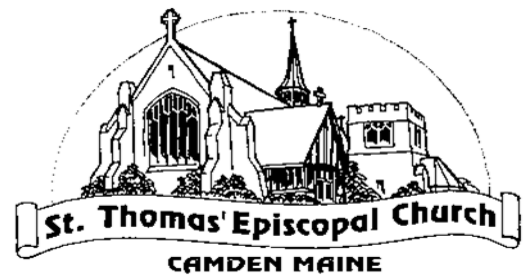


St. Thomas' Tidings

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

We welcome all who enter these doors, especially those who enter for the first time or after a long absence. Everyone is welcome! All are welcome to receive the Bread and Wine at this altar.



The Rev. Canon Lisa Fry, Rector

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Canticles R Us

As Minister of Music, I have been participating in Morning Prayer with Rev. Lisa. We have worked together on some of the service music, including the canticles. I had not played canticles since the 1980s when I was Music Director at Christ Church in Exeter, N.H., and I enjoyed them. I offer below an explanation of the canticles and how they can enhance our Morning Prayer service.

Canticles are hymns, psalms, or other songs of praise with lyrics taken from biblical or holy texts. They have been in use since the early days of the Catholic Church. Traditionally, there were canticles for specific days of the week and specific services. The same canticles could be used daily or in a cycle over several weeks, or different canticles could be used on feast days. In liturgy, they can mark a service's beginning, middle, and end.

For example, the first canticle we sang on Sunday, April 19, was near the start of the service: The Invitatory:

Venite: Come, Let us Sing to the Lord, composed by Jack Noble White. As the name tells us, it is an invitation to worship. Then, interspersed with the readings, were *Ecce Deus*, Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah, by Ray Francis Brown, and to conclude, *Benedictus es, Domine*, Canticle 13, Glory to You, by John Rutter.

Chants are merely sung speech. Singing carries better than speech, so early church services were almost entirely chanted. When you see the canticles online they will have what is known as "pointing."

POINTING GLOSSARY

Vertical lines denote bar lines in the chant
and / to the / Holy / Ghost.

Dots tell you when to change note
sound · of the | trumpet

Words in bold type mean use two notes on one syllable
*dwelling : O | **Lord** | **of** | hosts*

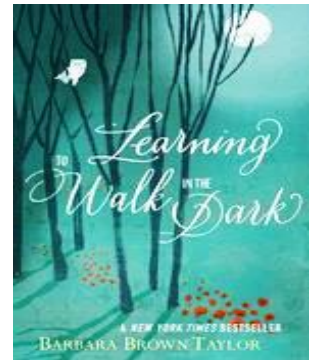
Long dash is used to miss out a bar
— / Jordan was | driven | back.

Incorporating the canticles along with hymns in Morning Prayer adds a different dimension—the emphasis is more on prayer rather than on the Eucharist. During this time of being together-yet-apart, may the meditative quality of Morning Prayer bring us a

sense of the presence of God in our community in a new way.

Let the canticles take you to a deeper place in your praying—there's a reason many theologians have suggested that music is the language of God. It shouldn't take long to pick up the tunes. Let the music sing to your soul as we praise and pray to God. Click [here](#) to see the canticles that we will be using weekly for the next month.

Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music



Rector's Class Begins Today!

From the *New York Times* best-selling author of *An Altar in the World*, the next book we'll be reading is the Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor's *Learning to Walk in the Dark*—an exploration of finding spirituality in uncertain times such as this.

You can still order it now from your favorite bookstore and join the crowd in our Zoom discussions, **Fridays at 4:00 p.m.!** We'll discuss pp. 1-10 of the "Introduction" in the first meeting. All (appropriate ages) are invited! It's a fun class, and a great book. *Lisa+*

What Is the Office of Morning Prayer?

Morning Prayer has its own order of service. This liturgy guides us through seven movements of prayer:

- 1) an opening prayer of confession and assurance of our salvation;
- 2) prayerful readings from the Psalms and the Old and New Testaments;
- 3) a covenant prayer of allegiance to God's Kingdom (Apostles' Creed);
- 4) prayers of petition and intercession;
- 5) contemplative prayer;
- 6) daily collects for peace and grace;
- 7) prayers that send us into the world to work for good (prayer for mission).

When Morning Prayer is the week's principal service, a sermon is added.

The seven-fold structure is broken up with chants and melodies from "canticles"—scripture set to simple music. These often were sung by choirs in the past, but most churches followed the 1979 Book of Common Prayer's focus on congregational participation—and welcomed the chance to sing along with the organ, and whatever group led them in song.

Join us each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on Facebook Live. Follow the link on the [website](#)—you don't need to be a Facebook user. Feel the connection to each other as you pray. Know that while we are worshipping in a new form, it is always Christ who is our center. Christ is with us, nurturing us, nourishing us and urging us to follow in his Way of Love. Lisa+

Zoom Back to Coffee Hour!

We will be having "Virtual" Coffee Hours after the 10:00 Morning Prayer service **each Sunday, starting May 10, at 10:45 a.m.** The office



will send out a Zoom link to this event. Many thanks to Fred and Victoria Bucklin and their team for heading this up. Don't forget your coffee and treats! It will be great to "see" everyone again!

2020 Parish Directory

The new directory is out! If you haven't received it by the time this Tidings reaches you, let the office know: admin@stthomascamdenme.org. It's possible we don't have your correct address. If there's a mistake in your entry, or something you want to add or delete, let us know that, too. We'll publish an "errata" list in the next few weeks, and will make all the changes in the next issue. Thank you!

NEW: Online Donations Option

Now you can donate to St. Thomas' online—either through an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) from your bank (preferred) or with your credit card. Just go to our website's home page and click the "Donate" button. To learn more, click [here](#). If you have questions or want help setting up an online donation, contact Terry Mello: treasurer@stthomascamdenme.org.

Thank you for your faithful support!

Prayer List

Please pray for those members of this parish and others who are in special need: *Pam Stewart; Carolyn Moore; Edward; Jack and Betty McDermott; Jeremy Tucker; the Brooks family; Amelia Mello; Sandra A.; Paula; Julie; Robert Pearson; Dustin; Hunter Fierro; Tadd Lyman; Shirley; Harry Hart; Ada Power; Larry Parker; Bayard Chanler; Carol; Marcie Vega; Vicky and Bill; Arnie Joy; Maxine; Judith Shepherd; Ron; Andrew; Joanne Scott; Tiffany Andrews; Seana Roubinek; Carolyn Morris; Amy; Joan Pottle; Paul Whittaker; Anne; Sandy Lyle; Brian Fitzpatrick; Skip Groman; Kathy Kulick; Lainie Vreeland; David Harper; Susan Conrad; Elaine.*

* Click [here](#) for this Sunday's lessons.

This Sunday

May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

Next Sunday

May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Calendar

Sunday, May 3

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

Monday, May 4

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

Tuesday, May 5

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer with Guided Meditation—[Facebook](#) Live

Wednesday, May 6

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.—Bible Study via Zoom

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.—EfM via Zoom

8:00 p.m.—Compline—[Facebook](#) Live

Thursday, May 7

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer with Guided Meditation—[Facebook](#) live

Friday, May 8

12:00 p.m.—Noonday Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live

4:00 p.m.—Rector's Class via Zoom

Saturday, May 9

11:00 a.m.—Christian Education via Zoom

8:00 p.m.—Compline—[Facebook](#) Live

Sunday, May 10

10:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer—[Facebook](#) Live
(Coffee Hour follows via Zoom)

How to Reach Us:

Parish Office: 207-236-3680 (messages retrieved on Monday morning only)

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