

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN The ECW will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18. The project for the day will be to assemble Easter treats for our parish shut-ins and nursing home patients. If you would like to donate candy to this project, please bring candy (individually wrapped) and place on the center counter in the kitchen before the 18th. All women of the parish are invited to take part on the 18th and enjoy fellowship at "out to lunch" to follow.

A DIOCESAN TRAINING DAY will be held on Saturday March 28 at St Stephens (Wilkes-Barre). This is a day set aside for learning about opportunities and resources for ministry in congregations, and celebrating ministries we share. Many varied workshops will be available. Watch for more information in the ENews, the Visitor and on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS are due by March 29—NOTE NEW DATE!!! Please take a moment to order yours today. Forms are available in the pews and on the table in the Parish Hall.

SPCA COLLECTION During the season of Lent we are collecting items for the SPCA. Many things are needed. Towels, animal food, cleaning supplies, office supplies, and batteries are a few of the things they have requested. A detailed Wish-list is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE The Church School will hold their Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale on April 5th. Donations of Bakes Goods are needed and would be greatly appreciated.

EASTER EGG HUNT will be held following the service on Easter Sunday, April 12. Donations, especially of wrapped candy to fit in the eggs, are currently being accepted. Any questions or to help, please see Karen Atkinson.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA A brand new advertising campaign for the Episcopal Church in NEPA will soon begin airing on WNEP Channel 16. Watch for the commercials and share the good word with your friends and family, while you're at it why not invite them to Prince of Peace!

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of Almighty God in memory of William Cushner.

Ministers

Celebrant / Preacher	The Reverend John Major
Organist	Bernard Gardzalla
Lector / Intercessor	David Dillon
Eucharistic Ministers	Carl Goeringer, Linda Shrader
Acolytes	TBA
Ushers / Oblationers	Sandy Sheehan, George Yatsko
Altar Guild	Sandy Sheehan, Megan Palmer, Grace Goeringer
Vestry Counter	Dan Plashinski

Sunday, March 15, 2009

The Third Sunday in Lent

The Music

Prelude: *Scene...* Charles Gounod

Opening Hymn: *Creator of the Earth & Skies*

Creator of the earth and skies,
to whom the words of life belong,
grant us your truth to make us wise;
grant us your power to make us strong.

We have not known you: to the skies
our monuments of folly soar,
and all our self-wrought miseries
have made us trust ourselves the more.

We have not loved you: far and wide
the wreckage of our hatred spreads,
and evils wrought by human pride
recoil on unrepentant heads.

For this, our foolish confidence,
our pride of knowledge and our sin,
we come to you in penitence;
in us the work of grace begin.

Teach us to know and love you, Lord,
and humbly follow in your way.
Speak to our souls the quickening word,
and turn our darkness into day.

Gradual Hymn: *Before Thy Throne O God We Stand* #574

Presentation of Offerings: *Doxology* #380 vs.3

Communion: *Meditation on "The Old Rugged Cross"*.....B. Gardzalla

Post Communion Hymn: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*
(Pew Rack) verses 1,2, refrain, 3

Closing Hymn: *Rock of Ages* #685

Postlude: *Little Fugue in G-minor*J.S. Bach

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

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.

The Lessons (*The people sit.*)

The First Reading: *Exodus 20:1-17*

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work— you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and

consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: *Psalm 19 Caeli enarrant*

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and
runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom
to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives
light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous
altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much
fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let
them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a
great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: *John 2:13-22 (Stand & Face the Gospel)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME, we are pleased you have come to worship with us today. If you have any questions about our service, please feel free to speak to an Usher.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READING Not only as part of the Penitential Order, used often during Lent, but in today's Old Testament lesson, are the Ten Commandments outlined. Even as we remember and honor those mandates, we look toward Maundy Thursday and Jesus' offering not only of Himself, but of a new Covenant - that we should "love one another as He has loved us." If we seriously commit to making this love and respect an integral part of our daily lives, we have our spiritual/stewardship work cut out for us indeed!

RESTORE THE GLORY Our campaign is underway to repair and restore the Chancel windows (the ones behind the Altar) which are at risk of falling out from many years of exposure to heat and cold. You should have received information through the mail about this campaign with a request for your support. The "Restore the Glory" Committee members are Father Major, Carl Goeringer, Dave Dillon, Dan Monk, Dan Plashinski & Jennifer Martin.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED The Church Office will be closed through Thursday, March 19 but will be re-open on Friday March 20. Please note that Jennifer will be out of town, in an emergency contact Father Major directly at 654-3261.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN The Church School is collecting pennies & other change for the Season of Lent. Check out our 'Outer Space' Penny Chute in the stairwell! All money raised will be donated through Episcopal Relief & Development.

PRAYER LIST Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially: *Bishop Paul, Therese, Heather, Jack, Henry, Sarah, Matt, Debbie, Hennie, Andrea, Brian, Hans, Karen, Len, Father Jim, Grace, Nicole, Lee, David, Maryann & SPF Sean Capellini-Boyle.*