



# Light of Christ Anglican Church

## THE BEACON

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## April 2022

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Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16

Jesus loves you this much.



Mike was unable to write a message for this month.

The following is from BulletinDigest.com:

## Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?

It was a fact that Jesus was innocent. The Roman governor in charge of Judea, Pontius Pilate, so stated himself after having examined Jesus personally (*John 19:4*). It is also a fact that Jesus never even committed a single sin (*Hebrews 4:15*). And yet, they fashioned the crown of thorns and placed a purple robe upon His shoulders in mockery, and delivered Him to be crucified. He bore His cross to a place called Golgotha, where they crucified Him (*John 19:17-18*). The Bible tells us about the state of mind of some of the people there.

**Soldiers.** These Roman men oversaw the crucifixion. They were of cruel mind (Mark 15:16-20), mocking Him even as He hung on the cross (Luke 23:36-37). They were also hard-hearted and indifferent, as shown in John 19:23-24, where they cast lots for Jesus' clothing. This act was foretold in Psalm 22:18. Jesus forgave these men (Luke 23:34)!

**Mary.** Also there at the crucifixion was Mary, the earthly mother of Jesus (John 19:25-27). The Bible doesn't say much about her state of mind, but every mother can easily understand the pain she must have felt looking upon her son hanging on that cross, slowly and painfully dying.

**Priests.** These men were full of hatred toward Jesus (Matthew 27:41-43). They admitted Jesus had "saved others," likely referring to those He had healed. They now torture Jesus with their words, saying, "If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him." Jesus, of course, could have come down from the cross if He had desired, but he persevered in accomplishing God's plan!

**Thieves.** Two robbers were crucified on either side of Jesus (Matthew 27:38). One was full of blasphemy, the other humility, admitting his own guilt (Luke 23:39-43).

**Centurion.** Though he was part of the soldiers, this man made a startling admission. His state of mind was acceptance that Jesus was the Son of God (Mark 15:39).

**You.** Not personally, of course, but representationally. Jesus bore your sins in His own body on the cross. (1 Peter 2:24). As He hung there dying, surrounded by heartbroken supporters, vicious gawkers, grim soldiers and proud religious leaders, He did so as a perfect offering to God for each one of them, and for each one of us. Since He died for you, will you live for Him?

*Matt Clifton*

The following is from churchletters.org:

## Resurrection Greetings!

I would not hesitate to say that most, if not all of us are familiar with the song "Amazing Grace," which has been an integral part of Christian worship for years.

While there are many attempts to define "Grace," one definition that often speaks to my heart is God's "unmerited favor." In other words, we have done nothing to earn it, but the Father extended this Grace to humanity in the person and life of His only Son, Jesus Christ.

In the time of the Romans, the Cross was regarded as the cruelest way to die. The Cross was reserved for the most hardened of criminals.

While I realize Easter is about the Resurrection of Jesus, without a doubt there could have been no Resurrection without the Cross, and the Grace of God extended to a lost world.

While His Grace WAS amazing, I believe today it is STILL amazing!

Have you ever stopped to think of where you would be without the work Jesus did for you on the Cross and, subsequently, the Resurrection?

While he was on the Cross, He felt the pain spiritually, emotionally, and physically, yet He continued because His love for humanity was without question!

The Resurrection of Jesus was the Father's validation of all Jesus did and claimed to be while He was here on earth! The Resurrection was the Father's "stamp of approval," so to speak, on the Grace Jesus displayed both then and now!

As we enter this Easter Season, I pray that not only will you think about the Resurrection of Jesus, but also the event that happened only three short days prior, which we know as the Crucifixion.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me,  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see!

## His Grace is STILL amazing!

He Lives!



## Senior Warden Report

Your vestry met Sunday, April 18, following the morning service, with all members present.

The vestry reaffirmed its previous decision to have a public presence during the monthly Heathsville Farmers' Market, starting April 16. We will have a tent staffed by the Ludemans and Becketts to introduce LOC and our services to the market's visitors. I will report results next month.

Mike and Randy had a meeting with our sound system provider to determine what, if anything, we can do to improve the system's reliability. After a thorough inspection and tuning, the provider reported that we have a good system and recommended we not replace the equipment.

The vestry decided to contact new Northumberland County residents with a letter inviting them to visit our church services and classes. The county is experiencing a period of population growth as people move away from the cities, so this is a good time to reach out to those moving into the area.

The soup cooks are preparing and serving wonderful Lenten Supper soups on Tuesday nights starting at 5 p.m. Please come and enjoy the soup and good company. We are in the new time zone—darkness is delayed.

Blessings,  
George

## Thought for April

**When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries.**

**When a person messes up or finds themselves in the dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not! You help them change their batteries.**

**Some need AA...attention and affection; some need AAA...attention, affection, and acceptance; some need C...compassion; some need D...direction.**

**And if they still don't seem to shine...simply sit with them quietly and share your light.**

## Preparing Your Heart for Easter Sunday

**Read the resurrection account in each of the gospels, as well as the "resurrection chapter," 1 Corinthians 15 (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20).**

1. Take time to consider at least three ways in which Jesus' resurrection profoundly affects your life. Write them down. If you need some priming, read through 1 Corinthians 15, Romans 6:5, Philippians 3:10, or 1 Peter 1:3.
2. Memorize at least one verse from the list above, or choose another one that deals with Jesus' resurrection. Meditate upon this verse as you go throughout the week.
3. Study the chronology of Jesus' passion week, and read relevant biblical passages each day of the week. Reflect upon the price that he paid for your sin, the pain, the grief, and the anguish that he experienced.
4. Tell someone else about the resurrection and the impact that this doctrine has had on your life.
5. Invite one person, perhaps someone who does not know Jesus as Savior, to come with you to your church's Easter service. You may even want to invite them to your home for dinner afterward.
6. Celebrate Easter by giving someone a gift. It can be an Easter basket, flowers, a Christian book or even a new Bible.
7. Consider spending a day this week fasting as a specific act of devotion, worship and preparation for Resurrection Sunday. Use the time to meditate on the truth of the resurrection.
8. Sing about the resurrection. Find a song about the resurrection that is particularly meaningful and memorize it or sing it each day. You may even wish to sing or listen to the song as part of your personal quiet time or worship.
9. Spend a few minutes in prayer each day, simply thanking God for the resurrection.

This Easter can be one of the most spiritually significant times in your life. Allow God to work in your life by engaging in some of these spiritual disciplines.

Article from churchletters.org

# IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

## Lesson Readers

- Apr. 3 Teresa Moffitt (L), Julie Pritchard (P)
- Apr. 10 Jeanne Hickey (L), Marie Carstensen (P)
- Apr. 14 Constance McDearmon (L) Hoyt Wheeland (P)
- Apr. 15 Charlaine Andrulot (L) Sandi Ward (P)
- Apr. 17 Joan Blackstone (L), Tony Blackstone (P)
- Apr. 24 Susan Read (L), Teresa Moffitt (P)

## Acolytes

- Apr. 3 Marie Carstensen
- Apr. 10 Constance McDearmon
- Apr. 14 Ed Feddeman
- Apr. 15 Sandi Ward
- Apr. 17 David Gwaltney
- Apr. 24 Anna Brennan

## Chalice Bearers

- Apr. 3 Suzy Norman
- Apr. 10 Tony Blackstone
- Apr. 14 Ed Feddeman
- Apr. 15 Sandi Ward
- Apr. 17 Tony Blackstone
- Apr. 24 Constance McDearmon

## April Birthdays

- Apr. 2 Chris Cralle
- Apr. 3 Eleanor Semerjian
- Apr. 15 Susan Moore
- Apr. 19 Sally Custer
- Apr. 22 Agnes Burke

*O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants as they begin another year, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

## Altar Guild

- Apr. 3 Julie Pritchard/Elizabeth Lambertson
- Apr. 10 Wendy Smith/Suzy Norman
- Apr. 14 Anna Brennan
- Apr. 15 Anna Brennan
- Apr. 17 Anna Brennan
- Apr. 24 Constance McDearmon/Sandi Ward

## Tellers

- Apr. 3 Betty Dillingham
- Apr. 10 Betty Dillingham, Jan Becket
- Apr. 14 Betty Dillingham
- Apr. 15 Betty Dillingham
- Apr. 17 Betty Dillingham, Pam Smith
- Apr. 24 Betty Dillingham

## Vestry Person on Duty

- Apr. 3 Sandi Ward
- Apr. 10 Ed Feddeman
- Apr. 14 George Beckett
- Apr. 15 George Beckett
- Apr. 17 Doug Ludeman
- Apr. 27 Ed Feddeman

## April Anniversaries

- Apr. 1 Charlaine & Bill Andrulot
- Apr. 9 Lydia & Vincent Haynie
- Apr. 28 Courtney & Doug Ludeman

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants named above, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### HELP WANTED

Please consider joining the **Altar Guild**. The duties require setting up the altar (usually on Saturday morning) and then cleaning up after the service on Sunday. If you feel called to this ministry please talk to Anna Brennan, our Altar Guild chair.

We are also looking for more **Chalice Bearers** and **Acolytes**. If you are led to one of these ministries, please talk to Mike. Thank you!

## Changing From the Inside Out

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old, worn out Bible.

His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day, the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was impossible to carry water in a basket, and he went to get a bucket instead. The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty.

Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" the old man said. "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean. "Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

Thus, we must "Give diligence (study) to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). "Already ye are clean because of the word which I have spoken unto you" (John 15:3). "Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word" (Psalm 119:9). "For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrew 4:12). Are you being cleaned from the inside out?

Tom Moore  
Park Heights Church of Christ, Hamilton, TX

## The Road Ahead

Thomas Merton

My Lord God,

I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself,

and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, will I trust you always

though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

I will not fear, for you are ever with me,

and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Amen



## Anna Brennan's Chicken Tortellini Soup

Originally created by  
Mary Seielstad  
Sparks, NV

*Makes 4-6 servings  
Serving size is 3/4 cup*

- 1 Tbsp. olive oil**
- 4 cloves garlic, minced**
- 5 cups low-sodium chicken broth**
- 9 oz. pkg. frozen cheese tortellini**
- 2 1/2 cups diced cooked chicken**
- 14-oz. can no-salt-added stewed tomatoes**
- 10-oz. pkg. frozen spinach**
- 1/2 tsp. pepper**
- 1 tsp. dried basil**
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan**

1. In large saucepan, heat olive oil and sauté garlic for 2 minutes over medium heat.
2. Stir in broth and tortellini and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 5 minutes.
3. Add cooked chicken, tomatoes, frozen spinach, pepper, and basil and simmer 10-15 minutes. Stir every 3 minutes or so, breaking up frozen spinach and blending it into the soup.
4. Serve when soup is heated through, along with Parmesan cheese to spoon over individual servings.

**Exchange List Values:** Starch 1.5, Vegetable 1.0, Lean Meat 2.0, Fat 1.0

**Basic Nutritional Values:** Calories 291 (Calories from Fat 94), Total Fat 10 gm (Saturated Fat 3.5 gm, Trans Fat 0.0 gm, Polyunsat Fat 2.0, Monounsat Fat 3.9 gm, Cholesterol 54 mg), Sodium 396 mg, Total Carbohydrate 29 gm, Dietary Fiber 3 gm, Sugars 4 gm, Protein 23 gm

## Five Finger Prayer

The five finger prayer is a great way to teach someone to pray, or a good model for anyone to use to pray. Remember, James 5:13-16 teaches us to pray for one another.

**First, your thumb is nearest you.** Begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you.

**Second, the next finger, is the pointing finger.** Pray for those who teach, instruct and offer comfort. This can include teachers, doctors, nurses, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

**Third comes the tallest finger.** It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide the public in many different ways. They need God's guidance.

**Fourth comes our ring finger.** We could pray for marriages and families. We could also pray for those who are weak, because our ring finger is the weakest of the five. You cannot pray too much for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain.

**Fifth comes our little finger.** It is the smallest of the five. It should remind us of our place in relation to God and others. God's Word teaches us that, "the least shall be the greatest among you" (Matthew 23:11). Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put in proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

Are you praying?

Lance Morrisett  
Hooker Church of Christ, Hooker, OK



## Easter Memorial and Thanksgiving Flowers

Name of Donor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

In  memory of OR in  thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

(please check one)

\_\_\_\_\_

The deadline is Sunday, April 10.  
Please place the completed form and your donation in the offering basket  
or in the basket on the table in the parish hall.

Thank you.

Those who leave  
everything in  
**GOD'S HAND**  
will eventually see  
God's hand in  
everything.

## *The Beacon*

**LIGHT OF CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
**P.O. BOX 609**  
**9500 NORTHUMBERLAND HIGHWAY**  
**HEATHSVILLE, VIRGINIA 22473**

*The deadline for the Beacon is the  
third Sunday of each month.*



### **Upcoming Events for April 2022**

**April 5**

**Last Lenten Soup Supper - 5 p.m.**

**April 14**

**Maundy Thursday Service - 6:30 p.m.**

**April 15**

**Good Friday Service - 6:30 p.m.**

**April 16**

**LOC Tent at Heathsville Farmers' Market**

**April 17**

**Easter Sunday**

**April 22**

**Free Dinner & Movie Night (TBA) - 5:30 p.m.**

**MAY 6-8**

**Bishop's Visit to LOC**