

This Week at St. John's

August 19, 2007

About the Readings

Jeremiah 23:23-29

In Jeremiah's series of oracles concerning prophets, we find these words. God is not to be treated casually as though he were either unimportant or weak. While we are likely to think upon God's kindlier attributes—love, compassion, mercy—Jeremiah makes clear that there is also a stern side. There is a consuming intensity which destroys like fire that which is not genuine, sincere, and faithful. The psalmist is more profound than we often think: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10).

Psalm 82

This psalm borrows heavily from mythology. It pictures a heavenly court scene in which lesser gods are called to account because they have not fulfilled their duty of executing justice among people, but have shaken the foundations of the moral order of the universe by their injustice and by showing partiality to the wicked.

Hebrews 12:1-7 [8-10] 11-14

This is one of the Bible's clearest discussions of God's sterner side. Discipline is inherent in discipleship. Parental love apart from discipline is shallow pampering. Luther called God's wrath the underside of his love.

Luke 12:49-56

The fire testing and the fire judgment are continual Biblical themes. We have here a rare glimpse of the inner mind of Jesus which reveals an agonizing mixture of impatience and reluctance. John had prophesied the coming of one who would baptize with the fire of divine judgment (Luke 3:16). Little did he realize that the Coming One might be the first to undergo that baptism.

(Commentary from *Sunday's Scriptures: An Interpretation* by William Sydnor)

Announcements

Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to worship with us at St. John's this morning, and invite you to enjoy coffee and fellowship in the parish hall after the service.

Child care is provided from 9:15 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. An usher will assist you.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jerry Dean Hancock, son of Jim and Janice Hancock.

The Ton of Food Program will continue during the summer months. Any food and food-related items will be accepted, as well as detergents, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items. Canned fruits and vegetables and fruit juices are always in demand and appreciated. The Outreach Ministry Group would like to extend their thanks to the parishioners for their participation in the Ton of Food Program.

The Parish Picnic was a great success. Ryan Owen of the Rainbow network received the collected shoes on Wednesday of this week. He stated that a crate of supplies will be shipped to Nicaragua in two weeks and that the shoes this parish collected will be in that shipment. The timing could not have been better.

About The Episcopal Church

Reconciliation of a Penitent: Rite by which a minister of the church absolves and offers forgiveness of sin to a penitent in the name of Christ and the church. It provides a means by which one who experiences separation from the Christian community because of sin can be reconciled and healed. The service appears in two forms, an essential form and a longer form that adds scripture, examination of conscience, and laying on of hands. Confession can be heard at any time by anyone, but a lay person may not pronounce absolution. It is particularly apt during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent.

Intercessions This Week

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the diocese of Santiago in the Philippines; and for the Rt. Rev. Alexander A. Wandag.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Calvary Church, Sedalia; the Rev. William McVey, Rector.

Birthdays

August 19 Kimberly Hurshman
 August 21 Shannon Kellner
 August 22 Elizabeth Follis
 August 24 Samuel Chaffin
 Jessica Ratcliff

Anniversaries

August 19 David & Loeta Bradley
 August 25 Cody & Elizabeth Mendenhall

Faithful Departed

August 21 Lewis David Caudle
 Nancy James
 August 22 Jerry Dean Hancock
 Clyde W. (Bill) Young
 August 24 O. E. Golden
 Cecil T. Stiles
 Gladys Westervelt
 August 25 Charles D. Toombs

Prayer Requests

Trudy	Maxine
Terri	Dee
Norman	Gladys
Pricilla	Susan
Ella	Jude
Clara	Dorothy
Ruth	Lauretta
Karol	Harry
Carmon	Darryl
David	Louis
Tony	Ken
Rachel	Carolyn
Sandra	Carol
Larry	Luke
Pamela	Jerry
Tracey	Margi
Julie	Jim
Pat	

Calendar

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Mass— Rite I
August 19	10:30 a.m.	Mass— Rite II (sung)
(12 Pentecost)		
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
August 20	5:30 p.m.	Evening Prayer
(Bernard	6:00 p.m.	Mass
of Clairvaux)	6:30 p.m.	Vestry
Tuesday		No Mass
August 21	6:30 p.m.	AA (Women’s Group)
(Abraham	8:00 p.m.	AA
Of Smolensk)		
Wednesday		No Mass
August 22		
(Feria)		
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	St. Clare’s Crafters
August 23		No Mass
(Rose		
of Lima)		
Friday		
August 24		
(St. Bartholomew)		
Saturday		
August 25		
(Louis		
of France)		
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Mass— Rite I
August 26	10:30 a.m.	Mass— Rite II (sung)
(13 Pentecost)		

Names submitted by parishioners will remain on the parish intercession list for 30 days. After 30 days, the names will be removed, unless they are resubmitted. There is no limit on how many times a prayer request can be renewed. This new policy will allow the clergy to better manage the official prayer list of the parish. If you have any questions, please contact Father Miller.

As Christians, we can, in Christ, share his love with others through our good acts. God has chosen and equipped us to be instruments of support, service, and compassion. As C. S. Lewis wrote, “Good and evil both increase at compound interest. That is why the little decisions you and I make every day are of such infinite importance. The smallest good act today is the capture of a strategic point from which, a few months later, you may be able to go on to victories you never dreamed of.” In essence, God uses the small things that we do and multiplies them into something significant. Paul wrote, “Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20).

What is your legacy to God’s church?