



Week of January 17—January 23, 2021

## **CASTING OUR NET**

### **ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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You may give online by visiting our website or by texting SSNH to 73256 (REALM)

Dear St. Stephen's Community,

I write this letter on Martin Luther King Day, for me a day of reflection on what we have accomplished as a nation of diverse people and what we have yet to do. I do hope that you are able to take me up on my sermon "dare" sometime this week to read and reflect on Martin Luther King's writings and theology. The chapter I chose out of Strength to Love focused on the Good Samaritan. I was truly astonished and moved by his eloquent writing. You can read a chapter for free at one of these two websites: <https://openlibrary.org/> and <https://archive.org/>

Another opportunity to reflect and process these issues is being offered by the Diocese of Indianapolis via Zoom. It is called Sacred Ground. Sacred Ground is a film-and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 11-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of the Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people about these most important issues. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.

**Sacred Ground will be offered, in Zoom format and diocesan-wide, beginning Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm.** Mariann Scott and Deacon Cathy Scott will be the co-facilitators of this series. This is a powerful educational experience that will benefit all who invest their time and heart! And...there is no charge for participating! Please contact Deacon Cathy at [catascot@sbcglobal.net](mailto:catascot@sbcglobal.net) for questions. Register with Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacred-ground-discussion-series-thursday-tickets-136849333039>

As we get ready for the inauguration day, I offer you some opportunities to pray for our nation as well.

Washington National Cathedral is expected to host an inaugural prayer service on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> that is traditional. While previous presidential inaugurations have included packed, festive services at the cathedral, the format – like the rest of the inaugural events – is expected to be scaled back and include virtual elements. More details will be available in the coming days at [cathedral.org](http://cathedral.org).

The inaugural prayer services highlight the role that people of faith play in a democratic society, and Episcopalians have many opportunities to continue reflecting and acting on that responsibility in the coming days and weeks, said the Rev. Charles



St. Stephen's Annual Meeting 2021 through ZOOM - Screenshot

Robertson, canon to the presiding bishop for ministry beyond The Episcopal Church.

“From the beginnings of our country, while we have had a separation of church and state, faith communities have been integral in working with governments on any number of projects and programs,” Robertson told Episcopal News Service. “And the Episcopal Church in particular, from the start, has taken seriously our responsibility to do what we can. And never is that more important than in a time of transition.”

Washington National Cathedral and its interfaith partners will continue to offer daily prayers for the country until Inauguration Day, livestreamed at 5 p.m. [on its YouTube channel](#).

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank all who showed up and participated in our Annual Meeting yesterday. We had eighteen people and some very thoughtful discussion about the state of our congregation. A budget was approved and a new vestry member was elected. We discussed a suitable memorial for Gwen Hines and you will hear more about that in the months to come. The vestry met after the Annual Meeting and elected officers. Congratulations to Liz Mumford, Senior Warden; Wayne Hall, Junior Warden; Peggy Meyer, Clerk; and Linda Warrum, Treasurer. Please keep these people in your prayers as we move forward in mission and ministry.

God's peace,

*Beth+*

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE – JANUARY 2021**

DATE	LEADERS / EVENT	Lector	Intercessor	FACEBOOK Greeter	Zoom Service Coordinator	ZOOM COFFEE HOUR TIME HOST
Jan 24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	Service of the Word with Dr. Beth via Zoom and Facebook Live	Liz	Bish	Hope	Mumfords - Jacob as co-host sending to Live Stream	Mike
Jan 31 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	Morning Prayer with Mumfords via Zoom and Facebook Live	Hope	Richard	Mike	Mike - Jacob as co-host sending to Live Stream	Ken and Peggy

*January 24, 2021*

*Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

*Psalms 62:6-14*

*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

*Mark 1:14-20*

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

*January 31, 2021*

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

*Psalms 111*

*1 Corinthians 8:1-13*

*Mark 1:21-28*



***We ask for Continued Prayers:***

The church, its members, and its mission; The nation and all in authority; The welfare of the world; Sally & Scott Huck; Greg, Sheila, & Ivy; Karen, Rachel, & Trevor; Traci & family; Barbara Macke; Phyllis Westfall; Zane Hendrickson; Tom Cochran; The Wilson family; Lana Ann, & Gary Gooding; Safety for all in attendance at this week’s inauguration

***And for those serving in the Military:***

EB; Alex; Caitlyn; Brady; Jackson; All who serve

***And for Safety in Travel for:***

All truck drivers and delivery persons: EB & Luke

***Those who have died:***

Kirby Wilson; Those who have died from COVID 19; Those who have died from violence;

***Blessings:***

Sunshine; Technology; COVID vaccine; The ability to have hope & find peace

***For those who celebrate Birthdays in Jan:***

January 3 – David Campbell  
 January 11 – Phyllis Westfall  
 January 12 – Rose Wilkinson  
 January 17 – LeeAnn Cox  
 January 24 - Jeremy Harris  
 January 24 – Wendy Huck  
 January 26 – Zachariah Harris  
 January 28 – Sally Huck

***For those who celebrate Anniversaries in Jan:***

January 2 – Mike & Hope Staubit  
 January 15 – Wayne & Terri Hall  
 January 23 – Rich & Margaret Diemer

***And for those serving in our Diocese:***

Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, our Bishop; Mauricio, Bishop of our companion Diocese of Brasilia; our companions at Transfiguration Church in Nuevo Progreso, in the Diocese of Southeastern Mexico and their Bishop, Julio; for the people of the Diocese of Haiti, especially Saint Andrew’s Parish in Mithon, for the Venerable Jean Michelin.