



THE CLOAK

A publication of

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

June 2018



Thoughts on Ordinary Time

Ordinary Time means a number of things in the Episcopal Church. Ordinary time is the longest season in the church's year. It is thirty three weeks in total and is divided into two sections. The first section is short and the second section is very long. The first section is the weeks between Christmas and Lent. The second section and longer section, is the weeks between Pentecost and Advent.

The word ordinary comes from the word *ordinal* which means counted. Each week is known by a number, for example the 5th Sunday after Pentecost.

The most noticeable change when one enters the church is the color of Ordinary time. The liturgical color changes to Green. Clergy are vested in green and the church altar, sacramental veil, frontals and pulpit are in green. It is the color representing growth, new life and nature.

While Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter focus on particular aspects of Christ's life, his birth, suffering, death and resurrection, Ordinary time celebrates Jesus' teaching and ministry. This gives us time to reflect on how we live as Christians. We have thirty three weeks to examine our lives and focus on the Gospels.

It is the time when we settle in for the usual daily services and readings that we find in the Book of Common Prayer. It is not an ordinary time really, as it is rich in the time that we are able to be to explore our worship. On feast days we are in the midst of celebration during ordinary time we can reflect on them and our growth.

It is important for us to rest in the spirituality of ordinary time as it contains the essence of who we are in the 'everydayness' of our Christian lives.

For me, ordinary time signals the beginning of summer, wearing lighter vestments, reflecting and meditating on the deck occasionally with a cool drink. It is a time for discovering new spiritually uplifting books, taking walks, and learning about nature while simply enjoying the sunshine again.

It is a time of refreshment and inspiration to carry us through the dark days of winter. June is a traditional time for weddings as they are an expression of love and new life. Like the butterfly that transforms itself from a larvae to a beautiful creature that dances on flowers. Ordinary time is for us the time to view the magnificence of transformation and to experience growth in our own lives through our faith in Jesus Christ.

Forward Day by Day is the Episcopal daily readings and meditations, and **Sacred Space** is an Irish Jesuit website that also provides a way to pray with the readings for each day. I pray you will find time to reflect, pray and meditate during this wonderful season of Ordinary Time, strengthening your hearts and minds and daily lives in the knowledge and love of the resurrection.

Blessings, Rev Melodie+

Ministry Opportunities! Is this a CALL to YOU?

Hospitality – We need people to sign up to be **Greeters** once a month – means handing out bulletins, taking up the elements and collection. Could this be a way to serve?

We also need people to sign up for **coffee hour**. It can be as simple as a plate of cookies and making coffee, or as fancy as you like.

Are **flowers** your thing? Lorna could always use some new hands with arranging flowers for Sunday services.

Can you lend a hand with **yard work and our playground?**

Watch for work days outdoors in the sunshine to tidy the shrubs and restore the playground.

Our **Welcome Bags** for visitors need more tiny jars of strawberry jam (4 oz.) It's strawberry season! Are you a cook?

Office Volunteer – with the departure of Joseph, we now have an opening for someone on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays to help keep the office open more days a week. It's a variety of easy tasks, and your welcoming presence at St. Martin's. Computer skills are helpful but not required. See Rev. Melodie+.

Two twins were talking in the womb:

From Rev. Melodie's sermon
on Sunday May 27, 2018

Tell me, do you believe in life after birth?

Of course. After birth comes life. Perhaps we are here to prepare for what comes after birth.

Forget it! After birth there is nothing! From there, no one has returned! And besides, what would it look like?

I do not know exactly, but I feel that there are lights everywhere ... Perhaps we walk on our own feet, and eat with our mouth.

This is [crazy]! Walking isn't possible! And how can we eat with that ridiculous mouth? Can't you see the umbilical cord? And for that matter, think about it for a second: postnatal life isn't possible because the cord is too short.

Yes, but I think there is definitely something, just in a different way than what we call life.

You're [wrong]. Birth is the end of life and that's it.

Look, I do not know exactly what will happen, but Mother will help us...

The Mother? Do you believe in the Mother? !

Yes.

Do not be ridiculous! Have you seen the Mother anywhere? Has anyone seen her at all?

No, but she is all around us. We live within her. And certainly, it is thanks to her that we exist.

Well, now leave me alone with this [nonsense]. I'll believe in Mother when I see her.

You can not see her, but if you're quiet, you can hear her song, you can feel her love. If you're quiet, you can feel her caress and you will feel her protective hands.

Credits: Originally written in Hungarian by Útmutató a Léleknek, translated by Miranda Linda Weisz.

<http://mylifeyoga.com/2013/04/13/two-twins-talking-in-the-womb/>



**Joseph Vanpool's
Thank You &
Goodbye Cake.**

Joseph writes us a note!

I truly love this Parish, and I adore this congregation. I'm really going to miss these wonderful people. Not only did they accept me and bring me into their fold, they let me serve and share in their Ministry. Through them I learned a lot about what it means to serve the church and to serve Christ. And I am eternally grateful, humbled and honored to be a part of this group of loving and dedicated Christians. Life's journeys will take me to new parishes and different ministries but in my heart I will always be a member of Saint Martin's Episcopal Church. And I pray to God through Jesus Christ that my path leads me back here sometime soon.

This morning when I got to church, I walked in to find this beautifully decorated cake, wonderful cards, hugs and kisses, and fellowship. During today's service the entire congregation surrounded me in group prayer and presented me with my very own beautiful copy of the BCP/Hymnal. A true treasure. I cannot adequately describe the emotion of today's service; I just don't have the words. Thank you to all at St Martin's Episcopal Church, Lebanon Oregon for everything that you've taught me and everything you've given me. And for the genuine love that shone through it all.

Note: Joseph's new mailing address will be in the next updated directory.



ECW Brief Notes:

ECW includes all women of St. Martin's!

Ladies Fun Lunch Friday June 22 at Johnny Carrino's Authentic Italian restaurant in Heritage Mall, Albany.

Next meeting is Saturday August 4 at 10 am to plan for the Trunk Sale, tentatively set for Saturday, September 8.

"Becoming Beloved Community"

Have you noticed the labyrinth poster by the bulletin boards in the parish hall and wondered what it related to?

In 2015, the General Convention of The Episcopal Church adopted a resolution **Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation**

#CO19 https://www.episcopalarchives.org/cgi-bin/acts/acts_resolution-complete.pl?resolution=2015-C019

As part of that work, we emphasize our **Baptismal Promises** which we say on the first Sunday of the month and look for ways to enact them here in Lebanon – and reflect on what we at St. Martin's have done so far and what we have left undone and could plan to start doing better.

- ✦ We will persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.
- ✦ We will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ
- ✦ We will seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.
- ✦ We will strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being

This reconciliation is part of the Episcopal Church's work in **The Jesus Movement** →

Saturday, June 16, 8 a.m.
One Buck Seminary Discussion led by Bishop Thornton



Topic: "William Barber and the Poor People's Campaign"

Barber was a friend of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Reading packets are ready.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Coffee & Refreshments.

What is the "Jesus Movement" that Presiding Bishop Michael Curry speaks about?

Bishop Curry says, "We're following Jesus into loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God, with each other and with the earth."

How do we join?

First, we follow Jesus. We are simply the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, seeking every day to love God with our whole heart, mind and soul, and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:36-40). Just like Jesus.

What's our work?

We're working on simple practices for each priority area – if it's a Movement, then we should all be able to grasp the ideas and get on board. Then we're mapping a strategy that inspires and equips all of us to join God and make a difference. The Jesus Movement takes you places. For the Episcopal Church, it calls us to focus on three specific Jesus Movement Priorities:

- ✦ Evangelism
- ✦ Reconciliation
- ✦ Creation Care

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/jesus-movement>

Personal Care Kits

Our next visit is Friday, **June 29**. Watch for SUDSY SUNDAYS in June. Join us making kits Friday morning and/or coming to distribute Friday afternoon, to welcome guests in Jesus name.

Donations can be made at any time to help purchase items. Please fill out an "in kind" donation form so we can show how the parish supports this outreach ministry.

VESTRY held a Retreat on May 5 to work on mission and vision. They met June 6 for regular business including seeking a member to fill out the vacancy when Joseph Vanpool left.

Our monthly Parish Potluck becomes **Family Fun Fridays** this summer, on June 22, July 27, August 24; 6-8 PM.

Please come, join the fun. We will have family friendly games outside and inside, including board games - remember how much fun we had on Game Night? We hope that our neighbors young and old will join in, and we will celebrate when the playground work is finished.



Save the Date: **Ecumenical Eucharist on Sunday August 12** time TBA at Timber-Linn Park, Albany, with St. Alban's, Faith Lutheran, etc. (pictures from previous years)



Ellie Davis Memorial Playground

Upgrades and maintenance
Watch for Work Party days.

Using some Ellie Davis Memorial funds and hoped for Pentecost grant from Diocese, we will make a budget, shopping list, and to-do list. Many hands make light work. We hope to have the neighbors involved, as well.

Join us in Worship Sundays at 10 a.m.

- ✦ **June 3 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist & Healing Prayers**
- ✦ **June 10 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, 10 am Holy Eucharist,**
- ✦ **June 17 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost, FATHER'S DAY, 10 am Holy Eucharist**
- ✦ **June 24 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost, 10 am Holy Eucharist**

SAVE THE DATE ---

If you get the CLOAK by email, you can find the monthly event calendar on the webpage. Please pick up your CLOAKS to save the postage of mailing.

THE CLOAK
St. Martin's Episcopal Church

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