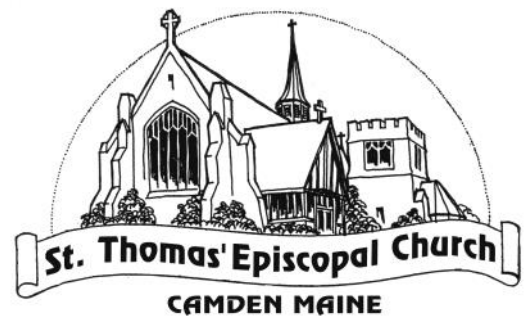


S T . T H O M A S ' Tidings



Sunday, November 26, 2017

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. May this place be like home to you! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar. Members of our prayer ministry are available in the Chapel during Holy Communion to pray with you about any need or thanksgiving.

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Food Pantry

Please remember Food Pantry donations next Sunday, December 3! Any personal hygiene items or non-perishable foods would be helpful. Of particular need: hearty soups, cereals baked beans, baking mixes, spaghetti sauce, soups, soups, soups, rice and canned vegetables or fruits. *Please check the expiration dates.* You can also make a cash donation using the specially marked envelopes in the pew racks.

Also, if you shop at Hannaford, consider purchasing a Hannaford Helps Fight Hunger box. These \$10 boxes will be available through the end of December. Volunteers from our pantry pick them up weekly.

Stewardship Update

Last Sunday we celebrated our in-gathering of pledge cards for 2018. As a congregation, we continue to be blessed by God with faithful members who not only realize what a wonderful life we share here at St. Thomas', but are excited about bringing our love, care and support to the world. The initial tally of pledge cards showed that of prior pledges, so far 80% increased the amount of their pledge for 2018. We also received 5 new pledge commitments. This is exciting proof that our church family believes in our community and believes in our mission to work in the world in the name of Christ. If you have not done so already, please send in your pledge as soon as possible, so we can continue to serve the world in Jesus' name.

Lisa+

Advent Forum

Come to the Forum after the 9:30 service! Beginning the first Sunday in Advent, December 3, there will be a short, 3-week series entitled: *The Way, the Truth and the Life.* Brother Donovan, Rev. Lisa and Deacon

Angel Tree

St. Thomas' is joining in outreach with Hospitality House through the Angel Tree, matching donors with families who are unable to provide gifts and clothing for their children during the holidays. St. Thomas' is adopting 11 children.

You may select an Angel from the Angel Tree in the Sunroom, beginning Tuesday, November 21. Wish list information is provided.

Please return your gifts (wrapped or unwrapped with your Angel Tag attached) to the Church Office no later than Wednesday, December 6.

It is important that all gifts are new and marked with the appropriate Angel Tag Number.

You may also wish to consider sharing your selected Angel with another parishioner in providing multiple gifts for one child. Grouping multiple gifts for a child in a box or shopping bag with the Angel Tag attached is also appreciated.

If you find that all the Angels have been selected, general gift donation are appreciated. Suggestions include: newborn clothes and blankets; clothing birth to 12 months; toy trucks and cars, balls and dolls, and teen jewelry.

Christmas Blessings to All!

Rosalee will each take a class to talk about what Way, Truth and Life mean to us in context of our Christian faith. Then the discussion begins! Don't miss this chance to 'Question in Faith'. We'll meet in the Guild Room.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair takes place next Saturday, December 2. Donations are being

sought for:

Gift baskets: There will be a raffle for two gifts baskets: "Made in Maine" and "For Kids". Call Ruth Tolman: 236-0807. **Crafts:** **Handmade items:** especially hats/mittens/scarves/baby sweaters/baby booties/sweaters/ potholders, quilts. Kate Jackson: 785-4500. **Jewelry:** Please leave your donations at the Parish Office or call Evie Bridges: 594-5975. **Christmas tables:** Seeking ornaments, decorations, lights, et al. Please leave on right side of stage or call Terry Bunger: 542-4180. **Vintage Treasures** is all about quality used merchandise and antiques. Books included. No clothing, please. Anne Ayers: 785-2659. **Bake Sale:** Please donate preserves, home canned goods and baked items (to be brought the morning of the sale). Pat Ayers: 236-3192. Hot cider, coffee, cocoa and refreshments will be offered for sale at the Fair.

Remembering Those Who are Shut In

In next week's bulletin we will have an insert containing the names and addresses of those St. Thomas' members who are not well enough to attend services. Please consider remembering them at this season with a card. Thank you!

Vestry Meeting

The Vestry will be meeting this Tuesday November 28 at 5:00 pm.

Today's Music

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) excelled at everything: pianist, violist, organist, conductor and composer. At the age of twenty he conducted Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, the first performance since Bach's death in 1750.

Today's prelude is the slow movement of the first (of six) sonatas Mendelssohn composed for organ. Today's communion voluntary is a lovely weaving of two tunes: *What wondrous love is this* and *Picardy*. Sigfrid Karg-Elert was a German composer, pianist and organist. His postlude is based on *Now thank we all our God*. It is harmonically very dense and is a joy to play since it is so muscular (and cleans the dust out of the organ pipes too!)

Today's Psalm might sound familiar to you. It is the *Venite* from *Morning Prayer*. The Choir sings the setting by Dorothy Papadakos (American, b. 1961) who has the distinction of being the first woman organist at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City from 1990-2003. There she introduced jazz and African rhythms as well as highly creative improvisation.

This Sunday marks the ending of the liturgical year and is designated as *Christ the King*. Ernest W. Shurtleff wrote our entrance hymn, *Lead on, O King eternal*, for his 1888 graduation from Andover Theological Seminary. His second and third stanzas express that it is not in battle with sword that the kingdom comes, but rather with "deeds of love and mercy." The sequence hymn is Charles Wesley's hymn, *Rejoice, the Lord is King!* which we sing with the tune Handel wrote for it

During communion we sing the exquisite text by the poet-priest, George Herbert (1593-1633) with a gentle contemporary tune by David Charles Walker (American, b. 1938). We go forth into the world singing the stirring text, *All hail the power of Jesus' Name!* We sing this hymn with its original tune from 1779, called *Miles Lane*. This tune has spectacular contrast with the tune **descending** (*let angels prostrate fall*) then **ascending** (*and crown him, crown him.*)

Sing with gusto!

—Jane Schroeder, Minister of Music

Prayer List

We celebrate those members who **birthdays are this week**: Edmund Hartt (November 27), Kay Lehr (November 28), Frederick Wardwell (November 29). Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: Marya Allen, Ron, Andrew, Jean Harper, Jane Hards, Joanne Scott, Nancy Soderberg, Missie Stone, Sallie Leighton, Tiffany Andrews, June Dolcater, Stormy Bok, Carolyn Morris, Roxanna, Meredith Peters, Brian Fitzpatrick, Cara, Risa, The Jackson family, Chris, Janan Vaughn.

Assisting at Today's Services

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Eucharistic Minister:** JoAnne Ryan; **Lectors:** JoAnne Ryan, Pat Ayers; **Prayers of the People:** Pam Bardon; **Usher:** Edmund Hartt.

9:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Dean Jackson; **Eucharistic Minister:** Roy Gilley; **Lectors:** Jeff Conrad, Sarah Groman; **Prayers of the People:** Millie Crocker; **Ushers:** Joan Bennett, Phillip Groman

Next Sunday

December 3, 2017

The First Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

7:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Eucharistic Minister:** Sandy Lyle; **Lectors:** JoAnne Terry Mello, Paul Holman; **Prayers of the People:** Edmund Hartt; **Usher:** Tom Crowley

9:30 am: Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Lisa Smith Fry; **Crucifer:** Bill Freeman; **Eucharistic Minister:** Jacqueline Recht; **Lectors:** Roy Gilley, Kathryn DerMarderosian; **Prayers of the People:** Bill Freeman; **Ushers:** Jim Ebbert, Lucy Ebbert.

How to reach us

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(We're closed on Monday)

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Calendar

Sunday, November 26

**The Last Sunday after Pentecost:
Christ the King**

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Monday, November 27

6:00 am—Chestnut Street Baptist Church

Breakfast—Parish Hall

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Tuesday, November 28

9:00 am—Xi Gong class (Parish Hall)

5:00 pm—Outreach Coalition

—Conference Room

6:30 pm—OA meeting —Library

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Wednesday, November 29

**9:30 am—Holy Eucharist and
Healing Service—Chapel**

10:00 am—Fellowship Time

—Sun Room

10:30 am—Bible Study—Sun Room

2:30 pm—Pastoral Care meeting

—Conference Room

4:00 pm—EFM Conference Room

6:00 pm—VoXX Rehearsal

—Parish Hall, Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Thursday, November 30

5:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal

—Green Room

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Friday, December 1

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Saturday, December 2

Christmas Fair!

8:30 am—AA Meeting—Basement

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement

Sunday, November 3

The First Sunday in Advent

7:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:30 am—Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am—Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:45 am—Coffee Hour—Parish Hall

1:30 pm—Service at Quarry Hill

5:15 pm—Centering Prayer—Chapel

6:30 pm—AA meeting—Basement