

The Abundant Life

April 20, 2017

For Sunday, April 23rd

From The Rector

Hope Has Risen

In these first days after Easter, we reflect on what the resurrection of Jesus means and how it affects Christians today. God's raising Jesus is an ultimate sign of faithfulness. God is faithful and fulfills the promise that the sting or loss of death is not the last word. In Jesus' resurrection, those who believe are born into a "living hope." That living hope is about God's abiding presence, first with Jesus, then with us, and ultimately with everything that God has made.

That hope was tested and almost crushed on Good Friday when Jesus was crucified, but on Easter, hope rose with him. That renewed hope has a different quality – it has wounds that rise with it.

The hope given by resurrection after anguish and trial is important for us to understand. The risen hope into which we have been born is tested and durable. It will serve us well as we live amidst challenges and heartbreak, and it will lead us as we work to bring healing to God's world – our world.

Our world and our communities have profound challenges that wound them deeply. Wars across the globe and divisions at home fill the news. Poverty and homelessness are evident, even in our Valley – especially in our Valley. Hope is often in short supply.

We celebrate the Easter hope of Jesus in our worship. God calls us to embody that hope in service and to reach out to the hurting world with our wounded hands. Join us.

Fr. Andrew

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Thank You!

Thanks to the many people who made our Easter Worship so beautiful. There

is tremendous effort put into so many different specialties.

Thanks to Nathan B. Ensign and the Choir for music leadership. Thanks to Kathy Kilmer and Br. John Charles Westaway, and the Altar Guild, Servers, and Readers. Thanks to Jerry Di Noto, Leadership Development Coordinator. Thanks to Kathy Guidry, Orin Ellingson, the staff and volunteers who produce, proof, print, and collate our worship booklets. Thanks to Jeff Swanson and Camilo Nava for preparing the facilities. Thanks to Ron Shepherd and the crew of Ushers who welcome worshipers. Thanks to the clergy who presided, preached, or assisted in leading worship. Thanks to the abundant Palm Sunday and Easter Vigil decorations. Thanks to Beth Owsley and the Family and Children's Ministry Team for the Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks to the "snowbird" choir members and worshipers who stayed through Easter to be part of St. Paul's celebration.

Thank you!

Featured Scripture

1 Peter 1:3-9 Common English Bible (CEB)

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you. Through his faithfulness, you are guarded by God's power so that you can receive the salvation he is ready to reveal in the last time.

You now rejoice in this hope, even if it's necessary for you to be distressed for a short time by various trials. This is necessary so that your faith may be found genuine. (Your faith is more valuable than gold, which will be destroyed even though it is itself tested by fire.) Your genuine faith will result in praise, glory, and honor for you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you've never seen him, you love him. Even though you don't see him now, you trust him and so rejoice with a glorious joy that is too much for words. You are receiving the goal of your faith: your salvation.

A Thank You

We wish to thank all those who came and joined the Altar Guild members on Saturday, April 8th, to make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday. It was great to see new faces and to get to know you, and we hope you enjoyed the experience and look forward to seeing you again next year! A special thanks to Rosanna Langley, who has been our instructor for many years and led us once again in the making of the crosses.

Hospitality Ministry

Please join us in the Parish Hall after each Sunday service for coffee and refreshments.

Sunday's Coffee hour after the 8:00 service is sponsored by Deanna & Bob Burpee.

Please consider signing up to be a Sunday Coffee Hour host.

Communion at Windsor Court

The next Communion Service at Windsor Court is Wednesday, May 10th at 10:15 am. The priest and the residents are always happy to have parishioners attend.

Palm Springs Pride Parade

We are fast approaching our deadline for an organized, thoughtful participation in the Palm Springs Pride Parade. The team needs to be in place by April, A.K.A, QUICKLY. Please contact the Parish Office [760.320.7488] immediately if you want to help.

Susan Green Ordination for Deacon Candidate

Susan is a candidate for ordination as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church. She has been in the discernment process for the last five years and studying at the Diocesan School for Ministry in San Diego for the last two years. We will charter a bus to leave St. Paul's Palm Springs at 6:30 am on June 17th. The bus will arrive at the Cathedral in San Diego in time for the Ordination at 10:00 am. It will return at about 12:30 and arrive in Palm Springs at about 3:30 pm. The approximate cost for the transportation will be \$30. Sign up today in the Parish Hall.

Parish Life News

Save the Date and plan to join us: The St. Paul's DOK chapter is holding its annual retreat on April 22 from 9:00 am. To 3:00 pm at Desert Journeys Guest House. Women of the parish are cordially invited. The Rev. Canon David Caffrey will again facilitate our time together, choosing "Rediscovering the Gift and Joy of the Daily Office" for the day's study and fellowship. Please notify Sharon Strong if you are considering joining us and for further information (including car-pooling) : [1]s.scrooper@gmail.com, or 760.285.8910.

Parish Life Book Club is a social group that meets monthly to talk about a book they select to read. The Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm. in the Library. The Book Club's next meeting is May 2nd and we'll discuss our current book A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman. Ove, the protagonist in A Man Called Ove, is getting older. At first glance Ove is most certainly the grumpiest man you've ever met. Never trust first impressions. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. But behind Ove's cranky exterior lies a story and a sadness. The Book Club welcomes new members. If you enjoy reading and enjoy sharing your thoughts and opinions with other readers join us on May 2nd. For more information please contact Jackie Freeburn at jfreeburn@dc.rr.com

SAVE THE DATE! On Saturday, May 20, 2017, we are planning a PARISH POTLUCK in the arcade between the church and the Parish Office. It will begin at 5:00 pm following the Saturday 4:00 pm service. Sign up forms will

be in the Narthex and Parish Hall soon. Entertainment is being arranged so be sure to plan to attend and enjoy this evening with friends, both old and new.

FAITH BUILDING 2017

Sundays @ 9:15 am

AT ST. PAUL'S IN THE LIBRARY – The Episcopal Cafè

4/23 John 20: 19-31 Touching faith – Led by Alan Zimmerman

[2] Read about it

4/30 Divinely Blinded: Lessons from the Road to Emmaus – Led by Rev. Victoria Hatch

[3] Read about it

5/7 God Loves Dirty Sheep: Reflection on John 10:1-10 – Led by Craig Ewing

[4] Read about it

5/14 Theology of Our Political Movement – Led by Alan Zimmerman

[5] Read about it

5/21 Truth and Beauty: A reflection on John 14:15-21 – Led by Br. John Charles

[6] Read about it

5/28 Jesus Prays for His Disciples: Reflection on John 17: 1-11 – Led by Gary Scott

[7] Read about it

Tuesdays @ 7PM

AT ST. PAUL'S IN THE CHURCH

Ashes to Easter: A Gospel Journey through Lent

Evening Prayer and Lenten Reflection

4/25 –on Countercultural Faith – Led by the Team

AT ST. PAUL'S IN THE LIBRARY

Christian Formation Inspired by Jesus' Jewish Heritage.

This series, based on Rev. Lauren Winner's book, *Mudhouse Sabbath*, includes DVD presentations and discussions. It is a look at Jewish traditions and how they have spiritual relevance for Christians.

5/2 Keeping Sabbath – Led by Br. John Charles

5/9 Hospitality – Led by Alan Zimmerman

5/16 Mindful Eating – Led by Craig Ewing

5/23 Jewish and Christian Prayer – Led by Rev. Canon Victoria Hatch

5/30 Practice of Fasting – Led by Br. John Charles

Don't Forget Roy's!

St. Paul's continues the outreach to the homeless men, women and children at Roy's Desert Resource Center. Your donations of homemade and store-bought baked goods help bring a cheerful weekly dessert service to Roy's residents. Contact Chris Kelly, 760.406.2978, for more information.

Report Misconduct

As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe haven for everyone, our diocese trains people in the prevention of misconduct and encourages all to report misconduct. All reported incidences are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly and confidentially. If you believe you have experienced misconduct of any kind, please contact Mr. John Seitman,

jseitman@pacbell.net, 858-793-4555 or the Rev. Janet Wheelock,
jwheelock@edsd.org, 952-240-8067.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours are 9 am – 4:30 pm Tuesday through Friday. The office is closed on Mondays.

Should you call on Monday when we are closed to the public, please leave a message. In case of an emergency, a priest will return your call.

Print a copy of The Abundant Life?

[8]Click here

Sunday Worship Childcare

Childcare is available for both the 8:00 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. services.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry invites you to join our circle on Wednesday's from 10 am-1 pm in Hogarth Hall. Whether you wish to learn to knit or crochet or are an expert needleworker, we welcome you. Needles, hooks and yarn are provided. Please drop in to create and enjoy our prayerfully made creations.

Bullying Behavior
Not Welcome Here

At St. Paul in the Desert we welcome all worshipers to a place that is free of violence and bullying.

Physical, verbal or emotional violence against others or against oneself is not acceptable because of our understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. Please let Jesus' command to love your neighbor as yourself be your guide.

“It Gets Better” is a series of video messages to encourage Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgender youth and let them know that they are loved as they are.

“A Blessing for Those Who Are Bullied” was written by the Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, a Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

It is not enough to say “NO” to bullies. It is important to stand up for people and to provide resources for those who have been the targets.

The Church of St. Paul in the Desert

Local: 760.320.7488 // Fax: 760.416.2441

Email: clergy@stpaulsps.org Website: www.stpaulsps.org

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References

1. <mailto:s.scrooper@gmail.com>
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