

ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY



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A Note from Tom

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!' (Mark 11:1-10)

Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday marks one of the high points of his life. Although he is riding a donkey, his followers rejoice at his arrival. They spread "leafy branches" on the path for him like a red carpet. He is heralded as messiah. In a week, his fall from grace will be complete. Cries of "crucify him" will be shouted. Jesus, who asked to be a servant, will be found guilty of trying to be a king.

Palm Sunday gives us a temporary respite from the apprehension we feel as we approach Good Friday and the cross on a hill. Although we know—as Jesus did—that he will be executed, we can nevertheless take pause for a moment. We can stop what we're doing and we can join those who are laying the palms down before him. We can shout "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" And we can rejoice.

+ Tom

St. John's Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday	Sunday, March 28	10:00 AM
Maundy Thursday	Thursday April 1	6:00 PM
Good Friday	Friday, April 2	12:00 PM
Easter Sunday	Sunday, April 4	10:00 AM

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Editor: Becky Foster

St. John's Journey is published monthly. We're looking for your photos and articles. Please email them to "stjohnschurchdryden@gmail.com" with the word "Newsletter" in the subject line. Deadline for April's newsletter is March 26th.



Happy Birthday!

- Dianne Bishop**
- Darlene Hernden**
- Charles Parker**
- Evelyn Sunich**
- Harvey Taylor**
- Sue Thornton**
- Mark Wagner**

Sr. Warden Letter



Dear Friends,

This has been a tough month. Donna Lou Haynes passed away. Dianne Bishop had a heart attack that put her in the hospital. Tim Wright told me on Ash Wednesday that he was coming home under hospice care. Neil Hargrave found out that, far from healing, his foot was seriously infected and he needed to go to the hospital for treatment and possibly for an amputation. Mary Cameron found out that she needs significant back surgery. And on a personal note, my sister is in the hospital in Kansas City with something that has her doctors totally puzzled.

As of today, Dianne Bishop is back home and doing OK. Neil did have foot surgery but not an amputation and is coming home this week. Our dear Tim has completed his time with us and is part of eternity.

How do we bear up under the weight of these sad and difficult circumstances? We pray and we reach out to each other in love. That is why we are a church. That is what this church does so well. And that is

what we will continue to do even as we mourn the loss of dear people we have known for years. God's love and the love of those who have gone before us will sustain us and, in time, help us heal.

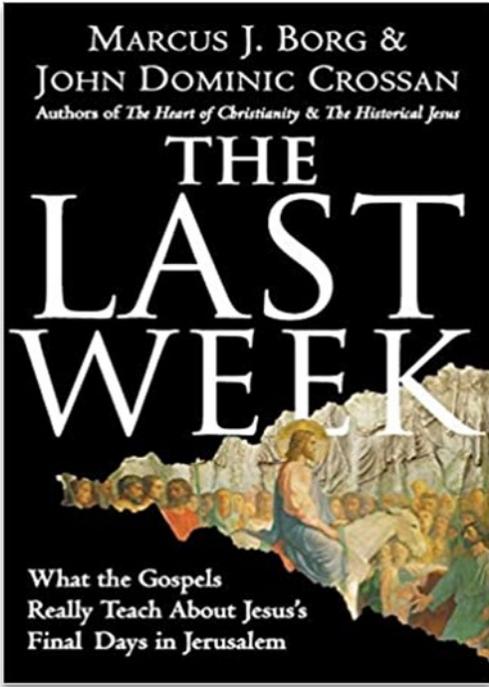
I look forward to the day when we can gather and comfort each other in person. As more of us are vaccinated, that day draws ever closer. Meanwhile, pray, trust and reach out to each other. Our Shepherd will get us through this.

Peace,

Becky



Tim's funeral service will be at St. John's this Saturday, March 6, at noon. We are limiting attendance to family and worship team members to keep everyone safe. We will also do a FaceBook livestream for those who wish to attend virtually. I will also share the link via email after the service for those who find that helpful.



Lenten Study in Process but THERE IS STILL TIME!

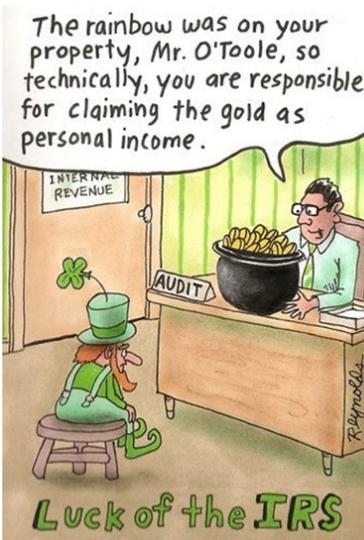
When: Tuesday at 4PM on Zoom

Dates: Through March 23rd

Books are still available!

If interested, contact Tom or Becky for the Zoom link and the book

We have a roofer! The folks at Clarkston Roofing gave us a great quote for doing the asbestos remediation as well as the roof replacement using quality materials and professional practices. We are hoping to start the job this spring – which in Michigan can mean April....or May....or June....



The last snow pile in the parking lot – Come on March 20th (first day of spring) and bring your flame throwers!

January 1, 1936 – February 10, 2021



Our church family lost a dear sister last month. Donna Lou Haynes was Sherry Wagner's mother and a long-time member of St. John's. She and her husband, Richard, could be found most Sunday mornings sitting in one of the back pews. A sweet, quiet

woman, she always found ways to let others know she was thinking about them, especially when they were going through a hard time. Her granddaughter, Lelia, wrote a lovely eulogy that we share below.

Grandma's Eulogy by Lelia Wagner

Our parents give us life. Our grandparents give us a sense of who we are and where we came from. On this day, as we say our final goodbye to my grandma Haynes, it hit me how incredibly lucky I have been to have my lovely grandmother with me for 20 years not only with me, but an integral, and close part of my life.

It is rare for a grandparent-grandchild relationship to be so essential and so long lasting, but then grandma was the exceptional kind of person every single day of her life. Until the last couple of years, my grandmother had more energy and interest in life than anyone I've ever known. I remember the day I told her I was going to serve our country just like grandpa did. She was so proud of me and gave me the biggest hug that a grandmother can give. She told me grandpa would've been so proud of me.

My grandmother was an incredible matriarch. Really, she was the regal leader in our family. She was always present, part of our everyday lives in such a tangible way. As a child, I had friends whose grandparents had retired to Florida and I remember feeling that while they were lucky enough to get a yearly vacation to warmer weather, I was even luckier because I had my grandparents all the time with them just being down the road from us. The constant loving presence really shapes a person. From our grandparents, we learn where we came from, we learn our history, and we learn who we are.

What made my grandmother special? So wonderful? Her elegance. She always looked the picture of perfection and grace. She loved deeply and fully, all of us including her great grandchildren. She was the kind of person who just had more love in her heart for the more people that joined our family and lives (if they dared).

She is so much a part of who I am that even though I knew she would leave us one day, I can't quite believe she is gone. Grandma- you impacted my life in so many ways that you can't count them all. You shaped who I am and you influenced us all greatly. I will always love you and save a special corner of my heart to keep you with me. And I know we will miss you every day of our lives. Just remember I will always be your sweet Sugarplum.

Here are some recent pics –



Donna Lou looking good in pink



Donna wearing pink again – with Sherry and her sister Bonnie

We thank God for the blessing that was Donna Lou. And we pray for Sherry and her family as they move through this time of tear and memories.



Whose hand do you think he's seeing?

Spring is like a perhaps hand

E. E. Cummings - 1894-1962

III

Spring is like a perhaps hand

(which comes carefully

out of Nowhere) arranging

a window, into which people look (while

people stare

arranging and changing placing

carefully there a strange

thing and a known thing here)and

changing everything carefully

spring is like a perhaps

Hand in a window

(carefully to

and fro moving New and

Old things, while

people stare carefully

moving a perhaps

fraction of flower here placing

an inch of air there)and

without breaking anything.



Have you tried our online giving applications? Set up a recurring donation for the year and you're done! No more worries about sending in the envelope, or trying to remember which donations you may have missed. If you have any questions, contact Tom or Becky for help.



Mushroom and Sweet Potato Potpie

According to the brewer, nothing says Irish like Guinness. This recipe looks yummy and worth the time to prepare. AND it's meatless – so great for Lent. Enjoy!

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup olive oil, divided
- 1 pound sliced fresh shiitake mushrooms
- 1 pound sliced baby portobello mushrooms
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh rosemary, plus more for topping
- 1 bottle (12 ounces) porter or stout beer (Guinness is great!)
- 1-1/2 cups mushroom broth or vegetable broth, divided
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 3 to 4 small sweet potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
- 3/4 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Directions

Preheat oven to 400°. In a Dutch oven, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium heat. Add shiitake mushrooms and cook in batches until dark golden brown, 8-10 minutes; remove with a slotted spoon. Repeat with 1 Tbsp. oil and the portobello

mushrooms.

In same pan, heat 1 table-spoon oil over medium heat. Add onions; cook and stir 8-10 minutes or until tender. Add garlic and 1 teaspoon rosemary; cook 30 seconds longer. Stir in beer, 1 cup broth, bay leaves, vinegar, soy sauce and sauteed mushrooms.



Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, 10 minutes. In a small bowl, mix cornstarch and remaining broth until smooth; stir into mushroom mixture. Return to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Remove and discard bay leaves; transfer mushroom mixture to 8 greased 8-oz. ramekins. Place on a rimmed [baking sheet](#).

Layer sweet potatoes in a circular pattern on top of each ramekin; brush with remaining oil and sprinkle with pepper, salt and additional rosemary. Bake, covered, until potatoes are tender, 20-25 minutes. Remove cover and bake until potatoes are lightly browned, 8-10 minutes. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

Test Kitchen tips:

Instead of beer, you could use dry red wine, marsala or additional more mushroom broth. We're not sticklers for specific types of mushrooms. Go ahead and experiment with whatever mushrooms you have; just be sure to saute them until they turn a rich golden brown. This really adds a lot of flavor.

<u>Ministry Schedule</u>				<u>Counting Schedule</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Vestry Member 1</u>	<u>Vestry Member 2</u>
Mar 7, 2021	Ina Dockham	Sherry Boynden	Rev Tom Manney	Ina Dockham	TBD
Mar 14, 2021	Tammy Turnipseed		Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd	Becky Foster
Mar 21, 2021	Lelia Wagner	Neil Hargrave	Rev Tom Manney	TBD	Neil Hargrave
Mar 28, 2021	Margaret Smith		Becky Foster	Becky Foster	Ina Dockham
Apr 2, 2021	Darlene Herndon	Mary Cameron	Rev Tom Manney	Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd
Apr 4, 2021	Kathy Wagester	Sherry Boynden	Rev Tom Manney	Ina Dockham	TBD
Apr 11, 2021	Tammy Turnipseed		Neil Hargrave	Jack Dodd	Becky Foster
Apr 18, 2021	Wes Wagester	Neil Hargrave	Rev Tom Manney	TBD	Neil Hargrave
Apr 25, 2021	Neil Hargrave		Becky Foster	Becky Foster	Ina Dockham

To Our Clergy and Senior Wardens,

We are in regular contact with our friends across the state to track the data related to COVID-19 in hopes of a re-entering into in-person activity. At this time, this group is meeting via Zoom at least every two weeks for conversation and are communicating daily by email.

CURRENT STATUS

Currently, we remain in Phase 1.5 of the [Plan for Re-Entry for Great Lakes Episcopalians](#). As a reminder, in 1.5, the following is included:

There are no public, in-person gatherings either inside or outside.

Live-streaming and recording from inside the building is permitted, with participants limited in number and to those serving in a specific role.

There is no “to-go” Eucharist disconnected from a bigger, real-time liturgy.

Distribution-based service ministries are permitted on an outdoor, curbside basis only.

In those rare situations where it is essential to be present, all people must wear masks and maintain six-feet of distancing between households.

LOOKING AHEAD

We also write today because we are hopeful that we will

soon be able to return to Phase 2 of our directives. As we mentioned, our group meets regularly and is in daily communication. We are tracking data using the [Harvard Global Health Risk Levels map](#). Specifically, we are looking for at least 60% of Michigan’s counties to rate as yellow or green for a continuous span of seven days.

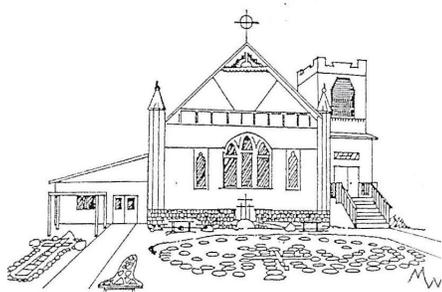
Unless there are extraneous and unpredicted circumstances, this reflected data would trigger the process toward allowing reopening. As has been the case in previous shifts, we will aim to give you some buffer time between the official announcement from our offices and the specific reopening *date*, which will be a weekday.

As was the case when we were previously in Phase 2, modified reopening would be an *option*, not a *requirement*.

We are aware, and want you to be aware, that our data may fluctuate in the weeks to come as time passes between the re-opening of restaurants and schools, increasing rates of vaccination, as well as the spread of new, more highly contagious variations of the virus. As we’ve said before, we know that this process has not been and will not be linear.

And yet we remain hopeful that our current data trends may continue and that we will be able to shift in phase soon. You will be notified via email when this happens, including a particular date for the shift. We ask for your continued patience and dedication to safety so that we may model this safe and compassionate behavior to our members and our neighbors.





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