preaching The Big Questions

Why does evil exist in the world?

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Why is there so much violence committed in the name of God?

Will only Christians be saved?

Is the world really coming to an end?

What must I do to go to heaven?

Is heaven a real place?

How do I know my sins have been forgiven?

How can I become a faithful follower of Jesus Christ?

Starting about mid-way through Eastertide, Father Chris will start a preaching series aimed at tackling some of the big questions. You'll find a small table next to the pulpit. Vote for one (or more) of these big questions, or write your own, and put it in the basket. Father Chris will do his best to address the biggest questions starting on April 26th.

A Word from the Senior Warden

I am excited about the future of St. Andrews! Before I get into all of our glory, I would like to recognize some outstanding parishioners that have paved the way.

- David Mai's effort and work representing St. Andrews as our Senior Warden last year is greatly appreciated.
- We are fortunate to have the Dynamic Duo, David and Susan Mai, leading our Parish Life committee. It's a wonderful thing they do for your church family; we are fortunate that they share their talents through cuisine and hospitality.
- Sunday after Sunday, Sue Wilson provides Children's Church. I am looking forward to the day my granddaughter can go to Children's Church with "Miss Sue". St. Andrews has rich traditions and dedicated people who are collectively making a difference.

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- Millard Harrell, Pam Cordle, and Andrea Garritano are leading our music program. I'm looking forward to their voices being heard.
- We have a new Junior Warden, Trish Weidert. She has graciously accepted a challenging and time consuming position; she will need our support.
- We are fortunate to call St. Andrew's our home.
- We have a progressive priest that is working to make a difference.
- Finally, you are represented by a strong Vestry, committed to the growth and well-being of our church family.

We are only as strong as each of our efforts and small contributions make big differences. I am eager to share and hope that you will join me in growing St. Andrew's.

Respectfully, Rick Mitchell, Senior Warden

News from the Northwest

If you are unfamiliar with the Northwest Convocation, I will attempt to clear up the mystery. Convocation can be defined as "the area represented by an assembly of clergy of a part of a diocese," or simply "an assembly." Northwest refers to the quadrant of the dioceses to which St. Andrews is assigned. Communities represented include Abilene, Blue Rapids, Marysville, Wamego, Manhattan, Holton, Topeka, and Emporia. The delegates to convocation also represent their parishes at the diocesan convention held each year at the end of October. The number of delegates a parish elects depends on parish size. All have at least two lay delegates and larger parishes like the Cathedral have several. St. Andrews is represented by Lynn Bonney and Jean Runge. Alternates are Rachelle Smith and Pat Kelley.

The Northwest Convocation met Saturday, March 14th at St. Luke's in Wamego with Rachelle Smith and Jean Runge attending. The meeting opened with Morning Prayer. The Campus Missioner, Mother Stephanie Jenkins, explained the Campus Ministry program and read a letter from Canterbury House, K-State, peer minister who was on spring break and unable to attend. There are two opportunities in April to get your purple on and your work gloves at Canterbury House, Manhattan. One is a half-day general clean up and the other is a full Saturday project to improve drainage. For details and to be included in the food count, contact Mother Jenkins at sjenkins@episcopal-ks.org.

Fr. Don Compier of the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry spoke about their programs and shared a list of students. He requested that we pray for the students and faculty. BKSM was mentioned in the paper from the Task Force for Re-invisioning the Episcopal Church as a model for the future.

Fr. Art Rathbun stated that too often, all we here is what is wrong or needs improvement in the parish. He asked the tables to discuss what is *right* in the parish. One has Eucharist twice a month and a potluck after. There are six families supporting a \$15,000 budget and their apportionment is paid first. The food fellowship was mentioned frequently as was the sense of family, liturgy, and music. The morning ended with Noonday Prayer.

-Jean Runge, Delegate

Announcements and Reminders

Faith Formation in Eastertide

On Palm Sunday we brought to a close our study of C. S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. Beginning on Easter 2 (April 12th) we will turn our attention to early church history. How did Christianity grow and spread during those first centuries? How did those early beliefs and practices take hold, and how did they change to meet new circumstances? We'll also look at heresies from those early years. Are you a heretic? Come find out! We meet in the conference room from 9:45-10:30 on Sunday mornings.

Fifty Days of Fabulous

Easter is 50 days! Go to <http://50days.org/> for daily readings and reflections through this Easter season.

A HUGE Thank You

To Elaine Edwards for the incredible gift of her piano in our sanctuary. This gift will certainly enhance our worship thru music, and will also provide much greater potential for a greater variety of community musicians and ensembles to make use of the terrific acoustics in our nave.

Grounds Keeping Update from the Jr. Warden

The Vestry discussed having a building and grounds committee for St. Andrew's. We all should be helping in some way to keep our beautiful building and the surrounding area in good shape. If you are interested and / or willing to help and be a member of this committee, please let Fr. Chris, Rae Ann (secretary), or Trish Weidert (Jr. Warden) know. Also if you are aware of something that needs to be fixed, replaced, or taken care of, please let us know.

There will be a work day on May 2nd. In case of rain, the alternate day is May 9th.

Thank you,

Trish

Special Offerings for Easter

The Good Friday offering totaled \$127.00. These monies will be sent to support the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. The Easter offering totaled \$381.00 and will be split between the music program at St. Andrew's and Lyon County Emergency Restricted Fund to support people in the Lyon County area who are facing financial issues. Thank you for your generous support of these ministries.

From Treasurer Bill Barnes

The St. Andrews Choirs is back!

If you haven't heard them, you must! They are "playing it by ear" right now, so for the next few months, they will be singing the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. (with a possible break for vacation time this summer) Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8. On the Sundays they sing, they will warm up at 10 am. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to come join. No audition necessary.

April Milestones

In our daily prayers we celebrate and remember

Births

April 1 Nick Jacob
 April 10 Richard James
 April 14 Bill Clamurro
 Rachelle Smith
 April 16 Rick Mitchell
 April 27 Nancy Garcia

Baptisms

April 3 Lance Moore
 Jacob Moore
 Kegan Moore
 Rachelle Smith
 April 4 Cade Amend
 Trish Weidert
 April 10 Gould Garcia
 April 11 Richard James
 Jared Kline
 April 14 Marged Amend
 April 15 Kathryn Lackey
 April 17 Doug Amend
 Kelley Lackey
 April 28 Allie Mitchell

Confirmations

April 13 Nancy Pontius
 April 14 Janet Ayers
 Mark Harder

April 17 Nancy Gilpin
 Sue McKinney
 April 28 Ruthann Resch

Anniversaries

April 21 Patrick Kelley &
 Lynn Bonney

The faithfully departed

April 3 John Ryan, Sr.
 April 6 Erma Dooley Person
 April 8 Dude Pykiet
 Dean Swift Wells
 April 10 Lischia Hill
 April 15 Carl Unger
 April 16 J.R. Wilhelmson
 April 18 James Andrew Hendrix
 April 20 Carol Baysinger
 April 21 Bertha Jean Marlar
 April 22 Norva Howerton
 April 24 Walter Falconer
 Arthur Kirk Leonard
 April 25 Sabra Austin
 April 26 Adah Wade
 April 28 Florence Yearout
 April 29 William Madison Price
 April 30 Fred Corbett

From an Easter homily by Melito of Sardis

We should understand, beloved, that the paschal mystery is at once old and new, transitory and eternal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal. In terms of the Law it is old, in terms of the Word it is new. In its figure it is passing, in its grace it is eternal. It is corruptible in the sacrifice of the lamb, incorruptible in the eternal life of the Lord. It is mortal in his burial in the earth, immortal in his resurrection from the dead.

The Law indeed is old, but the Word is new. The type is transitory, but grace is eternal. The lamb was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible. He was slain as a lamb; he rose again as God. He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, yet he was not a sheep. He was silent as a lamb, yet he was not a lamb. The type has passed away; the reality has come. The lamb gives place to God, the sheep gives place to a man, and the man is Christ, who fills the whole of creation. The sacrifice of the lamb, the celebration of the Passover, and the prescriptions of the Law have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Under the old Law, and still more under the new dispensation, everything pointed toward him.

Both the Law and the Word came forth from Zion and Jerusalem, but now the Law has given place to the Word, the old to the new. The commandment has become grace, the type a reality. The lamb has become a Son, the sheep a man, and man, God.

The Lord, though he was God, became man. He suffered for the sake of those who suffer, he was bound for those in bonds, condemned for the guilty, buried for those who lie in the grave; but he rose from the dead, and cried aloud: Who will contend with me? Let him confront me. I have freed the condemned, brought the dead back to life, raised men from their graves. Who has anything to say against me? I, he said, am the Christ; I have destroyed death, triumphed over the enemy, trampled hell underfoot, bound the strong one, and taken men up to the heights of heaven: I am the Christ.

Come, then, all you nations of men, receive forgiveness for the sins that defile you. I am your forgiveness. I am the Passover that brings salvation. I am the lamb who was immolated for you. I am your ransom, your life, your resurrection, your light, I am your salvation and your king. I will bring you to the heights of heaven. With my own right hand I will raise you up, and I will show you the eternal Father.

Seven Stanzas at Easter

by John Updike

Make no mistake: if he rose at all
It was as His body;
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse, the molecule reknit,
The amino acids rekindle,
The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
Each soft spring recurrent;
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled eyes of the
Eleven apostles;
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes
The same valved heart
That—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then regathered
Out of enduring Might
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence,
Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded
Credulity of earlier ages:
Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mache,
Not a stone in a story,
But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow grinding of
Time will eclipse for each of us
The wide light of day.

And if we have an angel at the tomb,
Make it a real angel,
Weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair, opaque in
The dawn light, robed in real linen
Spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
For our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are embarrassed
By the miracle,
And crushed by remonstrance.

The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe
Bishop of Kansas

The Rev. Chris Arnold
Priest in charge

Rick Mitchell - Sr. Warden
Trish Weidert - Jr. Warden
Bill Barnes
David Cordle
Millard Harrell
Jordan Kline
Nancy Pontius
Jean Runge
Members of the Vestry

Mary Austin, *Sexton*
Helen Miller, *Organist*
Rae Ann Warneke, *Parish Secretary*

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

828 Commercial St.

Emporia, Kansas 66801

office@standrewsemporia.org

www.standrewsemporia.org

620.342.1537

WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays 8:30 (spoken)

and 10:45 a.m. (sung)

Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.



**St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
828 Commercial
Emporia, Kansas 66801**