



# The Messenger

March 2016

## *From the Resident Priest...*

It's not at all unusual for us to be surrounded by *drama*.  
Admittedly, much of it we create ourselves –  
Maybe because we thrive on action and deplore boredom.  
Or perhaps it's because the natural attraction of self-centeredness  
Senses that commotion brings the spotlight of attention.  
Most likely, it's because most all the kinds of human behavior and feeling –  
Such as excitement, emotion, empathy, discourse, competition, negotiation  
And many other similar things – are perfect fuels for *drama*.

Often we think of drama as being chaotic, and for sure, often it is.  
But not always, of course.  
Sometimes it is mysterious – or poignant –  
Or even earth shaking and quite necessary.  
And sometimes, thank goodness, it's not *man-made*.

God has a flair for *drama*, that's for sure.  
One doesn't have to read far into the first of the two Testaments to see that.  
And already by the time it gets to the story of Abraham and his descendants,  
We're way ahead of anything Hollywood can produce,  
Cecil B. DeMille not-with-standing.  
It's quite accurate to say that no human could even imagine some of that *stuff*.

Now what matters here is that God's drama has a recognizable and specific purpose.  
It is designed, every page of it, every act,  
To convey the message that God **loves, cares about**, and is **always involved** in  
The Creation that was made, especially the people in it!  
The Germans call it *Heilsgeschichte*. (I just love the sound of that word.)  
It means "Salvation History." **That's** the Bible's story.  
And it is ***the drama of all dramas!***

It's time once again to remember the great crescendo of the grand saga,  
The events in the final days of the earthly life of Jesus Christ.  
In just a few days we'll re-visit the final and triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.  
That intentionally *dramatic* moment in time set the stage  
For events that would literally re-define history, extending it beyond time  
Through the portals of eternity.  
Jesus, Son of God, Messiah, Savior – in mere human form –  
Came to an executioner's cross. He was humiliated, taunted, tortured and killed.  
He was buried in a stone cold tomb, sealed away from life and hope,  
***Only to be raised from the dead on the glorious Easter Day***  
In order to bring his own **new life** to the People of God.

Not only is there no greater drama than that,  
But also there is simply no more important one!

**May Easter's Joy be yours!**

*Fred*

## Holy Week and Easter at All Saints'



### *Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday*

Sunday, March 20, 2016

8 am and 11 am

The week begins with the dramatic and redemptive entry of Jesus into the holy city of Jerusalem. Welcomed there by a crowd of people who greet him with enthusiasm only to be overcome with disappointment because their hopes for a *conquering hero* are not in line with what Jesus intends and who Jesus really is. This event begins the very important and meaningful last days of Jesus' life and ministry. It all ends in the most surprising and unexpected ways.

At All Saints' we'll begin worship at **8:00 and 11:00 A.M.** with the blessing and distribution of the palms, and we'll hear the reading of the Passion of Jesus as recorded by Saint Luke. Both services will include the Holy Eucharist.

### *Maundy Thursday*

Thursday, March 24, 2016

7 pm

This day in the Church's historic Liturgy reminds us of Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper (The Holy Eucharist, The Holy Communion). At All Saints we'll mark the day with Eucharist at **7:00 P.M.** As we gather around the Table we'll recall Jesus' last meeting with his disciples, the time when he gave to them the assurance of his forgiveness and grace by passing the Bread and wine of the meal and assuring them of his continued presence in the *body and blood* that he gave to and for them. These promises are made also to us as we are fed by that same bread and wine. The liturgical name of the day (*Maundy Thursday*) comes from Jesus' command to his followers to repeat the meal (the word for command is *mandatum*), The word Eucharist means *thanksgiving*. The evening concludes by stripping the Altar.



#### **Lenten Lunch at Noon Continues**

March 2	First UMC	The Rev. Lynn Benson, Preacher
March 9	Stanley White PC	The Rev. Anna Anderson, Preacher
March 16	Rosemary Baptist	The Rev. Josh Bowen, Preacher



***Good Friday***  
***Friday, March 25, 2016***  
**7 pm**

**HOT CROSS BUNS**  
Good Friday at noon  
If you would like to participate,  
please bring 2 large bowls and

This *darkest day in history* recalls the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is impossible to imagine a more ignominious event. The story is told collectively by the Evangelists. Each of the four report the events of the day with slightly different details and words spoken by Jesus. But in all versions it is clear that the treachery is sparked by human behavior at its absolute worst. The scene reported includes the literal darkness that engulfed the world at the very time of Jesus' death.

Worship at All Saints will be at **7:00 P.M.** The liturgy being used is named **Tenebrae**. That's from a Latin word meaning "shadows" or "darkness." It is a series of readings from the Passion according to Saint John. The drama is portrayed by the gradual onset of darkness as candles are extinguished. The hope of Easter is seen at worship's end by the recitation of the Apostles' Creed and departure in silence.

***Easter Day, The Resurrection of our Lord***  
**Sunday, March 27, 2016**  
**8 am & 11 am**



The day of resurrection is a celebration of the triumph of Jesus over the power of sin and death itself. Having begun in uncertainty and sorrow, the plan to anoint the body of Jesus was met surprisingly by an open and empty tomb. It is hardly a surprise to us because we've heard the incredible story so often before. But even then, it strikes us with such power and promise that we experience surprising joy each time we celebrate it. This is the ultimate expression of the *good news, the Gospel*, that Jesus proclaims and the Church professes.

Worship at All Saints is in the Festival Holy Eucharist at **8:00 and 11:00 A.M.** It will include the lighting of the Paschal Candle, glorious Easter hymns, and the Lord's Supper.

And it brings the mood of worshipers full circle from the almost raucous tone at the triumphal entry through the disappointment and grief of crucifixion to the unequalled joy of Resurrection. Clearly that is achieved as worshipers experience the entire spectrum of those emotions through the whole week.

## Hymn Notes

In the mid 1980's, in anticipation of a merger of four Lutheran Church bodies in America, a young contemporary church musician was employed to write original compositions to be resources for the "new" church. That composer was John Ylvisaker. He had already begun to write a special song to be part of a video for a significant educational program on Baptism called "Reflections." When the publishers met to join the footage with the music it was decided that the "dance-like" beat and fast rhythm of the song submitted did not really match the gentle scenes of the film. They loved the lyrics which were completely on target, but the music was not. So John left the studio that day with these instructions: "Take it home and personalize it."

What a most difficult task that is for any composer to tackle – to change a completed work into something else. However, the original the music was re-written and the new melody gave "gave birth" to ***I was there to hear your borning cry***. That hymn (which we'll sing at All Saints' as we celebrate Baptism on the first Sunday of this month) is now included in songbooks and hymnals around the world. (Incidentally – the the first version of the music for "Borning Cry" later became "I will dance with Jesus.")

John Carl Ylvisaker is probably best known for this song, "I was there to hear your borning Cry". He was born in Moorhead, Minnesota and is a graduate of Concordia College located there. For more than 50 years John's words and music have been a powerful influence on the development of new worship materials for the whole church, with his compositions have appeared in hundreds of worship resources. He is renowned for his paraphrase of biblical texts and theological astuteness, as well as his ability to recognize or write tunes people in the pew can readily sing.

In addition to being an artist and composer, John's past experience includes teaching high school music, and directing church choirs. John also has composed much of the original music for a long standing radio series called Lutheran Vespers. He has composed music for many videos, as well as theme songs for gatherings and events.

John has inspired audiences with his live performances and worship leadership at the many assemblies, conferences, and gatherings where he has appeared. Currently he is involved in producing recordings of his work. His copyrights cover more than 1,000 songs.



Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony No. 5 in C#m, 1st movement

# Easter Lily Sale to Support Handbell Program Expansion



As many of you know, it is a tradition at All Saints' Church to adorn the altar and sanctuary with Easter Lilies for our Easter Services. This year, when you purchase a lily to help beautify our church, you will also support our Handbell Program. The Handbell Program, under the direction of Danita Barnes, is anxious to expand. Proceeds from the lily sale will go toward the purchase of new bell equipment.

The lilies will be sold for \$15.00 apiece (same price as last year), and must be ordered in advance by **Monday, March 21**. If you would like to purchase one or more of the flowers, please complete the form and mail it, along with your check, to the Parish Office by **Monday, March 21**. Thank you in advance for your support of the Handbell Program and the beautification of the church. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Danita or any member of the Handbell Choir.

## LILY PURCHASE FORM

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM, ALONG WITH A CHECK, TO THE PARISH OFFICE BY MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016  
635 Hamilton Street, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) giving the Lily.

I will purchase \_\_\_\_\_ lily(s) for \$15.00 each.

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this section for publication in the service bulletins:

This lily is given to the glory of God and in memory of, in honor of, and/or in thanksgiving for.

**in memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

Print the name of the person (s) you are remembering.

**in honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

Print the name of the person (s) you are honoring.

**in thanksgiving for:** \_\_\_\_\_

Print the person's name or event for which you are offering thanksgiving.

## Scripture Readings and Server Schedule

### March 6—The Fourth Sunday in Lent

**8 am Chalice & Lay Reader:** Julian Gardner  
**8 am Lector:** Inez Gardner  
**11 am Chalice:** Patricia Barnes  
**11 am Lay Reader:** Scott Barber  
**11 am Lector:** Tom Wellman  
**Altar Greens:** Liz Thiele

**Joshua 5:9-12** By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the Promised Land instead of manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

**Psalms 32** Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord.

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21** The gospel promises that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the Corinthian Church.

**Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32** Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it.

### March 13 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

**8 am Chalice & Lay Reader:** Joanne Parrott  
**8 am Lector:** Ginny Orvedahl  
**11 am Chalice & Layreader** Gaynell Jennings  
**11 am Lector:** Jack Barber  
**Greens:** Kathy Mitchell

**Isaiah 43:16-21** Isaiah declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, a new exodus.

**Psalms 126** Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**Philippians 3:4b-14** Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But it is the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus.

**John 12:1-8** Judas misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

### March 20—Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday

**8 am Chalice & Lay Reader:** Robbie Stewart  
**8 am Lector:** Sally Hardison  
**11 am Chalice:** Richard Thiele  
**11 am Lay Reader:** Patricia Barnes  
**11 am Lector:** Carl Burke  
**Palms:** Pierce, Coburn and Jarman

**Isaiah 50:4-9a** The third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah speaks of the servant's obedience in the midst of persecution. Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.

**Psalms 31:9-16** Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**Philippians 2:5-11** Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

**Luke 22:14--23:56** The Passion of Jesus by Saint Luke.

### March 24—Maundy Thursday

#### 7 pm Holy Eucharist

**Chalice & Lay Reader:** Gaynell Jennings  
**Lector:** Tom Mastroianni

### March 25—Good Friday

#### Tenebrae Service 7 pm

### March 27 - Easter Sunday

**8 am Chalice & Lay Reader:** Julian Gardner  
**8 am Lector:** Inez Gardner  
**11 am Chalice:** Patricia Barnes  
**11 am Lay Reader:** Chris Lehman  
**11 am Lector:** Mary Burke  
**Flowers:** June Whitaker

**Acts 10:34-43** Peter's sermon sums up the essential message of Christianity. Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness.

**Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24** This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**1 Corinthians 15:19-26** The resurrection, the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death, celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

**Luke 24:1-12** Some of Jesus' women followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After an encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the news of resurrection.

### The Ushers for March

Tom Wellman and Chris Canady

### April 3 - Second Sunday of Easter

**8 am Chalice & Lay Reader:** Joanne Parrott  
**8 am Lector:** Ginny Orvedahl  
**11 am Chalice:** Richard Thiele  
**11 am Lay Reader:** Scott Barber  
**11 am Lector:** Miles Gregory  
**Flowers:**

**Acts 5:27-32** Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' resurrection. His response to the charges summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

**Psalms 118:14-29** You are my God, and I will exalt you.

**Revelation 1:4-8** Revelation recounts a vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

**John 20:19-31** Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

### The Ushers for April

Mike Scott and Scott Harris

## ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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### *The Messenger*

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Please submit articles to Vickie Irby  
via email [allsaintsrr@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsrr@gmail.com)  
Deadline for the April Messenger is  
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Publications can be found on our  
website at [www.allsaintsrr.org](http://www.allsaintsrr.org)  
Webmaster: Gail Eichner

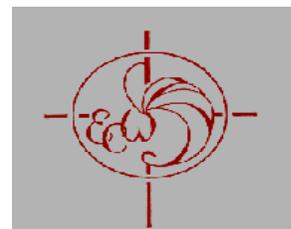
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## OUTREACH

Members of All Saints' have two great outreach giving opportunities during the month of March. The First Sunday - March 6 - always goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. On Sunday, March 13, the loose offering will be given to the Union Mission. The Union Mission continues to serve those in need, but their donations have decreased. The Outreach Committee has decided that the loose offering from the second Sunday of each month for the next several months will go to the Union Mission to assist them with their operating costs. The third Sunday, March 20, the loose offering will go to the Episcopal Relief and Development U.S. Disaster Program. This program coordinates with diocesan and congregation leadership in areas in this country that have been affected by disasters. Technical resources, financial assistance and volunteers may be provided depending on the situation. Thank you All Saints' for your generosity and caring.

## Rocky Mount Convocation ECW Spring Meeting



Saturday, April 16, 2016  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
202 North Goldsboro Street  
Wilson, NC

Registration deadline is April 4, 2016  
Forms are in the office.