

We ask that you or a friend/family member inform us of hospitalizations or illnesses. Also if you would like to schedule a visit from the Rector for yourself or someone else, please contact the church office.

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, Shane, Sandy, Matt, Debbie, Hennie, Andrea, Brian, Hans, Karen, Len, Charlotte, Bev, Edward, Father Jim, the Carson Family, Grace, Thelma, Nicole & SPF Sean Cappellini-Boyle.

SECOND SATURDAY SERIES The 2nd Saturdays @7 Series will continue in March with a service of Stations of the Cross on Saturday March 14. We will gather for a meager meal of soup and bread at 6:30 and the service will begin at 7:00 pm. A brief time of education will follow the service.

All Youth are invited to participate in Stations of the Cross on Saturday, March 14 and to join in making pretzels following the service.

Ash Wednesday
February 25, 2009
Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
7:00 pm

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.

Ministers

- Celebrant / Preacher** The Reverend John Major
- Organist** Bernard Gardzalla
- Lector / Intercessor** Liz Plashinski
- Eucharistic Minister** Dan Plashinski
- Acolytes** TBA
- Ushers / Oblationers** Matt Stretanski, Beverly Cushner
- Altar Guild** Sandy Sheehan, Megan Palmer, Grace Goeringer
- Vestry Counter** TBA

Sunday, February 15, 2009

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

The Music

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn: *Praise to the Lord* #390

Gradual Hymn: *Awake Thy Soul, Stretch Every Nerve* #546

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

Communion Organ Anthem

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

Closing Hymn: *Thou Whose Almighty Word* #371

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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: 2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and

Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: *Psalm 30 Exaltabo te, Domine*

- 1 I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up *
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 O LORD my God, I cried out to you, *
and you restored me to health.
- 3 You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; *
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- 4 Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; *
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.
- 5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, *
his favor for a lifetime.
- 6 Weeping may spend the night, *
but joy comes in the morning.
- 7 While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed. *
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as
the mountains."
- 8 Then you hid your face, *
and I was filled with fear.
- 9 I cried to you, O LORD; *
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,
- 10 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? *
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"
- 11 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; *
O LORD, be my helper."
- 12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.
- 13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; *
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

The Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 9:24-27*

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: *Mark 1:40-45* (The People Stand)

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

A leper came to Jesus begging him, and kneeling he said to

him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME, we are pleased you have come to worship with us today. Information about our service is located on the cover of your service leaflet.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S FIRST LESSON In today's first lesson, Naaman is not impressed with the simple order that comes to him from God by Elisha; he want the bells and the whistles and the magic. But his servants convinced him to heed the prophet, and his leprosy was quietly cured. Are we, too, often not aware of the real but quiet interventions in our lives by the God who loves and cares for us?

ANNUAL MEETING The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the church this morning, immediately following the service. A Children's Movie will be available in the Chapel during the meeting.

FAMILY SERVICE / YOUTH MINISTRY SUNDAY Beginning this month we will be observing the Family Service on the last Sunday of each month instead of the third Sunday. Sunday School will NOT meet on the last Sunday of the month so that the Youth can participate in the service.

VESTRY MEETING The Vestry, with new members, will meet briefly in the Chapel following the Annual Meeting.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN The ECW will not meet in February.

CHURCH OFFICE is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am–2pm and Fridays from 10am–2 pm.

HOSPITALIZATION / VISITS Please note that hospitals do NOT notify the church of hospitalizations.