

THE WEEKLY E-PISTLE

news & updates



April 4, 2021 | This Week at Christ Church



GOOD FRIDAY at NOON
Stations of the Cross Ecumenical Service

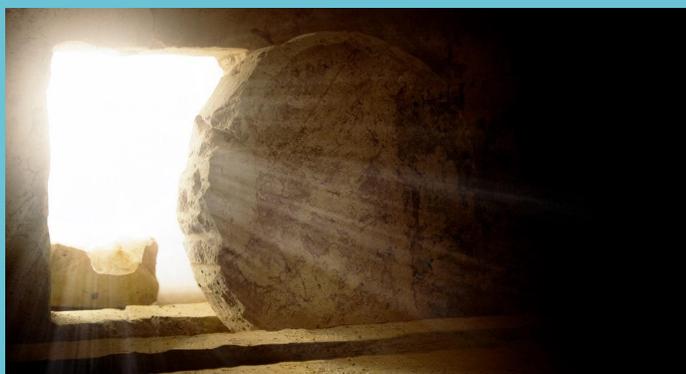
[Zoom Noon Service](#)

GOOD FRIDAY at 7 p.m.
Reflections by
James Coker and Lauren Wittine

[Zoom 7 p.m. Service](#)

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
Lesson - Jeffrey Rainey
Psalm - Betsy Alexander
Epistle - Jeffrey Rainey
Sermon - James Coker and Lauren Wittine
Solemn Collects - Lauren Wittine

[Download Bulletin](#)



EASTER SUNDAY
Come Celebrate
Resurrection!
9 a.m. P.T.

[CLICK HERE to ZOOM 9 a.m.
Sunday Service](#)

[Click Here for Bulletin/Order of
Service](#)

[CLICK HERE to watch on
YouTube](#)



SUNDAY'S SERVICE
Acolyte - John Holthaus
Lesson - Sherry Lund
Psalm - Danny Alegria
Epistle - Trask Leonard
Nicene Creed - Jeffrey Rainey
Intercessions - Lenore Lovoi
Post Communion Prayer - Trask Leonard

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

Matt Van der Staay, Louise Delafield, Ailsa McCulloch, Emma Loaiza, J.J. Palazzolo, Paul Lovoi

Anniversaries

Jim & Elaine Raitt

A NOTE FROM YOUR RECTOR

Dear Christ Church Family and Friends:

For Good Friday, you have two options at two different times and two different types of services. The first is an ecumenical service of Stations of the Cross at noon. Then we will have a traditional Episcopal service at 7 p.m. with music. James Coker and Lauren Wittine will be sharing reflections at this later service. The links to both services are above.

Sunday, April 4, is of course **Easter Sunday.** I hope you will join us on Zoom for an interactive experience or watch on YouTube. Lauren and the choir have some glorious music prepared. We have been in extended season of Lent. It is time for RESURRECTION!

As we move through Holy Week, I would be remiss not to remark on various references to "the Jews" in the Scripture and many liturgies of Holy week. Too often these references have been used as a basis for antisemitism throughout the history of the Church. Unfortunately, such sentiments are not just in our history, but along with the rise in Christian nationalism, many extremists in the present espouse such views. Consequently, many churches, like us, have replaced references to "the Jews" with "religious authorities" or "the crowd" where possible. Like racism, antisemitism separates us from God and each other and is sinful.

When I hear someone use scripture as a basis for racism or antisemitism, I try to use it as a teaching moment and remind my sibling in Christ that Jesus was an observant Jew. In fact, the very people believed to have written the gospels would have been considered Jews. They were criticizing the institution much like we criticize the Church today. The problem emerged as Christianity grew and became the religion of the Roman Empire. As Christianity's dominance increased, so did the rhetoric using Scripture and language of the liturgy as a basis for antisemitism and violence against Jews and Muslims--most notably during the Crusades and the Holocaust. This use of the scripture goes against the very essence of what Jesus preached. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves - no exceptions. Of course, we know this but not all of our Christian cousins do. I am not sure how to change the hearts of people, but prayer and education - teachable moments - help, especially if done in a kind and loving way. I am grateful for the people who have done this with me. I recall walking past the famous Beinecke Library designed by the renowned architect Gordon Bunshaft and saying, "this is the ugliest building!" My dear and kind friend who was an expert in the field put his arm around me and said lovingly, "Oh Beth, I see we have a lot of work to do!" After hearing a lecture and taking a tour of the building itself, it became my favorite building on campus. According to my friend, I was redeemed. In the words of Michelangelo, "I am still learning," and not one of us is beyond redemption - and this is glorious.

May you have a sacred Holy Week and experience resurrection in your life!

With love,
Beth

EARTH DAY

Earth Day 2021 is almost here! Here are a few resources to help you and your congregations celebrate and take inspired action:

- Faith Climate Action Week, April 16-25. This is Interfaith Power & Light's annual program of climate-themed worship services and sermons. This year's theme focuses on Cultivating Connections Between our Faith, our Food, and the Climate. Download the planning kit [here](#).
- Sustain Island Home This program, piloted right here in DioCal, helps Episcopalians work together to care for the planet and its inhabitants. Watch the new intro video [here](#).
- Good News Gardens A transformational agrarian ministry that feeds body, mind, and spirit. Learn more [here](#).
- Prophetic Indigenous Voices on the Planetary Crisis: A series of videos produced by the Anglican Indigenous Network, the Anglican Communion Environmental Network, and the Anglican Alliance, with assistance from the Diocese of California. The videos are available [here](#).

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Dinners for Maple Street Shelter: On Saturday March 27th the intrepid team of Karen and Andrew Hill, Ed Jennings, Diane Leonard, Belinda Lippa, Penny McCulloch, Linda Millard Mary Soubious and Ruth Ann Wrucke made dinner for 120 adults in the main shelter. A meatloaf dinner with all the trimmings is being served: mashed sweet potatoes, roasted vegetables, green salad, cookies and assorted cakes. Wow! Contact Ruth Ann at cwrucke@mindspring.com or call her at (650) 851-8435 to volunteer in the future. The Maple Street Shelter is part of the Life Moves program which provides a warm bed to over 1200 homeless people on the Peninsula every night.

Lunches for the Frail Elderly: On Friday March 5th: **Teens/college students:** Beatrix Bakken, Josie Miller, Katie Miller, Erin Miller. Adults: Kathy Kennedy, Mother Beth (with Thomas), Lauren Wittine plus Dave Miller (setup/cleanup) and Nichole Sprague on orange bar wrapping made "brown bag" lunches for 40 frail homeless adults housed in motels Menu: Moroccan Style Couscous with Chickpeas and Vegetables, Hardboiled eggs, Naan, Orange Dream Bars. Snacks: cuties, fig bar. Plus two blankets were made for delivery to the family shelter. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers. We will do it again on **Friday April 16th at 5PM.** Contact Kathy at kennedyiti@aol.com or call her at 650-291-9678 if you want to participate.

	March	Quarter to Date	Year to Date
Dinners	160	480	480
Bag Lunches	40	120	120
Total	200	600	600
Grocery Drives (H&H)	0	2	2

Groceries for Home & Hope: On **Sunday April 11th** the Christ Church community will again provide a week of groceries for four homeless San Mateo County families that are currently sheltered at a motel. Can you help? A Sign-up Genius will be published soon listing the grocery items needed. Bring your items to the church on or before noon on Sunday April 11th and leave them in the parish hall (or kitchen fridge). No human contact needed. Contact Kathy at kennedyiti@aol.com for more information.

Toiletries for the Homeless: Remember travel and those cute little toiletries that hotels used to give out? If you have any or know anyone who does, we are still collecting them for the Maple Street Adult Homeless Shelter. Bring them to the church breezeway and drop them off in the green box. We recently donated 132 pairs, but shower shoes are also needed. For those of you living at **The Sequoias** we will be placing a collection box there in the next few days. No human contact required.

Outreach Charity Review: Every two years Outreach reviews the charities we support and this is the year. On Tuesday March 5th we met via Zoom with GAIA whose goal is to eradicate AIDS in Malawi, Africa. Things are going well. Malawi is one of the few countries to meet the UN 90:90:90 recommendations (90% diagnosed, 90% medicated, 90% taking their medicine) which is key to eradicating AIDS. (The next goal is 95:95:95.) AIDS transmission between mothers and their unborn babies has been stopped. More nurses are being trained to help. There are still 500K AIDS orphans in Malawi; terrible but half what there were. They hope to expand their “model” complete with mobile medical units into another country facing the AIDS scourge soon, perhaps Zambia. They also thank you for your “Coins for GAIA.” The \$2000.00 raised provided health care for 800 Malawians.

If you are personally involved with a charity providing aid for the “poorest of the poor, homeless, imprisoned or the invisible needy” that you think Outreach should consider supporting, let us know. We will be reviewing additional charities at our **April 13th** meeting. Contact Kathy at kennedyiti@aol.com or call her at 650-291-9678.

NEWS FROM THE CARILLON SCHOOL



CARILLON
SCHOOL

We are now open for enrollment!

Call to schedule your tour.

(650) 529-1335

Christ Church Portola Valley & Woodside |
ccpvw.org

