

Stone by Stone

Volume 20 Issue 2

April - May 2009

Clergy Corner:

Why Holy Week?

As Holy Week approaches, we see that there are a plethora of worship services offered, some with unusual names and seemingly strange liturgical practices. For folks who did not grow up in an "anglo-catholic" Episcopal parish or in the Roman Catholic tradition these services and their function in our life of faith can sometimes appear rather mystifying, if not downright weird.

The purpose of this article is to clear up some of the mystery and to provide a theological rationale for our Holy Week practices.

From at least the fourth century A.D., Christian pilgrims have gathered in Jerusalem to observe the week before Easter with special devotions and liturgies. These centered their focus on the events of our Lord's Passion and the places where these events took place. The earliest records of these practices are recorded in the journals of the Spanish nun Egeria (or Etheria) who made such a pilgrimage to Egypt and the Holy Land in the late 4th century and who described the Holy Week liturgies practiced at Jerusalem in which she participated. It is from these early Christian practices that our Holy Week Rites have evolved.

Holy Week begins on Palm/Passion Sunday and ends at sundown on Holy Saturday or with the celebration of the Great Vigil of Easter. There are "propers" (Scripture readings, collects, and proper prefaces to the Eucharistic Prayers)

appointed for each of those days. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and the Great Vigil of Easter each have "Proper Liturgies" appointed in the Book of Common Prayer (Proper Liturgies for Special Days pp 264-295). The service of Tenebrae, which we observe on Wednesday in Holy Week is found in the Book of Occasional Services. Let's look at them one by one.

Palm/Passion Sunday: The liturgical color changes from Lenten purple to Passiontide red. This service commemorates the triumphal entrance into Jerusalem by Jesus and his disciples before the final Passover (Hebrew = Pesach, from which we get "Paschal") of His earthly life. The service begins outdoors with the Liturgy of the Palms where the Triumphal Entry gospel narrative is read from Matthew, Mark, or Luke depending on the year. Since we are in Year B of the lectionary cycle, we will read Mark's account this year. Following that, palm fronds are distributed and blessed, and the congregation processes into the church to the hymn "All Glory, Laud and Honor." The Gospel appointed for the Eucharist on this day is always the complete Passion narrative (from the Garden of Gethsemane to the removal of Jesus' body from the Cross), again, from one of the three Synoptic Gospels, which is read with members of the congregation taking various parts. It is our practice not to have a sermon on this day, but to allow the people to reflect on the weight of these events in their own minds. The service concludes

as usual with Eucharist, closing hymn and dismissal.

Tuesday in Holy Week: At 11:00 am this day all of the clergy of our Diocese will gather with our Bishop and any laity who can come for the annual renewal of our ordination vows. This service will take place at All Souls Cathedral in Asheville and is a moving and powerful liturgy. Included in this liturgy is the "Blessing of the Oils" by our Bishop in which the Oil of Chrism (used at the chrismation anointing in Holy Baptism), and the Oil of Healing (used for anointing the sick) are consecrated for the whole diocese. The Service concludes with the Holy Eucharist and lunch in the parish hall. If you are planning to come for lunch please send \$10 Alice at the Diocesan Office (900B CentrePark Drive, Asheville, NC 28805) marked for Renewal of Vows.

Wednesday night: Tenebrae: The name is derived from the Latin meaning darkness or shadows. This is an adaptation of the monastic offices of Matins and Lauds consisting of Psalms, readings from the Old Testament book of Lamentations, and responsories. The Service begins with fifteen lighted candles which are extinguished one by one after each of fourteen Psalms is read. The fifteenth candle, symbolizing Christ, is left lighted at the end of the final Psalm. However, it is removed and hidden, signifying the apparent victory of evil. Following a loud noise, symbolizing the earthquake at Christ's death, the candle is restored to its place anticipating Christ's coming victory over death. The congregation enters and leaves in silence. There is no music with this service. This year because of our joining with Grace, Waynesville for Maundy Thursday, we will observe the Stripping of the Altar and the placement of the Reserved Sacrament on the Altar of Repose at the conclusion of Tenebrae.

Maundy Thursday: This day takes its name from the old English form of the Latin "Mandatum Novum" or new commandment of Jesus (cf. John 13:34). The principal activities commemorate Jesus' washing the feet of the Disciples and the Institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. This is the first of the "Triduum" or, "Three Days" prior to Easter. This service is attested to by Egeria in her journals as well as being established by the Council of Hippo (North Africa) in 381 A.D. At this Service sufficient bread and wine are consecrated for the administration of Communion to the people on Good Friday on which day the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is forbidden in solemn remembrance of our Lord's death. Normally, the service ends with the "Stripping of the Altar" when all ornamentation is removed from the church. The Consecrated Elements are removed from the Aumbry or Tabernacle on the Sanctuary wall, and the light above it signifying our Lord's Presence in the Blessed Sacrament is extinguished. The Elements are placed on a table (Altar of Repose) and veiled with a linen shroud with a candle burning, again to signify our Lord's Presence. It is traditional and appropriate to spend time in prayer and devotion before the reserved Sacrament. The people leave this service in silence.

Good Friday: This is the commemoration of the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Along with Ash Wednesday, this is the only other day of fasting appointed in the Prayer Book. The liturgy this day always includes the Passion narrative of John's Gospel, again, read in parts by the clergy and members of the congregation. The service also includes the "Solemn Collects" or intercessions, and the Veneration of the Cross in which a rough wooden cross is brought into the church and special devotions (The Reproaches) are read. The church is bare, having been

stripped on Thursday night, and Holy Communion is administered from the Reserved Sacrament. All bread and wine that remains is consumed at this Service and the candle extinguished, signifying the light having gone out of the world with the death of Jesus. The congregation leaves in silence. We offer this service at 7:00am and 7:00 pm. In Canton the entire Christian community is invited to participate in a procession of the Cross through town beginning at 10:30 am at First United Methodist on Newfound Street. After stops at several churches, the paper mill and Town Hall, the procession concludes with a service of readings and hymns at Central United Methodist on Church Street at noon, the hour of our Lord's crucifixion.

Holy Saturday: This liturgy of readings, Psalms and prayers recalls the day when the crucified Christ visited among the dead while his body lay in the tomb awaiting Resurrection. We do this brief service in the Meditation and Memorial Garden where our saints lie at rest awaiting their own full participation in the Resurrection of Jesus. It is a lovely, quiet service which is scheduled for 10:00 am.

The Great Vigil of Easter: From ancient times this service was intended to be the first and primary celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus by the Church. In the 1979 revision of the Book of Common Prayer this grand liturgy was restored to the Anglican world for the first time since the 16th Century English Reformation. The service is intended to be celebrated between sundown on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Day. In the early church this was the only service at which Holy Baptism was administered, binding our understanding of God's activity in the Sacrament of Christian Initiation with the death and Resurrection of Jesus, and our participation in those saving events. The service consists of four parts: The

Service of Light in which a new fire is kindled in the darkness from which the Paschal candle is lighted. This is done outdoors, and each participant receives a personal candle lit from the Paschal Candle. We process into the church following the Deacon carrying the Paschal Candle, repeating three times, "The Light of Christ." The Deacon then sings the Exsultet, an ancient hymn commemorating the mighty works of God in the life of Israel and the Church. Next comes the Service of Lessons in which God's Saving activity in History as recounted in Scripture is read interspersed with Psalms, canticles and prayers. Then comes Holy Baptism if there is a candidate ready to be baptized, and if not, the renewal of Baptismal vows by the congregation with asperges (sprinkling with water) reminding us of our own baptisms. Finally comes the first Eucharist of Easter with the re-clothing of the Altar and re-decoration of the church following the dark and grief-filled days of the triduum. This is a holy and powerfully meaningful celebration of all that God-in-Christ has done, is doing, and will do to reconcile the world to himself. If you have never been to an Easter Vigil plan on coming this year. The folks from Grace, Waynesville, will be joining us and the Rev. Arlene Lukas, their Rector, will be our preacher.

I hope that this rambling romp through Holy Week increases your understanding of these very important services and your desire to participate in them. Without a Holy week observance we run the danger of leaping from the Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday to the glorious Resurrection of Jesus on Easter without experiencing the sacrifice, pain, grief and loss which are essential parts of what it cost God to redeem us from our sinfulness, and begin the process by which the creation is being restored to its God-intended order. Please come and remember these things with us.

Pastoral Care

Karen Hall

January and February were busy, as usual, for the faithful folks who remember to celebrate, support and encourage members of our church family. The group sent 148 cards, made 24 visits and made 38 calls in addition to the food delivered. Thanks, Pastoral Care.

Senior Warden Corner

Carole Talman

Most people who know me know that I don't "do" the Lenten season very well. It may be my Baptist up-bringing or possibly just my innate nature. The words quiet and introspective are not usually used to describe me. Nevertheless, one of the things that drew me into the Episcopal fellowship was the services of Holy Week.

When I was growing up, (back in the Dark Ages), I remember going from Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem on what is now Palm Sunday to the Resurrection seven days later. This was always puzzling to me. Even though I knew the story well from Sunday School, it was quite a leap.

My first Holy Week in the Episcopal Church put all those puzzle pieces together for me and put so much more meaning into the Way of the Cross.

I hope you and your family will join me for all the services that you can possibly attend during Holy Week and I believe you will experience a truly blessed Easter Day.

Parish Life

Karen Hall

Thanks to everyone who has brought in needed supplies for the kitchen, family hour and church programs. In case anyone else is wondering what we continue to need, below is a list:

- 8 oz. paper cold cups
- lemonade mix
- juice
- coffee
- decaf coffee
- Land-O-Lakes Mini Moos
- paper towels
- dishwasher detergent

Also, thanks to everyone who provided the delicious food for:

- our five Wednesday night Lenten Simple Supper Series
- our turn for the Canton Community Lenten/Lunch Series
- luncheon for the West Family
- hot dog lunch for our annual Clean Up Day volunteers
- goodies for our weekly Family Hours after church

Our busy parish life requires more supplies and food than you would ever guess, but we get more done through the work and contributions from our members than you would ever believe!

Easter Eggs Needed

We would appreciate any and all help donating plastic eggs filled with wrapped candy. All items need to be turned into Wendy before the Easter Service begins. The hunt will be held following the service during coffee hour.

Camp Henry 50th Reunion

Wendy Curley

This will be held the weekend of June 19-21, 2009. We will congregate together to learn about the past, present, and future of Camp Henry. All are welcome to come for a day, an evening or the whole weekend. There are cabins available along with the opportunity to pitch a tent. For more information please visit the Lake Logan website at www.lakelogan.org.

Mark your calendar!!!

June 20th from 10am - 4pm the Diocesan Picnic at Lake Logan Episcopal Center will be held in conjunction with the Camp Henry 50th Reunion weekend.

Holy Smoke

Nancy Rice H. S. BBQ Ministry Team Member

"Holy Smoke" it was cold and rainy at the 4th Annual WNC Farmers Market BBQ Festival and Bluegrass Jam, but we did prevail. At times we did have to question why in the world we were there, and then we would laugh, see a new face who came to volunteer for the first time, have someone tell us that it was the best BBQ they had ever had and we knew the answer. Holy Smokers were there because of their love for St. Andrew's and their dedication to pay down the mortgage (as Father Tim says, "one butt at a time". Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who braved the elements to make the weekend such a success.

On May 1, we will be at the Haywood County Special Olympics. We will be serving the athletes and volunteers as a catering job, and the spectators as a concession. If you can help please let us know, we will have sign-up sheets starting Palm Sunday.

Our Vestry has passed a motion for Holy Smoke to cook for a Benefit for the Special Olympics some time this summer. Date and time to be announced. This is our outreach project for 2009. June 20th is the Maggie Valley Trout Festival, so please mark your calendars.

Anyone who would like to work with us is welcome. Please see us during coffee hour or give us a call.

Junior Warden's Corner

Dave Clark

Greetings All

First of all, I have very good news. Our St. Andrew's clean-up day this past Saturday, 3/21/09, was a great success. The turnout of people power was overwhelming. We accomplished so much more than I thought possible. The fellowship that I experienced was truly awesome. God was truly working his will on all of us. I thank everyone from the bottom of my heart and may God bless you. For all who missed this past clean-up day, rest easy. I am planning another, perhaps this summer. There is always something in need of repair or paint. A special thanks to Karen Hall and Rose Rich who put together a wonderful hotdog lunch with fabulous beans. Again, thank you all so much for all your efforts.

As a vestry member, a Jr. Warden, and now a member of the Finance Committee, I am learning a great deal about St. Andrew's, some good things and some not-so-good. I must comment on the "not-so-good", that being the lack of pledges. To date, there have only been 47 pledges. This number represents less than half of the parish families. Besides the pledges, the plate offerings are also down. The bottom line is this. St. Andrews is in desperate need of cash. As of right now, the everyday operating expenses are not being met and the parish is in a deficit situation.

I know times are tough for all of us. Many of us are out of work and our country is in economic turmoil. Personally speaking, I have been laid off since last November and future employment opportunities are not looking good. However, we all must make sacrifices and support our wonderful congregation so we can continue to do God's work. This takes money so please, give what you can. Any amount is a blessing. We also are in need of people who can organize and put together fund raisers, ie., dances, dinners, bake sales, silent auctions, anything that will help raise cash to support the workings of our parish. The vestry is open to any and all ideas. In closing, if I can be of help to you in any way please call me.

May God Bless You,

Dave Clark

Camp Henry Session*Wendy Curley*

Camp Henry is a very special place where children and youth can be themselves. If anyone has any questions about the camp they can talk to Wendy Curley or any of the seasoned campers that attend St. Andrews. There are brochures available on the bulletin board. Sessions are filling up fast again this year. Each year we have more and more campers on the waiting list for sessions. Feel free to call me at Lake Logan/Camp Henry during the week. The camp office number is 646-0272.

**Senior High Camp June 14-20	\$535
Grades 2-3 Mini Camp June 24-27	\$425
**Grades 6-8 June 28-July 4	\$535
Grades 3-5 July 5-11	\$535
**Grades 7-9 July 12-18	\$535
Grades 4-6 July 19-25	\$535
CHOS (Camp Henry Outdoor School)	
**High School July 5-11	\$560
**Middle School July 19-25	\$560
**CIT Session I June 28-July11	\$810
**CIT Session II July 12-25	\$810

CITs are both 16 years of age and 11th grade graduates. CITs have a 24-hour break on Saturdays between sessions.

Outreach*Joe Branson*

Last issue I mentioned that St. Andrew's is waiting on approval from the Diocese for grant money to be directed toward the Canton Community Kitchen. No word has been given yet by the Diocese regarding approval of the grant at this time. If approved, proceeds from this grant will total \$15,000 over a three-year period. I hope to have an update in the next issue.

Great news, St. Andrew's is planning a benefit in June/July for Haywood County Special Olympics. The benefit will feature barbecue by Holy Smoke while entertainment will be provided by Balsam Range. This will be an event you'll not want to miss so look for more specific details in a future issue.

The following is Juanita Dixon's February 09 outreach report. Thanks for the update and your hard work.

Community Kitchen

- February 8th-Cooked and served dinner at the Community Kitchen.
- February 7th-8th-Picked up food from Food Lion for Comm. Kitchen.
- February 27th-David Clark took Fr. Tim's evening at the Community Kitchen.
- February 18th-David Clark attended the Emergency Shelter meeting while also volunteering his time for the shelter.
- February 17th-Juanita Dixon attended the Community Kitchen Board.

Manna

- February 25th-Maggie & David Mathewes and Juanita worked the Manna food distribution.

Relay for Life

- We now have 16 people signed up for the Relay for Life walk on May 15th. Fran Williams is helping with the banner while Juanita bought the materials needed. Marylin and Smith Nicholls are way ahead on raising money. We have added Steve Staley and Florence Williams to the list. The St. Andrew's team will be called "The Faces of Hope".

All other volunteer services, as reported in January, are still ongoing.

"FEEDING THE FLOCK" COOKBOOK

Thank you so much for your generosity in giving us your recipes for the cookbook and in buying copies of it for yourself, friends and loved ones. At the latest accounting, we have been able to give \$577.10 to the general fund of the church. When we have the final accounting, we will let you know the exact amount. Again, thanks so much to each one of you.

April & May Anniversaries

4/6 Margaret & David Mathewes
 4/14 Alma & Kevin Wells
 4/23 Linda & C. B. Finger
 5/17 Allison & Mark Kaserman

4/26 Olivia Sanderson
 4/28 Crystal Rice
 5/3 Cobie Willis
 5/7 Anna Beall
 5/10 Tommy Smathers
 5/12 Matthew Sanderson
 5/14 Bailey Dennard
 5/15 Aidan Patton
 5/16 Kathleen Beck
 5/18 Ted Hendrickson
 5/24 Jane Gladden
 5/26 Oliver Marth
 5/28 Rev. Harlan Bemis
 5/29 Tobie Ledford
 5/29 Karen Prebble
 5/30 Carole Talman
 5/31 Margaret Allison
 5/31 Joan Bemis
 5/31 Kevin Schaefer

April & May Birthdays

4/1 Marjorie Hayes
 4/1 Erin McRee
 4/3 Hope Crawford
 4/4 Elizabeth Curley
 4/5 Dolly Byrd
 4/10 Kitty Sanderson
 4/14 Laney Hinshaw
 4/15 The Rev Tim McRee
 4/18 Deah Branson
 4/19 Ellery Byrd
 4/19 Karen West
 4/20 Smith Nicholls
 4/21 Joe Branson
 4/23 Mary Haynes

CALENDAR

Fri, Apr 10	Office closed for holiday
Mon, Apr 13	Office closed for holiday
Apr. 13 - 21	Fr. Tim on vacation. In case of emergency, contact either Deacons Russell or Ray or Rev. Harlan Bemis
Sat, Apr 18	DOK meeting
Thurs., Apr 23	Vestry meeting – 7:00pm
Thurs., May 14	Finance Committee meeting – 7:00 pm
Thurs., May 21	Vestry meeting – 7:00pm
May 22 - 25	Fr. Tim on vacation. In case of emergency, contact either Deacons Russell or Ray or Rev. Harlan Bemis
Sun., May 24	Articles due for Newsletter
Mon., May 25	Office closed for holiday
Sun., May 31	Bishop Taylor Visits

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Eucharist	Sunday	8:00 AM
Sunday School	Sunday	9:30 AM
Eucharist	Sunday	10:30 AM
Healthy Living Support Group	Monday	7:00 PM
Healthy Living Support Group	Tuesday	5:00 PM
Education for Ministry	Tuesday	6:00 PM
Morning Prayer	Wednesday	9:00 AM
Lenten Supper/Program/Service	Wednesday	5:30 PM
Bible Study	Thursday	10:00 AM
Finance Committee	2 nd Thursday	7:00 PM
Vestry	3 rd Thursday	7:00 PM
Nimble Fingers	2 nd Saturday	10:00 AM
D o K	3 rd Saturday	10:00 AM

YOUR ST. ANDREW'S-ON-THE-HILL VESTRY

2006-2009

2007-2010

Carole Talman, Senior Warden
 Nancy Rice
 Terry Rose

2008-2011
 Kathy Beck
 David Clark, Junior Warden
 Karen Hall

Joe Branson
 Stephanie Dennard
 Bob Klettner

Jean Santucci, Clerk of Vestry

John Donnelly, Treasurer