

The Briefly

The newsletter for the parish community of
Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams • Tucson, AZ 85719
520-327-6857 • gsptucson.org



March/April 2020

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From the Rector

Living the Season of Lent in a World of Lent

A COUPLE OF WEEKENDS AGO, Jean and I braved the frigid temperatures to take part in the Mountain Film Festival in Flagstaff. It was an emotional journey saturated with award-winning environmental movies, punctuated by the storytelling of adventurer Craig Childs. In the house where those beautiful wooden dories are built to take on the Colorado River, Craig told the story of riding the wild flood waters down the middle of Phoenix—yes, that Phoenix—in an aluminum boat. Later, he would tell the tale of taking one of those fantastic dories on a trip that followed the exact location of the San Andreas fault, right where the tectonic plates crash into one another off the coast of southern and central California.

Scouring ourselves at a time when we need to be figuring out how to live in hope seems counterproductive..."

But even more moving for me were two films that I just cannot get out of my mind. The first is called "The Wild." The 60-minute movie is only months old, but it has already won four film festival awards. In it, director Mark Titus tells the story of Bristol Bay, Alaska, the only place left in the world where a salmon ecosystem remains fully intact. Five species of salmon return by the millions to the headwaters of Bristol Bay, feeding all the wildlife of Alaska, the multiple indigenous

groups of people, and all of us who eat salmon. I will never forget my personal experience of seeing that ecosystem close up, where bald eagles and brown and black bears gather together to feast on the diet that allows them to survive. But it is not just the wildlife that depend on the salmon run for survival: trees, plants, everything in the region

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On Sunday, Feb. 2, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus, GSP celebrated the baptisms of Anyar, Agok, and Nyibol Garang.

Submissions to **The Briefly**

Please submit articles
to Barbara Morehouse,
BrieflyEditor@grace-stpauls.org.
Send photos, charts, and
graphics to jdbanks@gmail.com.

**The deadline for the
May 2020 issue will be
Tuesday, April 21.**

From the Rector

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lives off the nutrients the salmon provide.

Ever since I've known of Bristol Bay, this last intact salmon ecosystem in the world has been threatened by the proposed Pebble Mine. That threat appeared to be over when the EPA enacted laws to prevent its construction in this fragile area. But of course, the present administration cares not about previously enacted laws: the Pebble Limited Partnership sees their opportunity now to construct the mine despite the objections of virtually everyone who lives there and most of the world, even people like former Alaska State Senator, Republican Rick Halford. Director Mark Titus tells this story against the backdrop of his own life and death struggle with alcoholism.

The second film is "The Unfinished Fight of Seldom Seen Sleight," a 45-minute documentary directed by two women, Chris Simon and Susette Weisheit. It is the tale of Ken Sleight, the cantankerous 90-year-old, who took people down the Colorado through Glen Canyon for years during his young life, before the dam flooded what he believes was the most beautiful place on earth. The movie tells the story of his lifelong battle to take down the damn dam, whether that be by a human act or "one precision earthquake."

Two days after returning home, I took The Rev. Margaret Bullit-Jonas, who preached at GSP on Feb. 23, and her husband Robert Jonas to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument to see the Wall, the destruction it has wreaked across our desert, the blasting of a sacred Tohono O'odham mountain, and the environmental degradation of a UNESCO biosphere reserve.

Those three symbols, the destructive Wall, the Damn Dam, and the threatened ecosystem of Bristol Bay are weighing heavily on me and the world right now. As Christians enter the season of confession and repentance, the season of self-examination and self-denial, the season of our journey to the cross, the season of austerity, penitence and fasting, it is impossible not to notice that the entire world has already been experiencing this season for quite a while.

My question this year as we enter the desert of Lent is this. How do we do Lent when we have been living in Lent for so long? What kind of sense does it make to have a liturgical season of austerity in a world that is fashioning a cross of destruction for our friends and neighbors, and for the entire planet? What possible logic could

there be in taking part in acts of self-denial while Rome burns around us?

One could argue, I suppose, that our acts of penitence, fasting, and confession can be an example to the world of what everyone should be doing. But scourging ourselves at a time when we need to be figuring out how to live in hope seems counterproductive at best. If there was ever a time when we needed to be lifted up, it is right now.

That is why I am suggesting to all of you that you consider changing your focus this Lent. Instead of abstaining this year, we need to be fortifying. We need to be building ourselves up for the task ahead. This year, I believe we need to be focusing on Lent as the season of preparation. If we are going to be ready for what we need to do to take down that wall, to decommission that dam and to be certain that nothing ever jeopardizes the last best ecosystem on this planet, we need strength for the journey.

So, my proposal to all of you is this. Use this season of Lent as a time of rest and retreat. Be gentle with yourself this season. Be gentle with everyone you encounter. Spend this Lent preparing yourself for the task ahead through meditation and self-care. Rest in the arms of the God of hope. Spend time in our desert and experience God in the beauty and wonder. Come Easter, we will return to active duty in protecting the oppressed and caring for this planet. But for now, rejuvenate yourself and enjoy the world that God has given us.

Enjoy Lent! It's not oxymoronic anymore.



2020 Holy Week

Liturgy

Discussion of
the Month

By The Rev. Steve
Keplinger

THEY ARE PEJORATIVELY KNOWN as C-and-E'ers, folks who only go to church on Christmas and Easter. In a world where more and more people never set foot in a church, I am grateful for them. At least we have two opportunities a year to reach them.

But here's the thing. Easter makes no sense without Good Friday. And the truth of the matter is that the days leading up to Resurrection are the most profoundly moving of the entire year. Not only is it an ancient tradition marking the events leading up to the death of Jesus, it is also the most important week of the year in our worship experience. Nothing says more about who we are than the services of Holy Week.

For those of you who have experienced Holy Week at GSP, you are well aware of what these days mean to us. Holy Week at GSP is both old and new. It is steeped in the ancient worship tradition of the church. But we have also created liturgies that we believe highlight what Jesus wanted us to remember the most about his last week on earth. Our goal is to create a worship experience that will be so moving that it will change you deep in your heart and bring each of you into a closer relationship with one another and with God. Here they are. Mark them in your hearts and on your refrigerator:

April 5, Palm Sunday—7:45 & 10 a.m.

We will begin the services of Palm Sunday outside, waving our palms and commemorating the day when Jesus is jubilantly honored as he enters Jerusalem. At the 10 a.m. service, those who are able will process around the block. After processing into the church and continuing the celebration, the liturgy will make that very sudden turn to a narrative of the Passion Gospel. It is a stunning juxtaposition and a very emotional service.

April 6, 7 & 8, Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Each day leading up to the *Triduum* (the three days), we will have a special communion service. Each service will build upon the one before, leading us into the beauty and completeness of our Maundy Thursday service and what is to come on Good Friday. Monday's service will be at Noon in the Memorial Garden, weather permitting. Tuesday's service will be at 6 p.m. in the Julian Chapel in the church. Wednesday's service will be at 7 a.m. in the Julian Chapel.

April 9, Maundy Thursday—7 p.m.

Maundy comes from the Latin word *Mandatum*, where we get the word mandate. It refers to Jesus's mandate to follow the "new commandment," that we love one another. On this night we commemorate Jesus's last night on earth. We will commemorate the last supper as well as Jesus's act of foot washing, reminding each of us how we are to be servants to one another. Our Maundy Thursday service will conclude with the stripping of the altar, symbolizing what will happen the following day. Our special service at GSP will include more symbols to capture the essence of our faith. This service is in my mind the most important worship experience of the year. I have seen it totally change people's lives.

Maundy Thursday night until

Good Friday Noon—Keeping Watch

Another ancient tradition is for individuals to "stay awake" as Jesus asked of his disciples the night before he was killed. Individuals sign up to take a "shift" in Julian Chapel during the night and morning. There is a sign-up sheet outside Julian Chapel.

The Watch will end when the elements are consumed at the first service at Noon on Good Friday.

April 10, Good Friday

Noon, Stations of the Cross

The watch of Thursday night and Friday morning ends in Julian Chapel at Noon. The elements kept there will be consumed and then the participants will move to the labyrinth for a contemporary Stations of the Cross experience on the labyrinth. The practice of the stations is another ancient tradition. At GSP, we will reflect on the events of Good Friday from a liberation perspective. This service will include walking for those who are able. The service will last about 30 minutes.

7 p.m., Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Our main Good Friday service is one of the most moving you will ever experience. A service of Tenebrae is an ancient tradition, but one not utilized often on this night. We will move from light to darkness, both metaphorically and physically as we travel through short Gospel readings describing the events of this fateful day, followed with a musical response to each reading. It is, in my mind, the most emotional service of the year and one that also changes people.

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Notes from the Choir Stalls

By Christina Jarvis,
Director of Music

THE LAST CALORIE from Shrove Tuesday dinner has finally been burned off; I'm sure you took up running for Lent, didn't you? I know I didn't. Lent is here. I used to give up chocolate and sweets. This year, I'm taking up the Rev. Seth Polley's challenge to identify two heroes, find out more about them, and strive to be more like them during Lent. The ground rule is that the heroes must be recognizable in the public sphere and can't be friends or family. For some reason, the two who crowded into my mind first were Sitting Bull and Dorothy Day. Not a clue why. Perhaps the upcoming election has engaged my subconscious mind and/or the Holy Spirit thinks there's work for me to do. It will be an interesting Lenten discipline. If you get tired of running, you might consider it yourself. Although, if one of your heroes happens to be George Custer, you might want to stay away from me.

Lent and Advent are my favorite seasons for music. The offerings are rich and relatively easy to schedule. Well, usually. I did, in fact, pull "Emendemus in melius" from Ash Wednesday and Lent 1; as suspected, it was too much to tackle in the timeframe. Instead, we did "Let my complaint come before thee" by Adrian Batten, from the small orange Oxford 16th-century Anthem Book. The choir emitted little cries of glee. They especially like the tiny text. Hey, Lenten discipline. Next time, bring magnifying glasses.

I want to thank Dave Coatsworth and Wendy Pipentacos for being cantors for the Great Litany on Lent 1 at the 7:45 and 10 a.m. services, respectively. The litany is a solemn moment that sets the tone for the season. Aren't traditions grand?

Music planning generally involves poking around for something new and different, because it's too easy to just do the same pieces over and over, especially if using one of the planning guides. This Lent, we are combining old favorites—the Mark Hayes arrangement of "Blessed Assurance;" "Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks" by Herbert Howells; and "Eternal light" by Jane Marshall—with new acquisitions. We just got an arrangement of the spiritual "I've just come from the fountain" by Robert Hobby and a setting of the George

Herbert's poem "Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life" by Harold Friedell. Other music for March includes "I to the hills lift up mine eyes" by Jean Berger, "Psalm 23" by Hans Werner Zimmerman, and "I am the resurrection and the life" by Thomas Morley.

Speaking of traditions, Fr. Steve would like to have "The Weeping Tree" again for Good Friday; Wendy does such a stellar job. Ann Stephens and Spencer Hunter will also sing a duet for that service, an "Ave Verum Corpus" from the *Stabat Mater* by Karl Jenkins.

I've ordered an unusual piece for Easter called "Creation's Eternal Cry" by Henry Lebedinsky, a harpsichordist and organist who currently serves as the organist and choirmaster at Christ Episcopal Church in Seattle. If you google him, you'll see he's an amazing performer in the early music sphere, as well. He was just in Tucson with Agave Baroque on the Arizona Early Music Series. We will do other music by him in the future.

You doubtless noticed that David Wachter has not been on the organ bench in recent weeks. He's been recovering from some uncomplicated hand surgery and is doing splendidly. He plans to return officially on March 15, although he will play for Tom Ham's memorial service on March 5—he couldn't not play for Tom!

While David has been recovering, we are very fortunate to have as substitutes Rosalie Cassidy and Jean-Pierre Gabriels. Rosalie is a member of our congregation and Jean-Pierre is a doctoral student in the organ program at the University of Arizona. He is currently playing for the monthly Spirit Song Taizé services; Jane Click decided to stop doing that particular service, although she continues to play for Spirit Now. We are grateful for all the talent around us, in the congregation and in the big, beautiful world out there.

Have a blessed Lent, rich in prayer if not in chocolate. Find heroes. Work for a better world, where all are loved and supported. Most of all, vote!

Christina



Spring Equinox Liturgy

ON EACH OF THE EQUINOX and solstice days of the seasonal calendar, Grace St. Paul's has a special service to mark the day. Our autumnal equinox service marked the day when light and dark were equal. Our winter solstice service was a celebration of the longest night of the year.

This month, on **March 19 at 6 p.m.**, we will celebrate the vernal equinox as the light returns.

The liturgy will be an outside service and

will include a walk on the labyrinth as we have done previously. Light imagery, special springtime music, and creation-oriented readings highlight the service. The goal is to connect us to God through the natural world. It is a beautiful mingling of creation with the quiet contemplation of Lent.

The service will last about 40 minutes. We hope you can join us for this quiet and melodic celebration of spring.

See you Thursday, March 19, at 6 p.m.!

Grace St. Paul's Spiritual Support Grief Group 2020

GRIEF CAN BE AN important part of our spiritual journey. A spiritual support grief group can provide you with a safe place to explore our grief experience and its potential for spiritual transformation.

This group is experiential with music, guided meditation, prayer, short readings, as well as opportunities to share. All kinds of loss and grief experiences including the loss of an animal companion are welcome.

We will meet for seven weeks on Saturday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The group began Feb. 22.

It is co-facilitated by the Rev. Chris Ledyard and Laurie Finn. All sharing will be confidential and materials will be provided.

Please call the Church Office at 520-327-6857 to register. If you have attended before, you are welcome to join again.

Liturgy Discussion of the Month

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April 11, Holy Saturday

In the morning we will gather to physically prepare the church for the big day. Those who would like to assist our liturgical arts committee and altar guild in preparation are welcome to join us.

7 p.m., *The Great Easter Vigil*

This is the premier service in the Christian tradition. We begin in the darkness of the world, lighting a primordial fire and working our way through salvation history, suddenly bursting into the grandeur and wonder of Easter. The Vigil captures the length and breadth of

Christianity and is a service everyone should experience sometime. In addition to the fire and some beautiful narration, we will have baptisms just like in the ancient church. It is the most memorable service in the Christian calendar.

April 12, Easter Sunday—7:45 & 10 a.m.

The day arrives. The full wonder, beauty and magnificence of the resurrection experience are captured in one service. An explosion of light and exquisite music at both services completes our journey to the ultimate joy of resurrection and celebration. Following the worship, GSP hosts one of Tucson's most fantastic celebratory parties. You won't want to miss any of it.

Parish Focus

Margie King: Multiculturalist

By Ann Schlumberger

MARGJORIE KING, WHO GOES by Margie, considers herself a Tucson native, having moved here at age 3 due to her mother's asthma. She attended Catalina High School, graduating in 1967, after having spent a year of her high school career as an exchange student in Argentina. Not surprisingly, she

majored in Social Studies Education and minored in Spanish when she attended the University of Arizona. She earned her Ph.D. in Chinese history in the early 1970s at Temple University in Philadelphia, choosing that graduate major because she wanted to understand what was going on in China and Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. She was to "fall in love with all things Chinese," and lived off and on in China and Taiwan for 10 years.

While in Philadelphia, Margie married a Jewish professor of Philosophy and the couple had a son. Although they divorced,

Margie is still considered a member of her ex-husband's family. Her son chose to stay with his father while Margie was teaching and conducting research in China on an American missionary family.

Her dissertation director had told Margie to write her dissertation like a book, and eventually *China's American Daughter: Ida Pruitt* (1888-1985) was expanded and published as a biography of this missionary. Ida Pruitt, who had grown up in a Chinese village and "thought like a Chinese," lived in Philadelphia in her old age, so Margie was able to interview this contemporary of Pearl Buck. Margie was particularly inspired by Pruitt's social activism during World War II and considers her a role model for her own interest in social justice. She says that writing the

biography was a means of "working out things in my own life by studying someone else's."

Stateside, after her adventures in China, Margie taught a variety of history courses in various colleges and was especially interested in the role of world religions. When she retired in 2011, she returned to Tucson, which she had always considered home.

Margie had been reared as a Presbyterian, and her social life in high school revolved around her church's youth group, including participation in the church choir. During the Vietnam War, she attended Quaker meetings, and wherever she lived, she sought out a Society of Friends congregation. Margie had never been inside an Episcopal church but was introduced to St. Michael's and All Angels after she met Jim Steinman on match.com. She began attending that parish with him, and the couple were married there in 2012.

While a member of St. Michael's, Margie used her Spanish linguistic skills to serve as a volunteer to speak with native Spanish speakers who were being served by GSP's Radical Hospitality Ministry. She became attracted to this GSP's social justice ministry, leading her and Jim to transfer their membership to this parish in 2017. They quickly became involved in church activities, with Jim chairing the stewardship campaign and Margie stepping up to fill in as GSP's replacement Senior Warden in 2018. She also volunteered at the Welcome Desk in the office and is in her first year of the Education for Ministry (EFM) program.

After years of studying various religions and not actually worshiping in a Christian church, she now feels called to the "Jesus Way." Margie is particularly drawn to advocating for migrants and otherwise contributing to the American dialogue on immigration and border issues.



Margie King

A Love Letter from Giving & Receiving

I RECENTLY WROTE a love letter to the new members of our church. It went a little something like this ...

“As I sit here writing this letter to you, I’m realizing how gloriously coincidental it is that I’m doing so on Valentine’s Day. You see, I love Grace St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.

“I love the warmth of the parishioners who attend Sunday services and gather afterwards in McBride Hall. I love that our parish welcomes all who attend, and shares in communion with them, regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey.

“I love GSP’s vision: to be a spiritual home, open to all, providing food for the journey, and calling people to change the world. And I love, most of all, that GSP truly lives up to those words, by walking the walk through its missions, which embrace a three-tiered theme of caring for the Earth, caring for the migrant and caring for the homeless.

“I started attending Grace St. Paul’s about

seven years ago along with my children. In those years, I have found myself donating more and more of my time, talent and treasure – donating through the offering then through pledges and increasing my pledge each year, serving as a Radical Hospitality committee member, serving as a representative to the Diocesan Convention, serving a three-year term on the Vestry (currently in my second year), and now co-chairing Giving & Receiving.

“As my investment in time, talent and treasure has grown, I’ve discovered that my ability to express love and to receive it from others in my life has also grown.

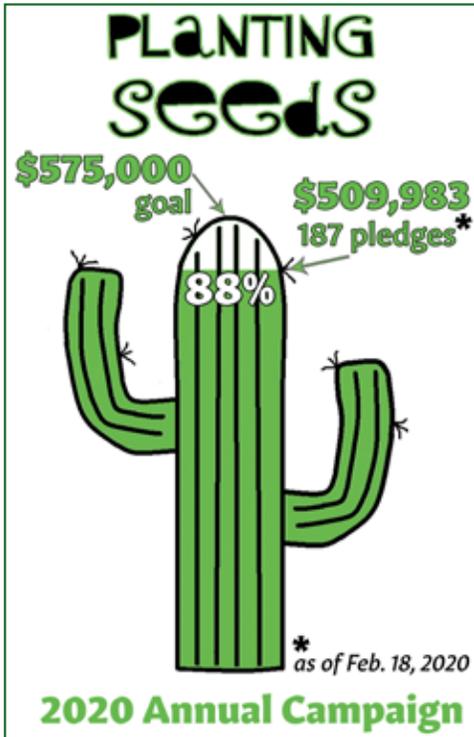
“I ask that you please consider investing in our church, giving your time, talent and treasure as you’re able. I believe you’ll discover, as I have, how wonderful it is to have your heart centered in what GSP represents.”

So now that I’ve shared this love letter with you, too, I hope it will encourage you to pledge if you haven’t, pledge more if you have, and share your love of GSP with others. Together we can make manifest our love to the world.

Kim Braun

Co-Chair, Giving & Receiving

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Luke 12:34)



Migrant Ministry Update for March/April 2020

By Margie King

THE CRUEL “Migrant Protection Protocol” (otherwise known as Remain in Mexico) has been much in the news. The Border Patrol now returns most migrants to shiver from the cold in Mexican tent cities while awaiting their asylum court hearing.

On most days, few asylum-seekers reach Casa Alitas’ Welcome Center’s warm hospitality and safety. Therefore, we are heartened to learn of the new Episcopal/Lutheran/United Church of Christ shelter that is at “the 5 yard line,” according to the Diocesan Border Missioner, Rev. David Chavez.

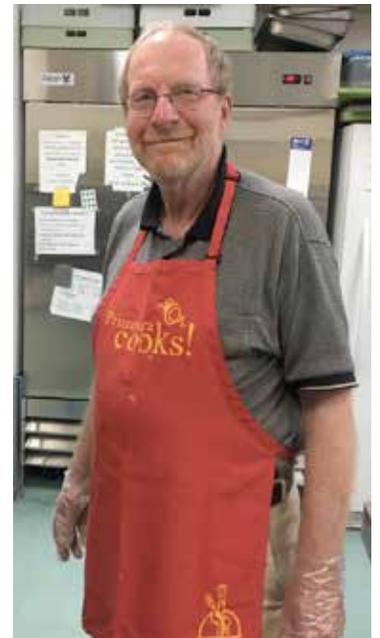
Until then, Rev. Chavez urges us to “stay faithful to what you are doing now.” Grace St. Paul’s Migrant Ministry will continue supporting border actions, writing to detained migrants, and praying in semi-monthly vigils. GSP member Valarie James’s “Embroidering Hope” project continues to buy and resell beautiful embroidered cloths from migrant families in Nogales shelters.

We will also continue studying the issues related to migration in order to deepen our understanding and our prayers as well as to inform future actions. This Spring we will focus on root causes and possible solutions to the problems associated with migration. We begin with a discussion of Miguel de la Torre’s Tucson-based book, *The U.S. Immigration Crisis*. Please contact me at mmarjorieking@gmail.com if you would like me to order you a copy of the book or to suggest the best time and day to hold this program.

Further on, the migrant ministry is planning to organize Grace St. Paul’s study tours to the border shelters as well as to southern Mexico or Guatemala during their Day of the Dead religious festivities. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about these trips. We will have an informational meeting in the Spring for the Guatemala trip.

Watch this space and the GSP e-blast for announcements of our events and the opening of the new Nogales shelter in coming months.

Mardis Gras/Shrove Tuesday



Mardis Gras/Shrove Tuesday



EXPLORING OUR FAITH: SUNDAYS @ 9 & 11:45 a.m.



Signs of Life: Why Church Matters

Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 9 a.m., Bloom Room

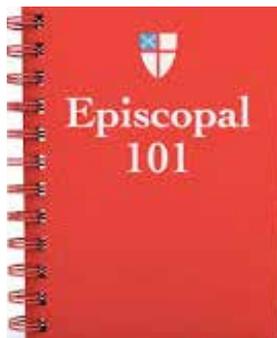
Worship engages our deepest human needs and has the power to transform our lives. Join us during Lent as we explore the signs and symbols at the heart of Christian worship. This 5-week class will encourage us to explore the riches of our worship tradition, liturgy and sacraments, and the art and architecture of our worship space, revealing the full meaning of these signs, deepening our experience of Christian vocation and guiding us toward ongoing conversion.

Facilitated by Chuck Dickson, Nanalee Raphael and Rebecca Dickinson.

Episcopal 101 — for Everyone (Sessions 3-6)

Sundays, March 1, 8, 15 & 29, 11:45 a.m., Bloom Room

The continuation of this six-week class (begun in February) is specifically designed for those who are relatively new to this tradition and those who are considering officially being Received into the church. However, many folks at GSP and beyond take this class for various reasons. Some take it as a refresher, some want to increase their knowledge in specific areas, some come to hear the Rector's own take on the history, liturgy, sacramental tradition



and theology of the church, and many come to take part in the theological discussions that have become such an important part of the learning in this class. Class three will be everything you always wanted to know about the Book of Common Prayer and our liturgy but were afraid to ask. Class four will be a discussion of Sacramental theology, and what we mean by Sacrament. Class five will be on Episcopal church polity, how we get things done and how we govern ourselves. The last class will be a comparison of the Episcopal tradition with other Christian denominations, a discussion of the issues facing the church today, our Presiding Bishop, and a discussion of being Episcopalian in what may be a post-religious age. Food will be provided. We will finish the week before Holy Week and each session will be video recorded in case you cannot make a class.

Presented by The Rev. Steve Keplinger, rector of Grace St. Paul's.

NOTE: No Adult Classes on Palm Sunday, April 5, & Easter, April 12.

Classes for Sundays, April 19 & 26, will be announced in the weekly e-Blast at a later date.

MAKING CONNECTIONS: SMALL GROUPS @ GSP

GSP Readers Group: 'Exit West: A Novel'

by Mohsin Hamid

Friday, March 13, 9:30-11 a.m., Bloom Room

In a country teetering on the brink of civil war, two young people meet—sensual, fiercely independent Nadia and gentle, restrained Saeed. They embark on a furtive love affair and are soon cloistered in a premature intimacy by the unrest roiling their city. When it explodes, turning familiar streets into a patchwork of checkpoints and bomb blasts, they begin to hear whispers about doors—doors that can whisk people far away, if perilously and for a price. As the violence escalates, Nadia and Saeed decide that they no longer have a choice. Leaving their homeland and their old lives behind, they find a door and step through. . . . *Exit West* follows these remarkable characters as they emerge into an alien and uncertain future, struggling to hold on to each other, to their past, to the very sense of who they are. Profoundly intimate and powerfully inventive, it tells an unforgettable story of love, loyalty, and courage that is both completely of our time and for all time. "It was as if Hamid knew what was going to happen to America and the world, and gave us a road map to our future. . . . At once terrifying and . . . oddly hopeful." —Ayelet Waldman, *The New York Times Book Review*

Facilitated by Mary Kay and Craig Allen.

Reading with the Spirit: 'The Sabbath World:

Glimpses of a Different Order of Time'

by Judith Shulevitz

Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m., Bloom Room

What is the Sabbath, anyway? The holy day of rest? The first effort to protect the rights of workers? A smart way to manage stress in a world in which computers never get turned off and work never comes to an end? Or simply an oppressive, outmoded rite? In *The Sabbath World*, Judith Shulevitz explores the Jewish and Christian day of rest, from its origins in the

ancient world to its complicated observance in the modern one. Braiding ideas together with memories, Shulevitz delves into the legends, history, and philosophy that have grown up around a custom that has lessons for all of us, not just the religious. The shared day of nonwork has built communities, sustained cultures, and connected us to the memory of our ancestors and to our better selves, but it has also aroused as much resentment as love. *The Sabbath World* tells this surprising story together with an account of Shulevitz's own struggle to keep this difficult, rewarding day. "The Sabbath World is not merely riveting, wise, and at times breathtakingly beautiful, it just might change your life." —Jonathan Safran Foer

This book group meets one Saturday each month and focuses on reading designed to stretch our spiritual and theological muscles. Bring your coffee. No need to register. All are welcome!

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams.

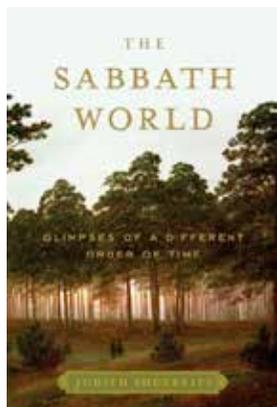
GSP Readers Group: 'All the Pretty Horses'

by Cormac McCarthy

Friday, April 10, 9:30-11 a.m., Bloom Room

In *All the Pretty Horses*, Cormac McCarthy begins his Border Trilogy with a coming of age tale that is a departure from the bizarre richness and mysterious violence of his early novels, yet in many ways preserves the mystery and the richness in a more understated form. This novel follows a young man's journey to the regions of the unknown. John Grady Cole, more heroic than the protagonists of McCarthy's earlier novels, confronts the evil that is an inescapable part of the universe as well as the evil that grows out of his own ignorance and pride. His story is told in a style often restrained and simple, embedded with lyrical passages that echo his dreams and memory. "This is a novel so exuberant in its prose, so offbeat in its setting and so mordant and profound in its deliberations that one searches in vain for comparisons in American literature." —*Publishers Weekly*

Facilitated by Mary Kay and Craig Allen.





Cultivating Spiritual Literacy: Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys

Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Bloom Room

How do we cultivate spiritual literacy, the qualities of mind and heart that enable us to read the sacred in ordinary life? Join us for this long running weekly small group discussion as we discover the intersections between our spiritual journeys, our religious tradition, and the wider culture. This month we are exploring the psalms of lament with Walter Brueggemann and how these psalms reflect moments of our own lives. Each session stands on its own. There's always a lively discussion and all are welcome. No registration is necessary.

Facilitated by Catherine Penn Williams.

Between the Lines: Scholarship & Depth Psychology Meet Sunday's Lectionary

Thursdays, 10 a.m., Bloom Room

Fr. Richard Mallory leads this lectionary Bible study on Thursday mornings. Besides providing a solid approach to biblical studies in general, this class also offers a depth

psychological take on the passage at hand. We encourage you to attend a meeting to get a taste of the class and to help you decide if this group is for you. No registration is necessary.

Fr. Richard Mallory is an Associate Rector at Grace St Paul's.

Centering Prayer

Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., Chancel

Are you interested in deepening your relationship with God through the silence of prayer? Would you like to "rest in God?" This group meets for twenty minutes of prayer followed by a reading from *Open Mind, Open Heart* by Thomas Keating.

If this is your first time attending, please come at noon for a brief instruction.

Saturday Java Jive: Coffee & Conversation

**Saturdays, 9-11 a.m., Epic Café, 745 N. 4th Ave.
(at University Blvd.)**

Want to meet and get to know folks in a relaxed and friendly environment? All are welcome to join this long-running gathering that meets every Saturday morning for coffee and conversation. Come join us!

SPIRIT PLAYERS FIRST-FRIDAY PLAY READINGS



'The Living' examines plague-ridden London Friday, March 6, 6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

The Living centers on Londoners trying to find meaning in the midst of a terrifying and inexplicable epidemic. Written in 1994, this story about the Black Plague could have been ripped from today's headlines. Reactions of the people and the government parallel actions and non-actions surrounding the current coronavirus pandemic.

Set in 1665 in London, the plague sweeps

the city, ultimately claiming more than 100,000 lives and bringing the city to its knees. The king and his court have fled the city. Doctors, the clergy, and landowners are also in flight. A handful of residents struggle to respond to the cataclysm that threatens to engulf them. Heartbreaking, bitterly funny, and deeply moving, *The Living* celebrates the power of courage and compassion to combat a climate of overwhelming fear and darkness.

Please share in these readings with us. There is always a lively discussion following. Attendees may read if they wish or participate as "audience," scripts are provided.

Sharon McKenzie and Nanalee Raphael, both long-time theatre aficionados, are the facilitators. This script is suitable for mature humans.

There is no admission charge, however a donation of canned food such as hearty soup, ravioli, chili or tuna for the Joseph's Food Pantry at Grace St. Paul's would be greatly appreciated.



Christ & Caesar meet in 'The Inn at Lydda' Friday, April 3, 6:30 p.m., Bloom Room

This is no April fool's joke: How are you on your New Testament apocrypha? Ah, good. You'll be aware then of the fleeting reference in one such pseudo-gospel to Tiberius Caesar seeking out the healing powers of Jesus of Nazareth.* Sadly for the ailing Roman emperor, Pontius Pilate's hands were squeaky clean by this point and the two men never met.

Or did they? *The Inn at Lydda* brings

together this paranoid Caesar, Jesus, John the Apostle, the three Magi, and throws in Caligula for good measure—in an (imagined) meeting at a small inn in Lydda three days after the Crucifixion. What takes place is a theatrical clash between spiritual and secular power.

**Cura sanitatis Tiberii* ("Tiberius restored to health") is a short legendary text which, like other supplements to the Gospel of Nicodemus, is grouped among the New Testament Apocrypha.



Grace St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Grace St. Paul's: A Progressive Community—Loving God, Serving Others, Journeying Together

WEEKLY SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

SUNDAYS

7:45 a.m., Holy Communion
9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
8:45 a.m., Child Care
10 a.m., Holy Communion
10 a.m., Sunday School
11:15 a.m., Coffee Hour
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Youth Group

MONDAYS

10 a.m., Spiritual Formation
7:30 p.m., Healing Touch Clinic

TUESDAYS

6 p.m., Evening Prayer & Communion
7 p.m., Interfaith Meditation

WEDNESDAYS

7 a.m., Holy Communion
5 p.m., Children & Family Karate

THURSDAYS

10:30 a.m., *Between the Lines*
12:30 p.m., Centering Prayer
6 p.m., Spirit Now—An Emerging Worship Experience. First Thursday of the month: **SPIRIT SONG**
7 p.m., AZ Welcomes Refugees (*first Thursday only*)

SATURDAYS

9 a.m., Java Jive, Epic Café
9 a.m., Altar Guild

What's Happening in March...

1st FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
9 a.m., *Why Church Matters*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101—for Everyone*
2nd 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
4th 5 p.m., Sonora Winds Concert
6 p.m., Flutes for Vets
7 p.m., **Green Church Committee**
5th 11 a.m., Tom Ham Burial
2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
6 p.m., **SPIRIT SONG**
6th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Study**
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading
7th 10 a.m., SCA Feast
8th SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
9 a.m., *Why Church Matters*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101—for Everyone*
9th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
11th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
12th 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
13th 9:30 a.m., **GSP Readers Group**
14th 10 a.m., Tucson Masterworks Board
15th THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
9 a.m., *Why Church Matters*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101—for Everyone*
16th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
18th 6 p.m., Flutes for Vets
19th 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.

20th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Study**
21st 9 a.m., Southern Arizona Friends of Jung
22nd FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
9 a.m., *Why Church Matters*
1 p.m., Primavera Cooking Team
23rd 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

24th 9 a.m., Primavera Meals Group
6:30 p.m., **VESTRY MEETING**
26th 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
28th 10 a.m., **Reading with the Spirit**
29th FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
9 a.m., *Why Church Matters*
11:45 a.m., *Episcopal 101—for Everyone*
30th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*

...and coming in April

1st 6 p.m., G.R.O.W.
6 p.m., Flutes for Vets
7 p.m., Green Church Committee
2nd 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
6 p.m., **SPIRIT SONG**
3rd 10:30 a.m., **Bible Study**
6:30 p.m., Spirit Players Play-Reading
4th 9 a.m., Grief Group
5 p.m., Helios Ensemble Concert
5th PALM SUNDAY
9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
8th 12 noon, Prayer Shawl Ministry
6 p.m., G.R.O.W.
9th MAUNDY THURSDAY
2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
10th GOOD FRIDAY
9:30 a.m., **GSP Readers Group**
11th HOLY SATURDAY
12th EASTER SUNDAY
9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation

13th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
15th 6 p.m., G.R.O.W.
6 p.m., Flutes for Vets
16th 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
17th 10:30 a.m., **Bible Study**
19th 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
2 p.m., Early Music Society
7:30 p.m., Chiara Frerrero Recital
20th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
22nd EARTH DAY
6 p.m., G.R.O.W.
6 p.m., Earth Day Event
23rd 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.
26th 9 a.m., Coffee & Conversation
1 p.m., Primavera Cooking Team
1:30 p.m., The Arizona Choir
27th 10 a.m., *Sharing Spiritual Journeys*
28th 9 a.m., Primavera Meals Group
6:30 p.m., **VESTRY MEETING**
29th 6 p.m., G.R.O.W.
30th 2:30 p.m., G.R.O.W.