

ST. JOHN'S
ANGLICAN
CHURCH

**Welcome to the
life and ministry
of St. John's!**

March 2017

The Disciple

Father Jim Parker

St. John's has had a very good month. We had had several new families visit which is always a blessing. For February the ladies of the church was invited to the men's group monthly dinner and it was great! We had great food, good music and one could feel the Holy Spirit moving through the event.

I was very proud and in awe this month when St John's raised \$2,800 dollars to reach out to the support of victims of the recent tornado in South Georgia. We are working with Cross Point Church in Valdosta Georgia in disaster relief. You are a small parish with a very big heart!

March 1st is Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent and 40 days prior to Easter. It is a day where ashes are marked on the forehead of all. It is a day of penance and reflection. The first Christians ob-

served with great devotion the day's of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the church to prepare for them a season of penitence.



We reflect on the sacrifice that God gave his only son to atone for our sins. I hope that all will join us on this day as we prepare to enter into a holy Lent. Each Wednesday in Lent we will have a Lenten study with a meal of soup and sandwiches.

PEACE BE
WITH YOU



March

18-Lanita Lynch

24-Mary Marshall



March

9-Russell & Andrea
Thomas

13-Matt & Mandy
Latta



Coffee & Conversation

9:30 AM

Sunday Mornings

Men's Christian Fellowship

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

6:00 pm in the Parish Hall

Since we will be in Lent, we will have chicken.

Bring a friend. Meal provided.



Soup and Bread

Lenten Study Program

March 8

March 15

March 22

March 29

6:00 PM



Sign up sheets available in the

Narthex

Scripture & Collects

LENT 2017

These daily Gospel readings will prepare you for the upcoming Sunday Gospel lesson. Read the listed verses each day or the entire passage, then pray the accompanying collect for the current week as well as the collect for the current day on the reverse of this page.

Ash Wednesday through March 4 W - Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 | TH - Matthew 4:1-4 | F - Matthew 4:5-6 | S - Matthew 4:7-11 Collect for Ash Wednesday O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart: that desiring you, we may seek you; and that seeking you, we may find you; and that finding you, we may love you; and that loving you, we may hate those sins from which you have delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week of March 5 M - John 3:1-3 | T - John 3:4-5 | W - John 3:6-8 | TH - John 3:9-11 | F - John 3:12-13 | S - John 3:14-16 First Sunday in Lent Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Week of March 12 M - John 4:5-10 | T - John 4:11-14 | W - John 4:15-21 | TH - John 4:22-26 | F - John 4:27-38 | S - John 4:39-42 Second Sunday in Lent Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Week of March 19 M - John 9:1-5 | T - John 9:6-7 | W - John 9:8-13 | TH - John 9:28-33 | F - John 9:34-38 | S - John 9:39-41 Third Sunday in Lent Heavenly Father, you made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you: Look upon the heartfelt desires of your humble servants, and stretch forth the strong hand of your Majesty to be our defense against our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

Week of March 26 M - John 11:1-4 | T - John 11:5-10 | W - John 11:11-17 | TH - John 11:18-27 | F - John 11:28-37 | S - John 11:38-44 Fourth Sunday in Lent Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Week of April 2 M - Mt 26:36-56 | T - Mt 26:57-68 | W - Mt 26:69-75 | TH - Mt 27:1-26 | F - Mt 27:27-54 | S - Mt 27:55-66 Fifth Sunday in Lent Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture & Collects

LENT 2017

Monday A Collect for the Renewal of Life O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday A Collect for Peace O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday A Collect for Grace O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day: Defend us by your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor run into any danger; and that guided by your Spirit, we may do what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday A Collect for Guidance Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your

Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday A Collect for Endurance Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Saturday A Collect for Sabbath Rest Almighty God, who after the creation of the world rested from all your works and sanctified a day of rest for all your creatures: Grant that we, putting away all earthly anxieties, may be duly prepared for the service of your sanctuary, and that our rest here upon earth may be a preparation for the eternal rest promised to your people in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lent: Why Do We Do The Strange Things We Do?

By. Fr. Eric Dudley, Rector

If you're new to the Anglican Church, don't get spooked by our Lenten worship service. Yes, we do a lot of kneeling and bowing and have some unfamiliar rituals, but there is a reason for it all. We do these things because they have a Biblical foundation and because we believe our liturgy helps shape hearts for Christ. Lent, the season stretching between [Ash Wednesday](#) and Easter Day, can seem especially odd but has some wonderful traditions.

Lent, which comes from an ancient Anglo-Saxon word, "Lencten", simply means "spring". It is a [forty-day period](#) (this doesn't count Sundays; they are always feast days because they celebrate the Resurrection) which reflects the forty days that our Lord spent in the wilderness after His baptism. In the wilderness Jesus was tempted by Satan, and had to wrestle with how He would live out his ministry in the world. Would He give into the temptations of Satan to be what the world wanted Him to be, or would He yield only to the Spirit of God? We seek to follow in His footsteps, honestly struggling with our own temptations, and trying to live into our baptismal call.

We wear purple in Lent because our Lord was arrayed in a purple robe in the midst of His passion; purple reminds us of His suffering and the solemnity of this season. We begin our liturgy with the tolling of bells. This is a sixteenth century practice called the "Angelus"; three sets of three tolls followed by a set of nine tolls represent prayers said in honor of the Trinity. After the Angelus we say the "[Decalogue](#)", the Ten Commandments. This comes at the beginning of the service to set the clear tone of Lent, which is a call to repentance and faithfulness to God's Law. The Commandments are followed by the [Confession of Sin](#), which usually comes later in the service, but is at the beginning in Lent. Then, we sing the [Kyrie](#): Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison", which means "Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mer-

cy". One of the earliest penitential supplications used in the Christian Church, it comes from the Old Testament.

Much of the rest of the service follows our normal form. The "[Liturgy of the Word](#)" contains our lessons from Scripture. We read Scripture in a [three-year cycle](#); if you came to church every Sunday for three years you would hear all the major themes of the Bible, and virtually the whole of Scripture read. After the sermon, we celebrate God's grace poured out for us in the sacrament of the [Eucharist](#). The Eucharist is the pinnacle and purpose of the service. All the words that come before are used to prepare our hearts that we might be ready to receive God's grace into our bodies at the Communion Table. During Lent we use [Rite I](#) for the service. This is an alternative form that is found in the [Book of Common Prayer](#), very old, a bit stilted in language (all those "thees" and "thous"), but beautifully penitential. Another difference in Lent is the Rite I use of "[The Prayer of Humble Access](#)" which comes right after "The Breaking of Bread". This prayer dates back to the sixteenth century English prayer book, and reminds us of our proper contrition before Almighty God, and of His great mercy toward us.

You'll also notice that in Lent we don't ring joyful bells, we replace altar flowers with greenery only, and we don't say "alleluia". In addition, neither the church nor individual parishioners should have celebratory gatherings, including weddings and lavish parties, during Lent. This is a time to step back from our frantic secular lives, listen to the voice of God, and honor the sacrifice of His son, our Lord.

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Lent: Why Do We Do The Strange Things We Do?

By. Fr. Eric Dudley, Rector

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Lent is a time for fasting, [self-examination](#), prayer, and self-denial. Sometimes people choose to *give something up* for Lent ; examples are fasting for one meal a week, or giving up television. Perhaps you could *take something on* such as serving the poor or visiting a nursing home. In either case, the purpose is to identify, in any small way, with the sacrifice of our Lord and His love for the whole world.



Lent
fast · give · pray

March ROTA

Date	Service	LEM	Lector	Usher	Acolyte
3/1	EP & Healing		Debbie Standridge		
3/5	Holy Communion	Andrea Thomas	Everett Byrd	Jeff Joiner Tony Chase	Morgan Jones
3/8	EP & Healing		Susan Curtis		
3/12	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	Jeff Joiner	Allen Curtis Pete Warlick	Sydney Joiner
3/15	EP & Healing		Andrea Thomas		
3/19	Holy Communion	George Peagler	Garland Mears	Jeff Joiner Tony Chase	Morgan Jones
3/22	EP & Healing		Everett Byrd		
3/26	Holy Communion	Debbie Standridge	Jeff Joiner	Allen Curtis Pete Warlick	Sydney Joiner
3/29	EP & Healing		Susan Curtis		