

*Transforming
Lives Through
Jesus Christ*

SWORD POINTS

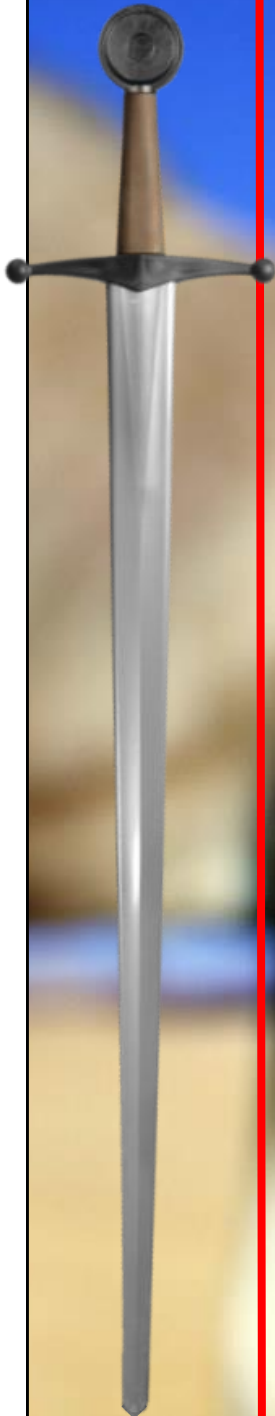
Pentecost 21B, 2024

www.SaintPaulsBrookfield.com

(203) 775-9587



Eyeing the Kingdom



† Eyeing the Kingdom

Job, poor Job! We're 23 chapters into his story and things are not only as grim as ever, they're worse. And yet, he keeps trying, keeps wondering, keeps asking God, WHY?! But then he answers himself as he knows deep in his faithful heart, that God would listen to reason and acquit him of these terrible trials, if only he could find God, if only he didn't feel forsaken. Yet, he doesn't give up; he perseveres. How long, we ask ourselves, would we endure with half of Job's troubles without giving up on God?

The writer of Hebrews confirms what Job believes, that God does indeed know and judge our thoughts and the intentions of our hearts. Further, we have help to hold fast to our confession of faith through Jesus, who is our

great high priest, who was tested and remains without sin. With faith and Christ's support, we are to be bold and ask God for the mercy and grace that we need to keep us strong and faith-filled on our soul's journey to eternal life.

In the Gospel from Mark, a man grieves as he walks away from Jesus because he follows the commandments but doesn't want to let go of his earthly possessions. Perhaps he expected Jesus to extol him for following the Law and confirm his own thoughts that there was

nothing more he needed to do. How many in recent years, months, and weeks, all over this world, have lost so much because of winds, floods, fires, war, and the everyday tragedies and tempests of life? How many of us say "Oh yes, I believe and follow the Commandments" and go about our every-day lives as if there was nothing we have to do differently, assured of our place in the front of the line at the gates of God's Kingdom. Will we cry out "Where is God?" when the winds, floods, tragedies, and tempests hit our lives? Will our faith crumble; will we give in to despair?

Job never stops asking for God to be present because hope keeps him going, as it does for us all even in the times when our faith is weakest. And whether we wonder how many angels can dance on the head of a pin, or whether Jesus meant literally that a camel would have to go through that needle's eye, Jesus tells us plainly, with God all things are possible. With the eyes of our souls and the intentions of our hearts we can seek Christ's path that is sometimes rocky, sometimes tempestuous, and even sometimes calm, but always with Him beside us. Eyeing God's Kingdom? Store up your greatest treasure in heaven instead of only at the bank.





Save the date!



† Fr. Nate's First Sunday

Be sure to join us on Sunday, October 20th. Fr. Nate Lee will be preaching and celebrating at both the 8 and 10:30 am services for the first time.

It will be a time of thanksgiving and celebration of what the Lord has done for us during this time of transition.

There will be extended coffee hours after each service and no adult class between the services.

Be sure to wear your nametags to coffee hour.

† This Week at St. Paul's

- Thu, Oct 10 - 8:00 am - PraiseBarre ([Zoom](#))
- 9:30 am - Iron Sharpens Iron Discussion Group, Guild Room
- 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- Sat, Oct 12 - 7:30 am - [John 21:12](#) Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
- 8:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
- 9:00 am - PraiseMoves ([Zoom](#))
- Sun, Oct 13 **The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**
- 8:00 am - **Traditional Holy Communion** ([YouTube Live](#))
- 9:30 am - Adult Class, Guild Room
- 10:30 am - Sunday School, Classrooms
- 10:30 am - **Contemporary Holy Communion** ([YouTube Live](#))
- 7:00 pm - Recovery & Self-Reflection, Guild Room ([Zoom](#))
- Mon, Mon 14 - 7:00 pm - Men's Bible Study, Crocker Hall ([YouTube Live](#))
- Tues, Oct 15 - 9:30 am - Ladies Tuesday AM Bible Study, Guild Room
- 7:00 pm - Scout Troop #5
- Wed, Oct 16 - 8:00 am - PraiseMoves ([Zoom](#))
- 10:00 am - **Holy Communion & Healing** ([YouTube Live](#))
- 11 to Noon - Drive-Thru Food Collection #118
- 7:00 pm - Ladies Evening Zoom Bible Study ([Zoom](#))
- Thu, Oct 17 - 8:00 am - PraiseBarre ([Zoom](#))
- 9:30 am - Iron Sharpens Iron Discussion Group, Guild Room
- 7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- Fri, Oct 18 **St. Luke, the Evangelist**
- Sat, Oct 19 - 7:30 am - [John 21:12](#) Group, Theo's Downtown Diner, New Milford
- 8:00 am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, Crocker Hall
- 9:00 am - PraiseMoves ([Zoom](#))
- 10:00 am - St. Paul's Quilters, Crocker Hall
- Sun, Oct 20 **The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**
- 8:00 am - **Traditional Holy Communion** ([YouTube Live](#))
- 10:30 am - Sunday School, Classrooms
- 10:30 am - **Contemporary Holy Communion** ([YouTube Live](#))
- 7:00 pm - Recovery & Self-Reflection, Guild Room ([Zoom](#))

Check our website daily for schedule updates.

THIS WEEK

† **Riches of God**

[Job 23:1-9, 16-17](#); [Psalm 22:1-15](#); [Hebrews 4:12-16](#); [Mark 10:17-31](#)

Jesus Christ is both priest and victim. He is truly divine and the true human being. He is from everlasting to everlasting, and he is a thin sliver of time. To see him, one has to see contrasts and intervening shades. So often in a Bible story, Jesus is both himself and one or more characters, the interchange of question and answer.

“As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him” (Mark 10:17). It is said that that the man “had many possessions.” Jesus, likewise, had many possessions, for he was filled with all the fullness of God and therefore lacked nothing. In the story, the man asks, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus responds,



“You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother’” (Mark 10:19). The man, we learn, has kept these from his youth. Jesus has kept them from the timeless moment of eternity. Jesus is all wealth and he is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. The man fails, however, to mirror Jesus in the most important way. Jesus is poor. Following him requires poverty of spirit and detachment from the relative good of this world. “How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of heaven!”

Consider both the wealth and the poverty of Jesus. “For you

know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Cor. 8:9). Jesus has everything, and yet he gives it all to us through the power and ministration of his Spirit. “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you” (John 16:13-15).

Jesus is all the wealth of divine life. The Spirit takes that treasure and gives it to us. So Jesus is stripped and naked, crucified and empty. Diminished to near nothingness, he passes through the eye of a needle into the kingdom of heaven of which he is the embodiment. And yet, giving all that he is and all that he has, the fount of divinity is not diminished. He is rich and he is poor.

What is it like to follow Jesus? At first we are rich with the clutter of our lives, until at last, by his command and grace, we leave it all aside. At the moment of faith and at the waters of baptism, we are stripped, buried, and marked with a cross. We seem to disappear. The life of Jesus, which is all that the Father has, pours out into the newly baptized. Is there a treasure greater than this? We are the poverty and wealth of Jesus. At first we are rich, at last we are poor. Being poor, we become rich with the abounding grace of God.

Look It Up:

Read Hebrews 4:13-14.

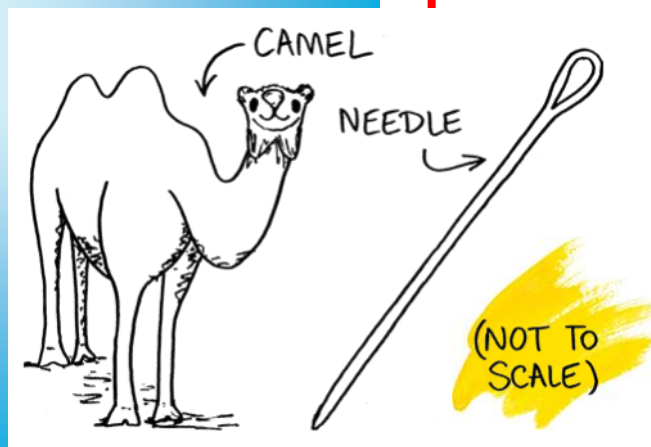
Think About It:

We are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one who sees and sympathizes, who gives grace and mercy in time of need. - by Patrick Twomey, *The Living Church*, 2024

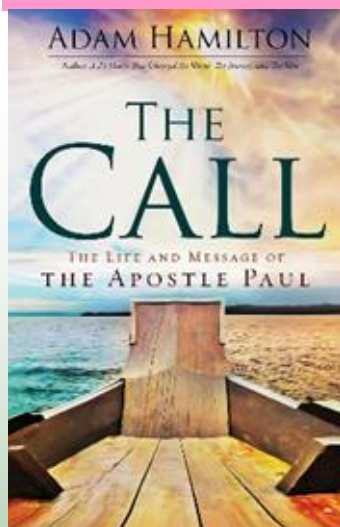
† Getting More Involves Having Less, Having Less Involves Giving More

Mark 10:17-31

Maybe if we don't ask the rich young man's question, "what must we do to be saved" we don't have to apply Jesus' answer, "give everything away and follow me." But then there is always a nagging doubt that Jesus says what he means and means what he says and the rich will have a hard time finding a hole in the kingdom gate big enough to squeeze through. So what if we just divest ourselves of ten percent and give the poor the proceeds from a garage sale of the stuff we haven't used in years? Peter feels like he's done that and more, "we've left everything and followed you," but then he didn't have much to begin with so he thinks giving away the little he had will boost his bottom line. Jesus' answer to Peter is that the balance sheet will not be all that pretty as persecutions are the gate of the kingdom come. This is the problem with both the question, "what must I do to be saved" and the answer, "do this." Do you think Jesus answered the question the rich young man asked? He was responding to the nagging doubt the young man had that despite keeping all the commandments from his youth and being rewarded with riches he needed something more. The trouble for him is that getting more involved having less. The trouble for Peter is that having less involved giving more.



After-Service Prayer Teams - We now have prayer ministers available after each service to meet with people in the first pew. This is in addition to the Wednesday prayer offered at the altar and Healing Sunday prayers at the altar. Please feel free to come forward to ask for prayer for yourself or others.



Sunday Adult Class

Plan on joining us for an exciting and challenging video series by Adam Hamilton featuring "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul." This is the story of the Apostle Paul, whose writings continue to shape the lives of one-third of the world's population, a man second only to Jesus in his impact and influence on the Christian faith, and whose witness defines what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Join us each Sunday morning between services at 9:30 am in the Guild Room for a six-week journey to the lands where Paul traveled, preached, suffered and triumphed. We'll explore together how Paul's call to follow Christ, to go, to suffer for Christ's sake, to love, give and to be faithful also defines God's call to each of us as well.



The Priest-in-Charge **WEEKLY**

Fr. Nate Lee, our incoming Priest-in-Charge is beginning a new weekly e-mail to communicate things directly from his desk to yours. **Connection, communication, and care** are among the highest priorities of his new ministry, and he wants to make sure there are regular touch points between us. If you would like to receive "*The Priest-in-Charge Weekly*" and **already receive weekly e-mails from St. Paul's**, you don't have to do anything - you're already included on the list! If you would like to receive "*The Priest-in-Charge Weekly*" and **DO NOT receive weekly e-mails from St. Paul's**, or if you want to opt out, write Fr. Nate at priest@saintpaulsbrookfield.com and let him know.

Sunday, October 27th

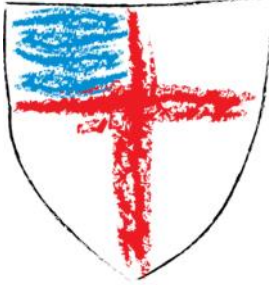
2:00 - 4:00 pm.

**Trunk
OR
Treat**

To sign up as a trunk or for more information contact Max Kronberg



Candy donations are always welcome and may be dropped off in the bins in the back of the church.



† Ih-pis-kuh-puh I / Dik-shuh-ner-ee


(Episcopal Dictionary)



† Laity

/ LAY-uh-dee /

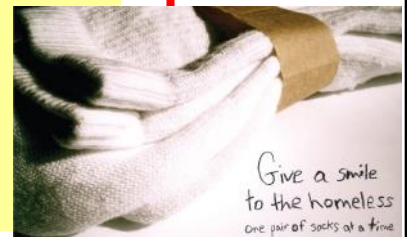
Laity - The people of God. The term is from the Greek laos, “the people.” The laity has been defined negatively to indicate Christians who have not been ordained. However, all baptized Christians are the people of God, the church, a royal priesthood, a holy nation ([1 Peter 2:9-10](#)). All baptized persons are members of the Body of Christ, the church, but with different functions and ministries ([Rom 12:4-8](#); [1 Cor 12:12](#)). All Christian ministries and vocations represent specific ways of living out the baptismal covenant (see [BCP, pp. 304-305](#)). The ministers of the church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons (BCP, p. 855). The ministry of the laity is “to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church” ([BCP, p. 855](#)). Clericalism unfortunately caused some to view the ordained as the only real ministers of the church and to regard the laity as inferior to the clergy. Increasing appreciation of lay ministry has accompanied a renewed emphasis on the significance of baptism, and a growing understanding that the various ministries of the church can support and uphold one another. The ministries and orders of the church are to be complementary, and not mutually exclusive. Accordingly, the 1979 BCP encourages the participation of all orders of ministry in the worship of the church.

“How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God.” All of us have much wealth, you know, especially by the standard of many in the rest of the world. We are so blessed! As stewards and disciples, are we willing to live our lives and use all our gifts to honor God and follow His teachings.

† Socks & Toiletries for the Homeless

As the temperature drops and the seasons change remember homeless people are on their feet all day, and the only pair of socks they own are very likely to be threadbare. Once again, this year we are collecting socks and toiletries for the men’s homeless shelter throughout the winter months. Place donations in the bins in the back of the church or Crocker Hall.





Here is an update about St. Paul's ongoing food-related ministries serving our community:

Drive Thru Food Collection - occurs every other Wednesday from 11 am - noon. We have now held 115 food drives since April 22, 2020! Last time our trucks delivered to the New Milford Loaves & Fishes Hospitality House and the Jericho Partnership in Danbury.

Our next food collection, will be Wednesday, October 16th and will support the New Milford Loaves & Fishes Hospitality House, and the Jericho Food Pantry in Danbury.

Thank you all for your ongoing generosity and to the many volunteers who have helped to load the trucks and deliver food to the pantries.

Next Drive-Thru Food Collection

Wednesday
October 16th

*Help us,
Help others*

11 am to Noon



If you would like to request Altar flowers for a particular Sunday in Memory of a friend or loved one, please fill out an envelope located in the back of the church or send an email request to dszen@yahoo.com or contact David Szen.



**Altar
Flowers**



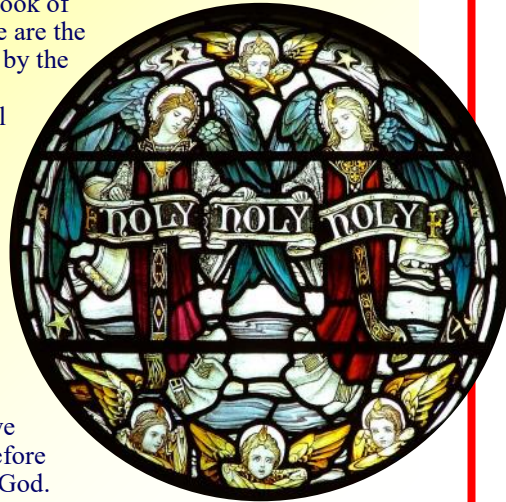
God (6:3). The Sanctus reminds us that our act of praise and thanksgiving occurs mystically together with all the faithful throughout time who eternally



praise and worship God. Many choose to bow low while singing these words, to demonstrate awe and humility before the holiness of God.

Sanctus

After the Sursum Corda we sing the Sanctus:
*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and mighty,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

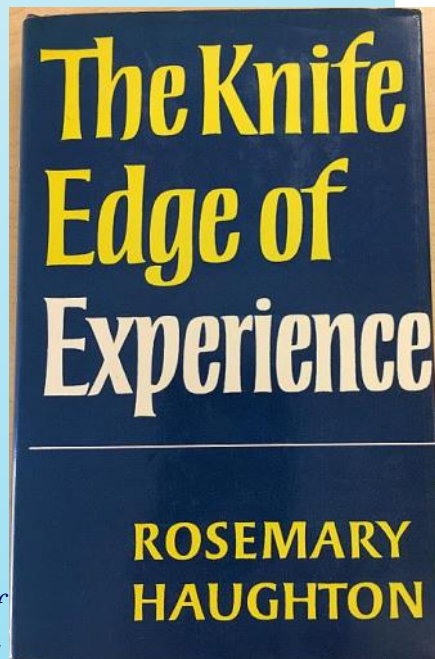


† Weekly Thought for Reflection

- from Fr. John Morrison

"Each of us has a theological work to do. We may think we haven't but we can't help it, because every time we make a decision, or refuse to make one (which is also a decision), we are showing whether we are with Jesus or against him. We are saying something about what we think Christianity is. There never has been a time when even the most passive could even allow a church to make all their moral decisions for them, because the decision to obey is itself a moral decision and can have as many varied motives, from cowardice to true humility, as any other decision. Nor are the most emancipated present-day believers making their moral decisions in a vacuum. The cloud of witnesses from all ages and places surrounds them.... So also our decisions form part of the tradition, and create the material from which others draw in making their decisions on the kind of notions we have about what God is doing, to us and around us. Our practical decisions display theological premises, whether we like it or not."

Rosemary Haughton, *The Knife Edge of Experience*, pp. 31-32



† Bill Schrull's African Mission Trip

Bill Schrull departed on a mission trip to East Africa on September 11th and will be returning on October 24th.

He will be spending three weeks in Kenya, visiting Bishop David Kodia at the Diocese of Bondo. During his time in Kenya, he will be visiting Bishop Okullu College for several days, installing new computer equipment in their computer lab and training their IT staff in the operations and maintenance of the equipment. He will then go out on Lake Victoria via their new "Mission Boat," which was funded by a grant from ECCT. Bishop David will also have Bill participate in various worship services and events.

The following two weeks Bill's trip will be spent in Tanzania, visiting Bishop Emmanuel Bwatta at the Diocese of Western Tanganyika. During his stay, he will be spending time at Lake Tanganyika Theological College in Kasulu, assisting the staff with computer system maintenance. Bill will also be participating in events at their annual Diocesan Synod Conference. And no doubt, he will be asked to preach a sermon, lead a bible study, or give a testimony during Sunday worship services.

Pray for God's provision and protection for Bill's travel. Grant favor with all he comes in contact with. Go before him and prepare the way.

You can follow Bill and his travels on his blog by clicking [here](#).



Be sure to check up on Bill who has traveled on to Tanzania for the second half of his mission trip. He got a chance to visit an animal sanctuary.



And of course, there was worship services with lots of singing and dancing

Check out his blog for more pictures and videos.



† *Art in the Christian Tradition*

Camel (Albino) Contemplating Needle (Large),

installation by John Baldessari (1931-2020),
fiberglass, aluminum, stainless steel, acrylic and paint, executed in 2013,
© Photo Courtesy of Beyer Projects, New York

When Jesus says, “It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God,” he uses an exaggerated, vivid image to stress the difficulties wealth can present in pursuing the spiritual life. The “eye of a needle” was a common metaphor in the ancient world, symbolizing something nearly impossible. Jesus was not condemning wealth in itself but warning about the attachments and distractions it can create. Those with material wealth can become consumed by their possessions, status, and comfort, making it harder for them to focus on the values of humility, generosity, and dependence on God. Jesus knew how riches can build a false sense of security, leading people to trust in their own power rather than in God’s grace.

However, Jesus also emphasizes that, while it may be difficult, it is not impossible. When His disciples express shock, asking, “Who then can be saved?” Jesus responds, “With man it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God.” This beautifully highlights that salvation is not something we earn through our own efforts, wealth, or status. It is a gift of grace from God.



John Baldessari’s playful installation offers a whimsical yet profound reflection on Jesus’ famous teaching of Sunday’s Gospel reading. Baldessari’s artwork features a larger than life-sized sculpture of an albino camel standing before an oversized, freestanding needle. The installation brings to life the hyperbolic image used by Jesus, yet with a surreal and ironic twist. By enlarging the needle and positioning the camel as if it’s seriously contemplating the impossibility of its task, Baldessari underscores the challenge of Jesus’ metaphor. Baldessari invites viewers to reflect on the deeper spiritual message behind the visual, using humor and scale to engage with timeless religious themes in a fresh and accessible way.

Take note

by Kirsten Peterson, Organist & Choirmaster

Greetings!

We'll be singing a hymn during communion this week that we don't do often, but I'm hoping some of you know it: "O for a closer walk with God." I remember it best from my days as organist at the Congregational Church of Marlborough (yes, Marlborough, CT...there is such a place!). At any rate, it's a lovely hymn with a comforting message. As I began to do a little research, I found a wonderful blog post by Barry Kaufman. His blog is called "Hymns with a Message," and it appears that it is still active so I'll provide the link here: barrishymns.blogspot.com. His information on this hymn from 2017 was so interesting, I decided to copy the majority of it for your reading pleasure!



William Cowper

Many of the great hymns of the faith have been penned when the authors faced a tragedy or suffered from great physical pain or emotional distress. William Cowper (1731-1800), the author of this hymn, experienced a number of tragic events in his life, beginning with the death of his mother when he was six years old. It is said that he suffered from depression all of his life.

The son of an Anglican clergyman, Cowper studied for the law, but was so intimidated at the prospect of the law exam that he attempted suicide. Cowper was institutionalized in a mental asylum for a time. Upon his release, he went to church where he met the Reverend Morely Unwin and his wife, Mary. The Unwins took Cowper under their wing, and Cowper lived with them for more than two decades. When Rev. Unwin fell from a horse and was killed, John Newton (author of the hymn, "Amazing Grace") came to the Unwin home to pay his respects. He persuaded Cowper and Mrs. Unwin to move to Olney, where Newton served as the pastor of a church. Behind her new home was a beautiful garden where Cowper and Newton met nearly every day to work on their hymns. Then Mary Unwin became seriously ill, and it appeared that she would die.



Cowper began to experience severe depression again, because Mary had been a mother figure to him and his best friend. That crisis, in 1772, inspired him to write "O for a Closer Walk with God", words that comforted him in his distress. The day after he penned these words he wrote: "She is the chief of blessings I have met with in my journey since the

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Choir Notes

Lord was pleased to call me. ... Her illness has been a sharp trial to me. Oh, that it may have a sanctified effect, that I may rejoice to surrender up to the Lord my dearest comforts, the moment He may require them. ... I began to compose the verses yesterday morning, before daybreak, but fell asleep at the end of the first two lines: When I awakened, the third and fourth were whispered to my heart in a way which I have often experienced." Fortunately, Mary recovered from her illness.

Cowper, who had written poetry for most of his life, worked with Newton on a collection of hymns that they entitled *Olney Hymns*. That collection included 280 of Newton's hymns and 68 of Cowper's hymns, including this one. Through his trials and depression, Cowper's desire was to have a closer walk with God. But, like most of us, at times he strayed and missed "the blessedness" and the peace which he experienced when he was walking with God. To walk with God requires us to "walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 6:16, 25) and be submissive to Him and dependent on Him. And if sin raises a barrier between us, or if there is an "idol" which stands in the way of our relationship, we need to confess it to restore the intimacy with Him that we once knew. Is it your desire to have a closer walk with Him? Are there things that are hindering you in that walk? If there are, then confess them to Him today and ask Him to "tear" them away and restore the joy of your salvation. May our daily prayer be, "O for a closer walk with God."

You can read 4 of the 5 verses we'll be singing in the accompanying video that provides the music, but not the singing. So you can practice at home...like karaoke!

Peace and blessings,
Kirsten

319 **O for a Closer Walk with God**
(SECOND TUNE)

William Cowper, 1772 BEATITUDO: C. M.
John B. Dykes, 1875

1. O for a clos - er walk with God, A calm and heav - en - ly frame,
2. Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, Sweet mes - sen - ger of rest!
3. The dear - est i - dol I have known, What - e'er that i - dol be,
4. So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and se - rene my frame;

A light to shine up - on the road That leads me to the Lamb!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn And drove Thee from my breast.
Help me to tear it from Thy throne, And wor - ship on - ly Thee.
So pur - er light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb. A-MEN.

Holy Land Revisited



† On Location: Eye of the Needle † † Church of Saint Alexander Nevsky †

Remnants of the emperor Constantine's original 4th-century Holy Sepulcher church can be seen inside a Russian Orthodox church that is a next-door neighbor of the present Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

The Church of St Alexander Nevsky- named after a 13th-century Russian warrior-prince - is often overlooked because its façade resembles an elegant residence or hotel rather than a church.

The tall and narrow façade, with solid security doors bearing notices in Russian, is at 25 Souq al-Dabbagha, about 75 yards from the entrance to the Holy Sepulcher courtyard.

Excavations here in 1883 - before the church was built - attracted worldwide attention, leading to the site becoming known as the "Russian Excavations."

Particular attention focused on the discovery of a gate threshold believed by the excavators to belong to the Judgement Gate by which Jesus left the city on the way to the hill of Calvary (now contained within the Holy Sepulcher church). Modern archaeologists consider the gate probably dates from the 2nd century.

The excavators also uncovered remains of the easternmost parts of Constantine's 4th-century church, including the wide staircase that led to the church entrance.

As New Testament scholar Jerome Murphy-O'Connor put it, what was found "corresponds exactly to the eastern end of the Constantinian Holy Sepulcher as depicted in the sixth-century Madaba Map."

It is claimed that this is the site of the 1st century city wall of Jerusalem, that it is by these ancient walls that Jesus would have passed on his way to Calvary/Golgotha - the scriptures are clear that he was crucified "outside" the city, though the Church of the Holy Sepulcher is within the boundaries of the modern walled city - and that outside the Gate of Judgement which was in the wall in this vicinity and through which Jesus would have passed, his sentence would have been read out before it was carried out.

One of the items on display in the excavations under the Russian complex is a Roman archway. It has been dated as belonging to the 2nd century, not the first - so it is not the Gate of Judgement under which Jesus would have passed - but is part of the Emperor Hadrian's wall that was built over the site of the Holy Sepulcher.

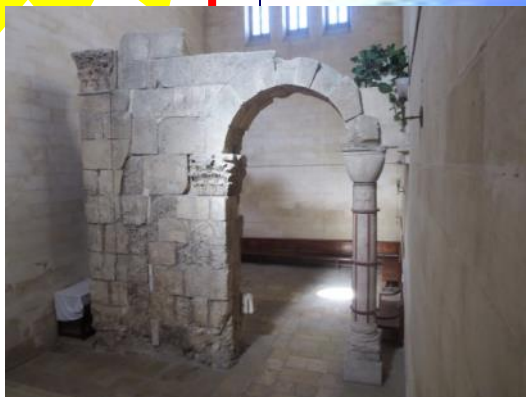
Another interesting feature is what is called "The Eye of the Needle." The name comes from the account of the rich man from our Gospel reading this Sunday.

It is certainly a very dramatic story! Attaining heaven is impossible for a rich person!! What then of us who belong among the rich nations of the earth!?!?

You may heard the interpretation that "the eye of a needle" referred to a small gate beside the main city gate which was just



Our next trip to the Holy Land has been scheduled for July, 2025. Our two-week pilgrimage into our faith will cover all the basics and have many optional add-ons.



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(Continued from page 14)

Eye of the Needle

large enough so that a person could enter, but it was much too small for a camel to get through. Another interpretation is that Jesus was using hyperbole. Many scholars propose that Jesus' words are literally true.

Whatever the proper biblical interpretation, St Alexander Nevsky Church clearly favors the "small gate" theory. In the excavations there is an ancient wall with a hole in it. The edges of the hole have been worn smooth by centuries of people putting their hands on the stonework. The hole in the wall is referred to as "the Eye of the Needle."

Here is a man trying to get through. Is he rich, is he able to make it through! He's made it into the hole, but is he stuck there? Is he encumbered with possessions? Is he encumbered by height and girth? No, he's made it through! Although a poor man, he is rich in blessings! And blessings enable passing through the eye of the needle, they don't encumber or hinder!



Sun, Oct 20, 4 pm

OCTOBER OCTETS

Litchfield Chamber Concert

Handel, Mozart, Stravinsky & Beethoven

This concert of the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra features our own Kirsten Peterson!

Time & Location

Oct 20, 2024, 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Litchfield Community Center, 421 Bantam Rd, Litchfield, CT

Click [HERE](#) for more info.

† Lizzie Is Here!

Hey friends!

Just a quick update to celebrate our news that Elizabeth Skye joined our family at 6:40pm, on September 29th. She and I are both doing well and have been back home since Monday night. The kids are overjoyed to meet their little sister, and are constantly fighting over who gets to hold her next.

Protecting her from her energetic (wild) big siblings is a full-time job, but that's just part of the gig for youngest children.

I won't go into too much detail, but I wanted to share the very specific

ways that God provided for our family during this birth. The weeks leading up to her due date, I started feeling so anxious about giving birth in Cambodia. I was scared to not have my parents around, that we would get stuck in traffic and have a car baby, that something would go wrong at the hospital... the list of what-ifs was long. But God kept giving me verse after verse of all the ways we can trust Him. I wrote down those verses, and Will read them out loud during labor, over and over again. The Khmer nurses and the doctor heard these verses again and again, and we prayed they would work on their hearts as well. Here are just some of them:

Thanks for holding us up in prayer! Please continue to pray for us in the postpartum season, especially for the adjustment it takes for young kids to welcome a new person into the family. Pray God will use even this season to witness to neighbors and friends about His love and goodness. Pray that Lizzie will be a light in this dark world that points to the Lord and His kindness.

Love you all!
Mclaughlin family



Elizabeth Skye Mclaughlin, 8 lbs, 14 oz



"I heard an unknown voice say, 'Now I will take the load from your shoulders; I will free your hands from their heavy tasks.'" Ps 81:5-6

"Let your compassion quickly meet our needs, for we are on the brink of despair." Ps 79:8

"When the earth quakes and its people live in turmoil, I am the one who keeps its foundations firm." Ps 75:3

"Be my rock of safety where I can always hide." Ps 71:3

"My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. O my people, trust in him at all times. Pour out your heart to Him, for God is our refuge." Ps 62:7-8

✧ Other Faith Traditions - Rosh Hashanah

Yom Kippur

Jewish Year 5785

Sunset on Fri, Oct. 11 and ends at sunset on Sat, Oct. 12

Yom Kippur, also known as the Day of Atonement, is a Jewish holiday dedicated to coming together in community to reflect, ask forgiveness for wrongdoings committed during the past year, and resolve to do better going forward. For millennia, Yom Kippur has been regarded as the most important, solemn, and holy day in the annual Jewish calendar.

Because Jewish holidays are celebrated according to the lunar calendar, the date of Yom Kippur may fall in a range from September 14 to October 14 each year, always 10 days following the Jewish New Year holiday, Rosh Hashanah. This full 10-day period is known as the Jewish High Holy Days.

In 2024, Rosh Hashanah begins Wednesday, October 2 at sundown, and it concludes at nightfall on Friday, October 4. Yom Kippur begins at sunset on Friday, October 11 and ends at sundown on Saturday, October 12.

A core element of the Jewish religion is that there is a single God who created the universe, with whom every Jew can have an individual and personal relationship. On Yom Kippur, Jews are called upon to disconnect themselves as much as possible from the everyday activities of life in order to focus their hearts and minds on their personal connection to God.

Jewish holidays begin at sunset and end at sunset on the following day. How each individual spends Yom Kippur depends on how devout and observant they are and the traditions of their families or religious congregations. Many Jews gather at Jewish houses of worship, called synagogues. Even Jews who are not generally observant or rarely attend services throughout the year may make it a point to attend services on Yom Kippur or spend the day in some other reflective way that is respectful of the solemn nature of the holiday.

Observant Jews do not work at their jobs or at home on Yom Kippur. Many attend services at a synagogue the evening of Yom Kippur and again the entire following day. As signs of humility, many wear a prayer shawl and all white clothing (a symbol of purity) at services, and avoid wearing leather (historically, a symbol of luxury). Many Jews also abstain from eating, drinking, washing, using lotions or perfumes, and sexual relations as further ways to humble themselves, separate from the everyday, and focus on atonement.

According to Jewish tradition, God determines each person's fate for the coming year on Rosh Hashanah and seals it in the Book of Life 10 days later on Yom Kippur. During those 10 days, one's future hangs in the balance and an individual can turn it toward the positive by making amends and doing good acts. For this reason, the customary Hebrew greeting prior to Yom Kippur is "G'mar chatimah tovah" (pronounced gih-MAR chah-tee-MAH toe-VAH, with the "ch" at the start of "chatimah" like the end of the composer's name "Bach.") In English, this expresses "May you be sealed for good in the Book of Life."

As of 2020, the American Jewish population was estimated at 7.6 million people, or 2.2% of the US population. So, it's likely that you have at least a few Jewish employees, vendors, customers, neighbors and friends.

It's important to remember that throughout the ages, Jews have repeatedly been subjected to persecution, discrimination, and exclusion in societies worldwide, and that antisemitism (hostility or prejudice toward Jewish people) is still present in American society today. For this reason, it's especially important to ensure that people of all religions and religious backgrounds, including Judaism, are protected, acknowledged, welcomed, and included in your culture.



† Transforming Saints of God

Thursday, October 10th

Vida Dutton Scudder

Educator, 1954

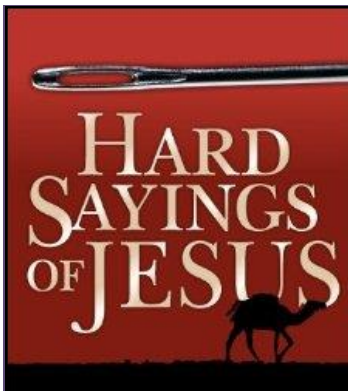
Vida Dutton Scudder exemplifies the marriage of contemplation and action within an engaged Christian spirituality. As a contemplative laywoman, Scudder was a champion for peace, social action, and women throughout her life.

Scudder was born on December 15, 1861, the child of Congregationalist missionaries in India. In the 1870s, Vida and her mother were prepared for confirmation in the Episcopal Church by Phillips Brooks, then Rector of Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston, and later Bishop of Massachusetts. After studying English literature at Smith College and Oxford University, Scudder began teaching at Wellesley College. Her love of scholarship was matched by her social conscience and deep spirituality. As a young woman, Scudder founded the College Settlements Association, joined the Society of Christian Socialists, and, in 1889, began a lifelong association with the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross, a community living in the world and devoted to intercessory prayer.

In 1893, Scudder took a leave of absence from Wellesley to work with Helena Stuart Dudley in founding Denison House in Boston, a “college settlement,” where wealthy college-educated women provided social services to poor immigrant neighbors, in conversation with the local parish priest. Stresses from teaching and her activism led to a breakdown in 1901. After two years’ recuperation in Italy, she returned renewed and became even more active in church and socialist groups; she started a group for Italian immigrants at Denison House and took an active part in

organizing the Women’s Trade Union League. In 1911, Scudder founded the Episcopal Church Socialist League, and formally joined the Socialist party. Her support of the Lawrence, Massachusetts, textile workers’ strike in 1912 drew a great deal of criticism and threatened her teaching position. Though she initially supported World War I, she joined the Fellowship of Reconciliation in 1923, and by the 1930s was a firm pacifist.

Throughout her life, Scudder’s primary relationships and support network were women. After retirement, she authored 16 books on religious and political subjects, combining her intense activism with an equally vibrant spirituality. “If prayer is the deep secret creative force that Jesus tells us it is, we should be very busy with it,” she wrote characteristically, adding that there was one sure way “of directly helping on the Kingdom of God. That way is prayer. Social intercession may be the mightiest force in the world.” Vida Scudder died on October 9, 1954.



† Transforming Stewardship

“It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

(Mark 10:25)

Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. But, we are all called to be generous with all our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts: our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in parish ministries and our treasure supporting our local parish and other charities.



Episcopal
Relief & Development
Working Together for Lasting Change

PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION

Please support hurricane relief efforts

On Thursday, September 26, Hurricane Helene made landfall in Florida's Big Bend region as a category 4 hurricane. The deadly storm moved north through Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina, spawning numerous tornadoes and catastrophic flooding. At the time of this writing, well over 100 people have died as a result of the mudslides, tornadoes, flooding and power outages caused by the storm. The storm has displaced thousands and many have left the area to find support and lodging.

Episcopal Relief & Development is in close contact with the affected dioceses as they assess their communities' needs. **Please pray for the people in the wake of Helene – and if you can, rush a donation to our Hurricane Relief Fund today.** Your contribution will meet urgent needs by providing critical supplies such as food, water and other basics, and will help provide long-term assistance as needed.

We provide emergency and long-term support for those who are impacted, wherever they are, so they can make full and sustained recoveries – as well as resources and training to help people prepare for the next disaster.



Episcopal Relief & Development partners with faith and community organizations to advance lasting change in communities affected by injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change. Inspired by our faith, we focus on four interconnected priorities: nurturing the potential of caregivers and young children, reducing violence against women and girls, strengthening communities' resilience to climate change and facilitating humanitarian response to disasters.

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT TO THE HURRICANE FUND TO ASSIST THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED

- \$50
 \$100
 \$250
 \$500
 \$1,000
 \$2,500
 \$5,000
 \$_____

I would like to donate by credit card. Please charge my gift to:

- VISA
 MasterCard
 AMEX
 Discover

NAME _____

CARD # _____ EXP. DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please make checks payable to:
Episcopal Relief & Development
Mail to: P.O. Box 3006
Harlan, IA 51593-0024

NAME OF CHURCH _____ CITY _____

All gifts are tax-deductible.
BI24-1



† The Underground New England

The Underground New England is a faith-based non-profit organization that exists to ending sex trafficking and sexual exploitation throughout in Connecticut and New England through awareness, prevention, and intentional survivor support.



NEW ENGLAND

Established by eight church leaders in August 2012, we have grown into a community which includes churches, businesses, survivor-leaders, stakeholders, and multiple organizations around the region. The Underground is a catalyst in unifying the church in the anti-trafficking movement.

From its inception, The Underground has believed in the power of community and collaboration with stakeholders. As we learn from and work with state agencies and front line workers, we develop initiatives to support the anti-trafficking movement. Ending human trafficking and sexual exploitation requires the efforts and voices of many, and we are committed to working with those agencies and individuals steadfastly involved in the abolition movement.

The Underground works throughout Connecticut building bridges between the CT Church, stakeholders, organizations, survivor leaders, legislation, schools, government, and allies. As we continue to expand into other New England states, our focus remains the

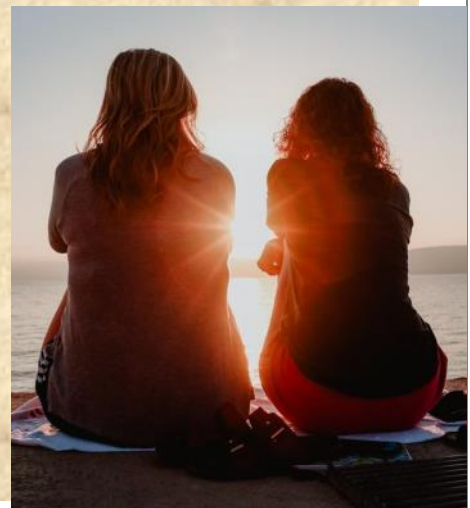


same: to bring awareness of human trafficking to communities; provide prevention resources to front-line workers; provide direct support to youth and adult survivors and inform and equip allies in the anti-trafficking movement. Entering our 11th year, we have expanded our services to include the **UGNE Mentor Program**. This program is a survivor-ally partnership model and will support adult survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation as they seek to live independently within the community. The Underground has 15 people in our program and 15 people on a waitlist to be enrolled for the Adult Mentor Program. We have launched an End the Wait

Campaign, to facilitate our ability to provide services for those on our waitlist. We have hired two new mentors that are full-time and are in the process of hiring a third.

The Adult Mentor Program is the only program in CT that provides adult women and men with comprehensive, long-term services, providing case management in addition to mentoring. This met a significant need for adult case management and ensured clients' physical needs are met. In addition small groups are facilitated by mentors that support clients in breaking down old trafficking narratives and building new patterns of thinking and living. These groups combat the high rate of recidivism among adult victims of trafficking. The main barrier to intaking new clients is cost. We estimate that it costs a minimum of \$1000/month to take a client through AMP's unique and comprehensive programming.

Here is a [link](#) to our website that gives more information on the End the Wait program and an upcoming fundraiser we are doing....a Clean Comedy Night!!



An Autumn Retreat
**Embodied
Strength**

**An Experiential Interlude
to Lift & Energize
Heart-minded Women.**

**Facilitated by Sheryl Fatse
with Kristie Giannetto**

November 1,2,3

(Fri 4pm- Sun 12pm)

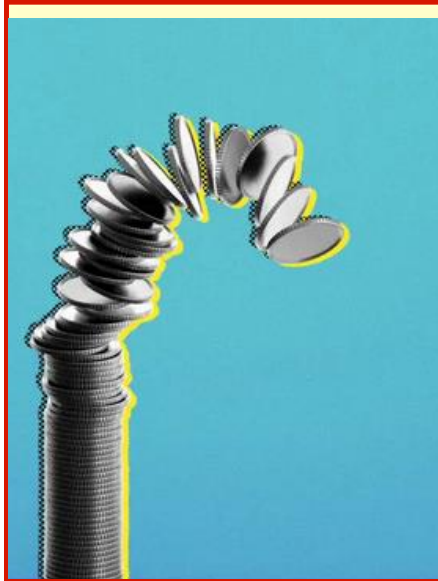
Camp Washington, Lakeside Ct



**Scan code for details
& Register here!**



As part of our outreach, St. Paul's donates gift cards and non-perishable items to six area food pantries. The non-perishable items are provided by our generous congregation and are truly appreciated. Donations for the food pantry can be left in the basket at the back of the church. Delivery is made to one food pantry each month. Thank you.



† Wealth As An Obstacle To Heaven

Prior to the second century before Christ, there was no wide-spread belief in an afterlife among the Jewish people. They did believe that God rewarded the good and punished the wicked. They thought that such things were done on earth. Hence, if you were healthy, wealthy and beautiful, you were considered to be blessed by God.

Jesus states that riches can hinder entry into God's Kingdom. The apostles are astounded because this runs contrary to their orthodox belief. Christ teaches that materialism can blind people to the virtues of love necessary for salvation. Basically, he says that no one can BUY heaven.

† God Was Willing to Enter the Bushes in Which We Hide Hebrews 4:12-16

It is more than a little frightening to know that we are laid naked and bare to the eyes of the One who can judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And even more so since it is to that One that we will have to render an account. Shortly after the beginning the first humans hid in the bushes because they heard the sound of God walking in the garden and they were naked and ashamed and afraid. We hide behind bushes of our own design hoping that no one will notice our nakedness and while we are pretty good at disguising our dysfunction from ourselves and one another there is no hiding from God. But then the One who is just is also the One who justifies (Romans 3:28) and was himself stripped naked and nailed to wood so as to be fully sympathetic to the weakness of human flesh. Therefore, we have no fear of and no need to hide from the One who invites us to approach the throne of grace with confidence - not because we are worthy but because God was willing to enter the bushes in which we hide.



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

1M any have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled[a] among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. 3 With this in mind, since I myself have carefully

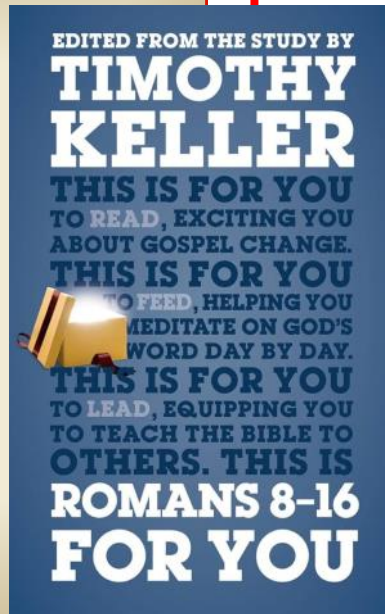
Our Men began a new weekly study on Monday nights. This time they're dissecting the Gospel of Luke. Join them each Monday night at 7 pm in Crocker Hall. All the studies are available live on YouTube.

† Ladies Evening Bible Zoom Study

All women and their friends are invited to a new zoom study - St. Paul's letter to the Romans - Chapter 8!

We have decided to focus our attention on chapter 8 this Fall and will be using a study guide by Timothy Keller, called *Romans 8-16 For You*. (Just pages 7-55 on Chapter 8.) In his introduction, Timothy Keller, a renowned Bible scholar and teacher tells us "The book of Romans is the most sustained explanation of the heart of the gospel, and the most thrilling exploration of how that gospel goes to work in our hearts....(it teaches us) how does faith in the gospel of Christ actually lead to change in real life?" (p7)

Join us this Fall on Wednesday nights 7-8:00 by Zoom, beginning September 18th to ask your questions and enjoy fellowship with other Christian women as we share our experiences with each other from the comfort of our own homes. If you have time, please prayerfully read Romans chapter 8 ahead, and note your questions. If you wish you can buy the study guide [here](#). Any questions or to get on the zoom link email, contact Carol Wheeler at 203-525-0011 or cmeadwheeler@hotmail.com.

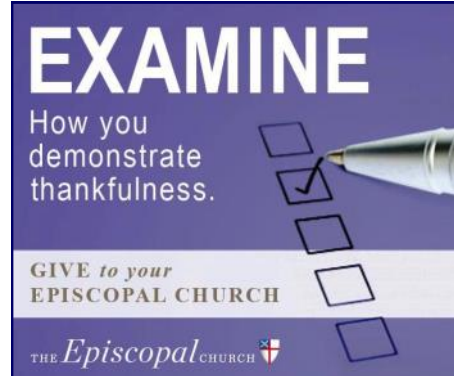


Name Tags - Remember how awkward you felt when you first came to St. Paul's because you didn't know anyone or when you visit a different church? Name tags help. So, please be courteous to your fellow parishioners, to newcomers, Fr. Nate and guests by extending a warm welcome to them and by wearing your name tag. And remember to wear them to coffee hour as well.



† Our Daily Bread

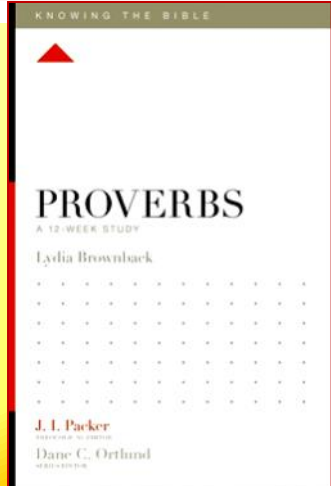
Our Daily Bread for September, October and November 2024 is now available for free on the table in the back of the church. *Our Daily Bread* contains a scripture verse and meditation for each day. It is also available online at <https://odb.org/>. Phone apps are available as well



† Ladies Tuesday Morning Bible Study

The Women's Tuesday morning Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11 am in the Guild Room. They are currently studying Proverbs to discuss and uncover the foundation of wisdom, mark out the paths that make us wise, and points us to the ultimate source of all true understanding: Jesus Christ

All are welcome to join in person or through Zoom. The link is available on our website, or contact Mary Beth Durkin durkin.mb@gmail.com for the Zoom link and further information.



† Wednesday Service Growing in Popularity

Our mid-week Wednesday morning 10 am Holy Eucharist with healing prayer has been growing consistently. With live music and a brief homily, this service is just what you need to sustain you through the week. Come join us and check it out or watch on YouTube Live.



† Praying for the 1/3 of our world that are still unreached with the Gospel.

Gaaliin

Country: Sudan | Population: 3,945,000 | Language: Arabic | Main Religion: Islam | Evangelical: 0.80%

Like many other Sudanese people groups, the Gaaliin follow the Islamic faith and are generally very committed Sunni Muslims. The Gaaliin consider themselves to be direct descendants of the prophet Mohammed. They live in small villages and cities along the banks of the Nile River. The area is very hot and dry, with an average yearly rainfall of about three inches. They are easily recognized by their facial scars, many of which are in the form of a T or H. The scars are a sign of tribal pride and are even more common on women than on men, for they are considered a sign of beauty. Pray for the Gaaliin to recognize the true beauty of Christ and accept His love.





TAYLOR LEONHARDT

Nov. 9, 2024 | 7:00 P.M.

Tickets \$20

www.communitycoffeehouse.org



Community Coffeehouse | 7 Madison Ave. | Danbury, CT 06810 | (203) 748-4972

† **St. Paul's Mission Committee**
Annual Request for Budget Line Items for Year 2025

"If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and if one of you says to them, go in peace, be warmed and be filled, and yet do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself." James 2:15-17

Saint Paul's Mission Committee serves the entire parish as a focal point for our mission work. We prepare an annual budget for Vestry approval. Items in this budget come from you, our parishioners! This is your opportunity to enhance your personal or family missions with the prayer, talents, and financial support of the entire parish!

As a sponsor of your Christian based organization, you are annually asked to complete the form at the end of this article. Additionally, you are expected to submit a "Sword Points" article. This is your opportunity to "put a face" on what we, as a Parish, are supporting.

We invite your active participation in this budgeting process as well as your involvement with St. Paul's Mission Committee. We meet first Thursday, monthly 7:00 in the Guild Room.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact a member of the Mission Committee: Dan Bacon, George Blass, Angela Haselwood, Lois Hunt, Joyce Sarver, Bill Schrull, Ron Switzer, Bonnie Wanzer, or Don Winkley.



Mission Organization: _____
 Persons requesting prayer, physical or financial support _____

Our task is to sponsor those missions that are:

- ***Christ Centered***
- ***Meet the basic needs of our neighbors***
- ***Have a strong base of existing personal support by the individual making this submission.***

Briefly describe the purpose or scope of the mission or organization:

Is it Christian based, to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ?

To what extent do you recommend St Paul's should offer support?

Prayer Needs: _____

Financial Support: \$ _____

Physical Assistance: _____

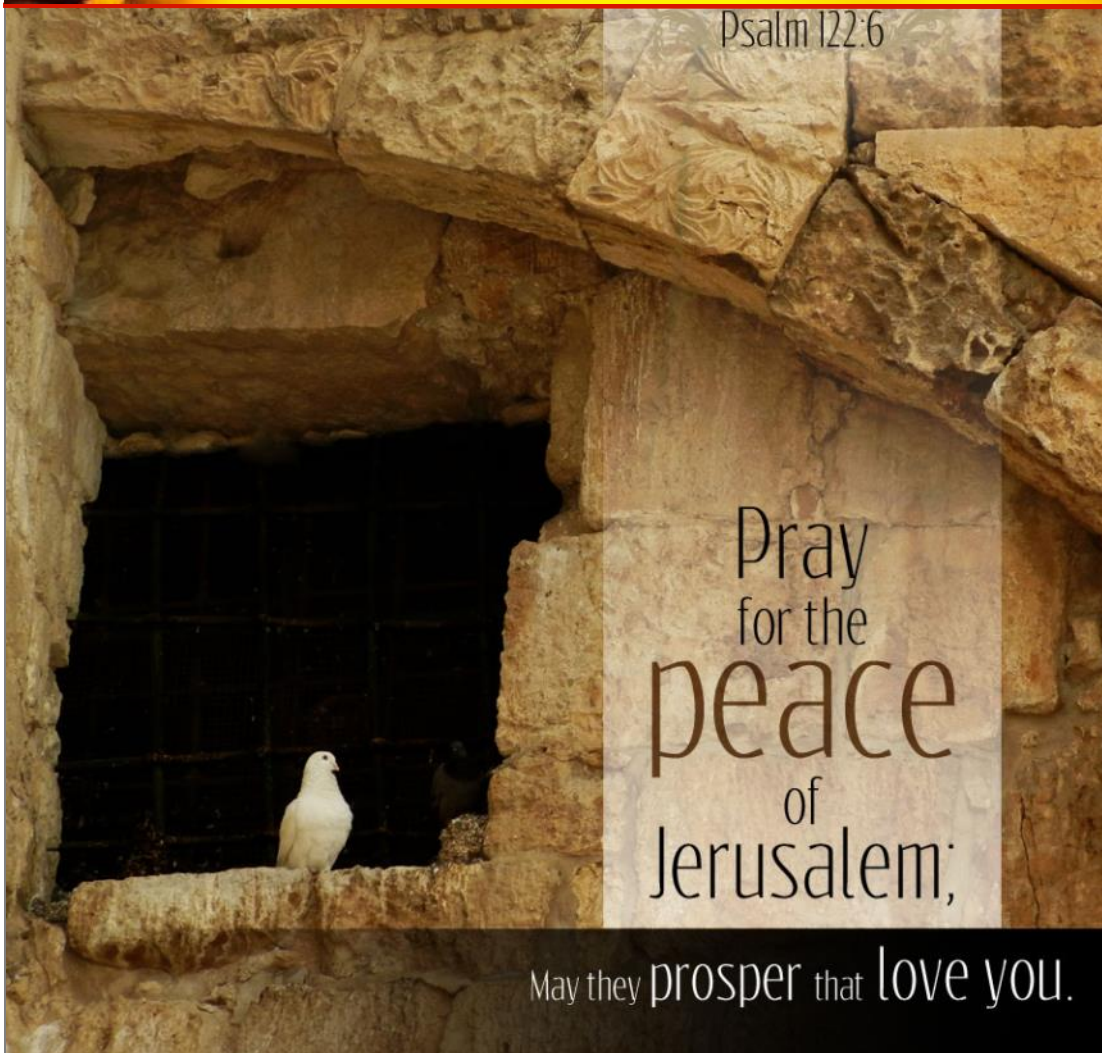
Any other pertinent information for committee consideration.

Kindly return this form to the Mission Committee by October 27, 2024.



Let us then approach God's throne
of grace with confidence, so that
we may receive mercy and find grace
to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16



Psalms 122:6

Pray
for the
peace
of
Jerusalem;

May they prosper that love you.



Website Links - Usher, acolyte, lector, intercessor, and lay reader schedules are published monthly on our website at [saintpaulbrookfield.com / parish ministries / acolytes-lay-readers-lectors-intercessors / downloads](http://saintpaulbrookfield.com/parish-ministries/acolytes-lay-readers-lectors-intercessors/downloads). Our parish member directory is posted on our website at [saintpaulbrookfield.com / about / member directory / downloads](http://saintpaulbrookfield.com/about/member-directory/downloads).

† **Sunday School Info!**

ATTN: PARENTS OF ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS:

Sunday School classes have resumed. Bring your students to the classrooms by 10:30. Children will be returned to the sanctuary in time for Communion.



† **“Open Table” Coffee Hour**

We are adding something new to our Coffee Hour Ministry! Occasionally, you will see OPEN TABLE written in one of the Coffee Hour slots. This means that anyone from Saint Paul's is invited to feel free to leave a food item on the table in Crocker Hall as a donation to that particular Coffee Hour. That's it!! Just something different occasionally and nothing else to do! We look forward to your participation and donation on that particular designated Sunday. Thanks all!
Mary Allen, Coffee Hour Coordinator, 203-775-6633 or chamla@charter.net.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Oct 13th 8 am - Polly Sorrentino | 10:30 am - Simon's |
| Oct 20th 8 am - MacMillan/Maier | 10:30 am - Monique Gordon |
| Oct 27th 8 am - Durkin's | 10:30 am - Kronberg's |



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Contact Mary Allen at 203-775-6633 or chamla@charter.net.



† This Sunday's Readings

(Click on the red links for the readings)

[Job 23:1-9, 16-17](#)

In the continuing saga the much-besieged Job longs for a divine court from which he might seek redress and justice. He casts about on every side for God, but is met with a devastating absence of God's presence. Though this reflection comes as a response to Job's accusatory "friend" Eliphaz, it is in the nature of an interior monologue as his distress mounts and he is subjected to a pervading sense of isolation. Job believes in God's justice, but is so bereft of any signs of its dawning that he thinks he would prefer entire darkness.

[Psalm 22:1-15](#)

A psalm of lamentation and a plea for deliverance by one who feels deserted and pressed in on every side.

[Hebrews 4:12-16](#)

The reading reminds us that the Lord's word is active, probing the human heart and all creation, while we can yet boldly approach God's throne because Jesus, our great high priest, has known our weaknesses and temptations. The first statement is a warning; God's word, which God has spoken at the creation, through the scriptures, and personally in Jesus, is everywhere and makes judgment. But we now have a heavenly high priest, our brother, who knows all about our life, and helps us to find God's mercy. The insistence that Jesus was without sin relies not on extensive knowledge of what he did not do, but on the memory of his positive dedication to God's will.

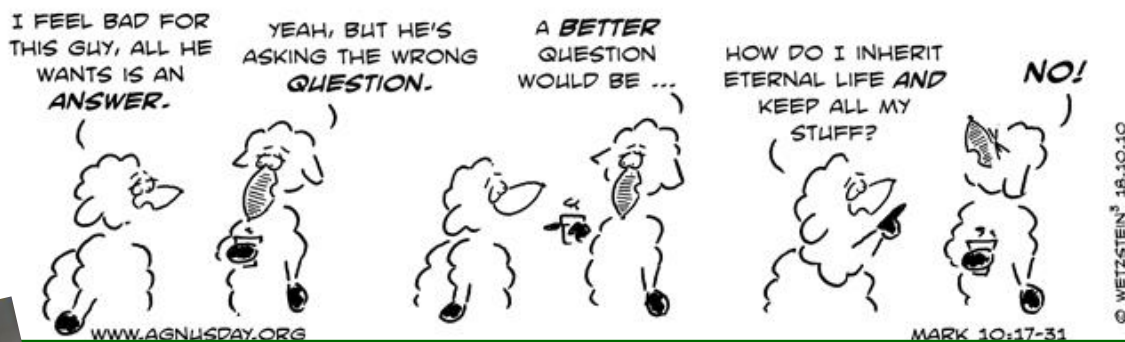
[Mark 10:17-31](#)

In the gospel Jesus counsels a man to sell all for the benefit of the poor and follow him, and he then teaches how hard it is for those with riches to enter the kingdom. Disciples who now surrender much will receive back all manner of new relationships in the age to come. Jesus first refuses to let himself be called *good* since that description belongs to God alone. He then finds that the man has tried to live out his duties toward his neighbors in response to divine love. But the decision for discipleship must go

beyond this. If the heart is divided by desires for worldly security, there is no way one can enter into the kingdom's loving justice. Yet by the power of God people can be converted and saved.

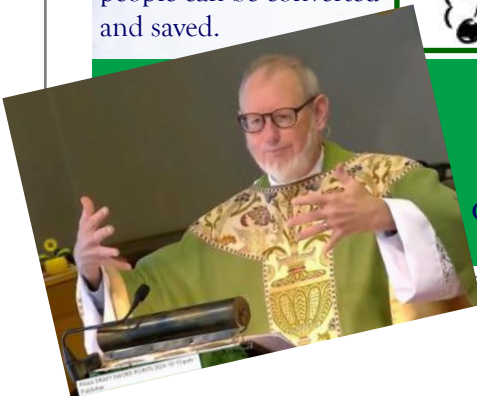
Mark 10:17-31

The only way to INHERIT eternal life is to be the eldest son of the one who owns eternal life. Everyone else can only receive eternal life as a freely given gift from the owner.



† Sermon Shorts

"Job & Jesus" To replay all our sermons, audio and videos follow this link for the [Sunday Sermons](#). Check out our [Sermon Archives](#) as well.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Jack Collins & Mill Reynolds blow out candles on today. Jim Castronova, Walter Von Egidy & Joshua Yurisin open presents Saturday. Caroline & Rachel O'Hara celebrate on Monday. Bake a cake for Jennifer Friedly on Wednesday. Have a blessed day everyone!



Presents

COFFEE WITH JESUS

Echo Chambers



Lord, I ask for grace today to put myself into other people's shoes - and not get angry with people who do things that offend or annoy me.

This will require some effort on your part, Carl.

Can you stay away from your usual echo chambers today?



You mean like my morning news, Facebook, my favorite websites, afternoon radio, Twitter and late night TV?

And you're asking for a miracle, Carl.

You're asking a lot, Jesus.

I'm showing you how it can happen.

©Radio Free Babylon® All rights reserved. The media, traditional and social, has ruined discourse. Our "dialog" is a cesspool of anonymous accusation, innuendo and vile filth masquerading as "news." (This site is an exception, where generally the atmosphere is positive.) Tune into your favorites today. Are they informing you, or are they calling you to rise up against a perceived enemy? They want us divided. By race, gender, party, right down to the smallest divisions within our shared faith.

† Your Prayers Are Requested For...

It is such an intimate time when praying for the health and well being of others and such a privilege. Christ challenges our comforts and complacencies. Let us turn to him in our need, asking for God's intervention in our world, as we pray those in need:

.....**Harlan Jessup, Jan Brochu, Ed Licence**, and other parishioners convalescing in extended care facilities.

.....St. John's, Vernon; St. Paul's, Wallingford; St. John's, Washington.

.....Revival at St. Paul's and the greater Danbury area.

.....Young adults, young adult ministries and networks. The Episcopal Service Corps and Young Adult Service Corps of The Episcopal Church.

.....For the Peace of Jerusalem. - *Psalm 122:6*

.....**Clayton Ferry, Barbara Hock, Jim Megura, Peter Scalzo, Sr., Peter Scalzo, Jr., Gail, Doris, Karen, Beverly Hall, Robert, Roger, Fred, Cynthia, Valerie, Heidi Pinheiro, Donna Cennamo, Dale Mitchell, Larry, Ruth, Carol Gurski, Rob Duckett, Kaylah & Micah O'Connors, Nick Marcalus, Elana and Veronika** continued healing.

.....the people of [Ukraine](#); the people of the [State of Libya](#); the people of [Navassa Island](#); the bishop, clergy and laity of the [Diocese of Kaduna](#) - The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); and our sister and brother members of the [The Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa](#).

.....For freedom from attachments: that God will give us the courage to live with less and embrace our families, our community members, and the gift of each day more fully.

.....[New Milford Loaves & Fishes Hospitality House](#), which is the recipient of our food basket collections during the month of October.

.....[Fairfield County Bank](#), a marketplace supporter of the Jericho Partnership.

.....Our missionaries, Will & Becky McLaughlin and their family, and their ministry in Cambodia; and for all missionaries: that God will inspire the message that they offer, help them to recognize how they can best serve their communities, and sustain them in times of loneliness.

.....[Local Government](#).

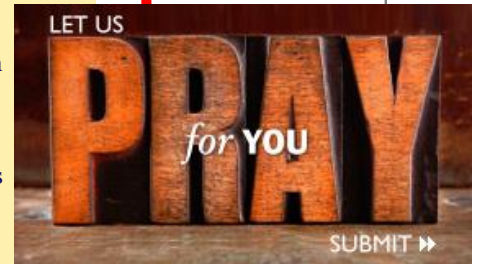
.....That we are generous with all our gifts, especially those that mean the most to us.

.....For the one third of humanity that does not have access to the gospel, for zealous preachers of the word, that by the Holy Spirit, they that they would become strong in their faith, grow in numbers and be a light to those around them.

.....For the people whose lives have been devastated by Hurricane Helene. Bring them comfort, protect the vulnerable, strengthen the weak, keep at bay the spread of disease, have mercy on all those working to rebuild. And may our response to their suffering be generous and bring you praise.

.....For the victims of war, conflict, and violence throughout the world, that they might encounter justice and peace, participating in the reign of God.

.....[Peace Among the Nations](#).



† Modern Day Rich Young Ruler

The Biblical story of the Rich Young Ruler and put it in present form to compliment our Gospel reading this Sunday.



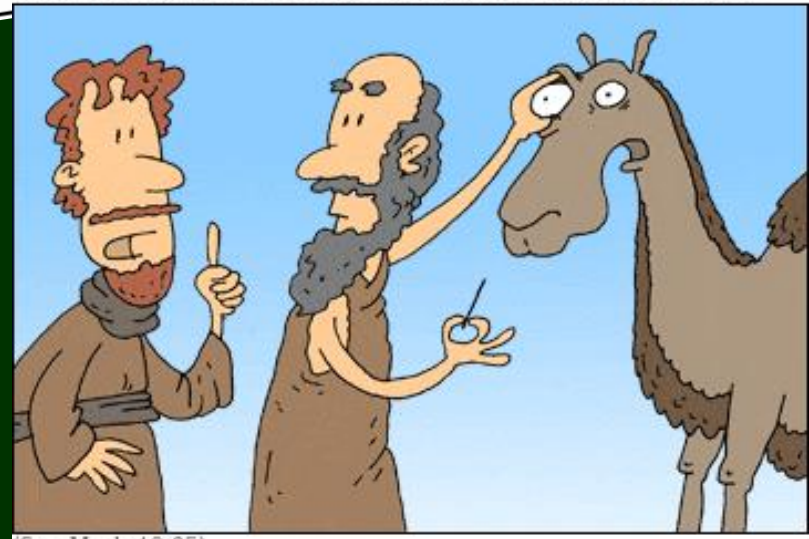
Just For the Joy of It!

(And Christian Fellowship)



Random Fact of the Week!
Did you know ... that the world's oldest wooden wheel, the [Liubljana Marshes Wheel](#), has been around for more than 5,000 years?

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(See Mark 10:25)
BEFORE YOU TRY, I SHOULD LET YOU KNOW THAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A CAMEL THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE

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Ecclesiasticus 43:27 - We could say more but could never say enough; let the final word be: 'He is the all.' - 30 -