



The Tentmaker

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Daphne, Alabama

June 24, 2020

Message from Thack

Last Monday we remembered St. Alban in our Church calendar. St. Alban was the first Church martyr in Britain. A Roman soldier stationed in Britain during the Third Century, Alban gave aid and comfort to a fugitive Christian priest by hiding him in his home. The priest was such a compelling model of Christian piety, kindness and love that Alban asked to be baptized. He eventually assumed the priest's identity when the Roman authorities went to Alban's house to arrest him. Alban was subsequently tortured and executed for not renouncing the faith in the one, true God.

Alban's courage and unshakable faith inspired his first executioner to throw down his sword and ask to be martyred either in Alban's place or with Alban. They both died for the faith.

St. Alban is venerated because of his "incarnational" presence after his arrest by Roman authorities. The language of "incarnational presence" represents the rooting of our lives and the gospel into the places we live. He literally personified Christ in the presence of his persecutors.

The word "incarnation" comes from a Latin word that literally means "in the flesh." It refers to the act whereby God took on human flesh and entered into our world to bring about reconciliation between himself and humanity. The incarnation is God's ultimate participation in creation (John 3:16-17). When God entered into our world in and through the person of Jesus, He came to live among us. As Eugene Peterson said in his contemporary Bible *The Message*, "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood" (John 1:14, *The Message*).

The Incarnation not only qualifies God's acts in the world, but also must qualify ours. If God's central way of reaching His world was to incarnate himself in Jesus, then our way of reaching the world should likewise be incarnational. That said, it is important to acknowledge that the incarnation of Jesus was a special, unrepeatable event. Further, as we enter into the world of others, we certainly cannot take on another's identity in the fully integrated way that Jesus did. But we can make a distinction between the Incarnation with a capital "I" and incarnational ministry.

Obviously, there is nothing wrong to pattern our lives after the life of Jesus. The apostles encouraged Christians to imitate Christ as a way of identifying with Him. Both Peter (1 Pet. 2:21) and Paul (1 Cor. 11:1) insisted that Jesus is to be the model for Christian living. Peter makes clear that Jesus' life is to be our example.

Paul makes this point even more strongly in his Letter to the Philippians, in which he tells us, "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5). We often assume that this passage then commends to us Jesus' humility, which is clearly present in the text. But Jesus' humility is commended to us insofar as it is expressed in his commitments to identification and relinquishment. First, to follow Jesus' example means that we should share his profoundly humble identification with humankind (Phil. 2:7b-8a). Second, those of us who wish to emulate Jesus should be aware of his equally humble willingness to empty himself and make himself nothing for the sake of God's redemptive purposes (Phil. 2:6-7a). In other words, to embrace an incarnational ministry involves a willingness to relinquish our own desires and interests in the service of others.

This passage from Philippians speaks to two very important ideas related to incarnational mission — the concepts of “proximity” and “presence.” Incarnational ministry must involve living in close proximity with others. We cannot love and serve those God has sent us to from a distance. Just as Jesus took on flesh and blood and moved into the “neighborhood,” we must do likewise. This will demand creating time and space to be directly and actively involved in the lives of the people around us, whether at home, work and beyond.

The concept of presence moves beyond mere proximity to identification and surrender. Jesus identified with and advocated for those to whom he was called. As the Philippians passage makes clear, he *humbled* himself. He literally emptied himself for the sake of others. This realization suggests an incarnational approach that calls us to relational identification with our neighbors that will lead to tangible acts of love and sacrifice.

In the incarnation of Jesus Christ, God revealed himself as the One who is with and for his creation. Now, as the Risen Lord sends his Spirit to empower the church, we are called to become God’s people present in the world, with and for the world, and like John the Baptist, always pointing to Christ. Incarnational witness is therefore a way of describing how we should pattern our lives as Christians. To this end, we should always ask ourselves, “Can the world see Christ in me?”

So, what does all this talk of identification, proximity, and presence have to do with daily living? It may sound like a cliché, but it really is all about relationships. It’s about getting close enough to people to listen, understand their hopes and dreams, and actually come to like and love them.

Our “neighborhood” is in a state of radical change. Between the Covid-19 Pandemic and race relations, our world needs us to be incarnational people more than ever. Now is not the time to be complacent about our faith because we haven’t been attending church as much lately. Please look around you for people and places that are crying for Christ and be that person.

Peace, Thack

We miss you!

You have been greatly missed since the Covid-19 shutdown. While I know and appreciate that some of you are still reluctant to attend public worship because of age considerations and underlying health issues, please know for those who don’t have such concerns, church attendance at St. Paul’s is a relatively safe experience. We have done what we can to maintain the safety of our parish family. For example, unlike the grocery store, drug store, and the workplace, *everyone* wears a mask during worship. Social distancing is also practiced every Sunday at church, unlike at the beach, restaurants, and other public places of recreation. Communion is also safely distributed to insure proper social distancing. Accordingly, worship at church is safer than anywhere else you may have to go in public during this time.

I offer this because it is not church without the church family. I know it’s easy to get out of the habit of coming to worship, especially given the current conditions. It’s also easier to watch church live stream in your pajamas rather than dressing and driving to church. Yet it is worship *as a community* that feeds our souls and connects us as a body of Christ. Therefore, when you are ready, please consider live worship as an option again. We would love to see you! Thack



Liston Jones laying the flagstone for our new church bell. Thank you again to Liston Jones, Howard Wilson and the men's group for the wonderful job you've done beautifying our campus.



Picture of the Nave taped off for Social Distancing.

Everyone is also wearing a face mask.



This is a hard note to write!!!

I have been blessed to be part of St. Paul's Parish for 27 years. Now I must say goodbye. I'm moving to Durham, N.C. to be near my daughters and grandchildren and to open a new chapter in my life. So sad to be leaving you all - especially at a time when we can't even come together for wine or hugs.

I pray you will continue to bless others as you have blessed me. As my Mother use to say, "You are part of all that you have met." She was right!!! My life is richer for having been part of this parish family. Your joy, love and stamina will go with me as I embrace this new adventure.

I will keep my same phone number so if you are near Durham, please call!! Come to visit (the door is always open), keep in touch.

God's love and peace always,
Jeanne Alton

United Thank Offering

Father's Day was Sunday, June 21st. It was a wonderful day to begin our ingathering for the United Thank Offering donations. You can still bring in your boxes, envelopes, and checks and place them in the basket on the UTO table in St. Paul's narthex. If you give a check, please write UTO in the lower left-hand corner designated - for.

Realizing times are crazy right now, I will be collecting donations for several weeks. Thank You for your generosity, caring, and loving gestures toward others in need.

Yours in Christ
Megrez



I don't know if Arrior's sweet shop will be selling again, but not in near future for sure. The money earned from the Sweet Shop goes directly to the building fund, so I will be happy to bake for anyone who wants to order. Plus, I've gotten pretty good at yummy breads. Here are a few of the things I bake: Bread pudding with whiskey sauce, chocolate flourless torte, cookies, bars, pound cakes of many kinds, cheesecakes of any kind you want, rye bread, sticky buns, onion poppy seed bread ring and other breads. Currently I have available a lemon cream cheese pound cake and a loaf of zucchini bread. Call me at 625-3406 or email me at nkincade@yahoo.com with your orders. Give me two days lead time.

Thanx Nancy Dziubakowski

ST. PAUL'S SERVICES:

Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 am

**Live and Live Streamed
(Must wear Face mask)**

Monday-Saturday

Morning Prayer
8:05 a.m.

Live Streamed Only

Wednesday

Healing Prayers
Wednesday
NOON

Live Streamed Only

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday:
8:00 am -- 4:30 pm

Friday:
8:00 am -- 11:30 am

St. Paul's Thrift Shop
251-626-6102

St. Paul's Preschool
251-626-2774

BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday

Christian Education
Adults (Malone Hall)
9:15 am

ZOOM Meeting Only

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study
(Malone Hall)
6:00 am

ZOOM Meeting Only

Wednesday

Morning Bible Study
(Malone)
10:30 am

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Term Ending

December 31, 2020

Bill Harrison, Sr. Warden
Liston Jones
Boyd Miller
Donna Nolte

December 31, 2021

Donna Brown
Kathy Mallory
Ken McNamara
Michael Quinn

December 31, 2022

Joe Cook, Jr. Warden
Henry Esham
Jim Green
Tim Michael
~
Martha Lathan,
Clerk of the Vestry

Janet Norman
Treasurer

Church Website

www.stpaulseasternshore.com

Email Address

officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Facebook Page

St. Paul's Eastern Shore

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251-626-2421

Fax

251-626-2456



The parish office will be closed Monday, July 6th in observance of the Fourth of July Holiday. Have a blessed and safe holiday weekend.

What's Happening in Chris Ed?

The last few months have been an interesting time for Chris Ed! Usually, the months leading up to Summer are filled with planning and preparation for Easter, Pentecost, and of course, VBS! This year, our planning and preparation has been filled with “on again, off again” scheduling, but I feel like this year’s preparations will make for an amazing 2021! Between virtual trainings and collaboration time with other parishes in our diocese, we are preparing for the time when we can open again with a boom. VBS plans are in the works, but on hold until the time is right. Cleaning, reorganizing, and updates are being made to our Children’s Chapel and Sunday School space. In the meantime, we are offering virtual Sunday School with Godly Play on our Children’s and Family Ministry Facebook page, *Heart’s Alive* curriculum tailored to your child’s ages in lieu of Children’s Chapel, and will be incorporating a story time read by our St. Paul’s Youth! Also, this is a great time to become Safeguard certified to work with our children and youth programs. There will be more details to come for Children’s Ministry events as we work our way through these strange times. We are believing the best is yet to come, and we’ll be prepared and excited when we are able to worship together again in Chapel!

St. Paul’s Preschool

We are excited to announce that we plan to reopen our doors July 6th for Preschool Summer Camp! This will be a 4 week event for preschool families to end their school year, celebrate, and add a few camper friends in the spaces available to those who decide not to come back.

Our teachers will be working over the next 2 weeks to prepare for camps as well as the 2020-2021 school year, making necessary adjustments to our classrooms and shared spaces to accommodate the CDC and State requirements. We are beyond excited to be back in the classroom!

A note from St. Paul’s Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop Board and Staff are excited to watch our addition take shape and seem like a reality. With good weather and some hard work, we hope to see its completion by the end of July. So close but still so far away.

In the meantime, the Staff has rearranged the show room and we are carrying as much furniture as possible. This has been well received and sales have been very steady.

The Shop continues to operate from Tuesday through Saturday with hours from 10 am until 3 pm. While a good number of volunteers have been unable to return to the shop, those that are coming are often pulling double duty. With fewer volunteers, it is hard to fill all the time slots. So, if you have a few free hours, please consider volunteering. So many areas could use your talents, including cashiering, hanging clothes, sorting clothes, linens, toys, housewares, and greeting customers at the door.

Also, the 4th of July is just around the corner and we will have lots of decorations and items for the holiday. Please stop by and see what you can pick up at a very reasonable cost.

Prayer Requests

Immediate Prayer Requests:

Skip Albee, Ray & Rosemary Bing, Natan Bolton, Sunmee Comer, Rip Cox, Megan Dimoff, Jonathan Doyle, Vince Duffy, Puddy Dyson, David Grey, Linda and Ray Hamilton, Terri Hare, Eileen Head, Blair Holbein, Victoria Kennedy, Tracie Knight, Kathleen Moran Lalor, Ashley Lathan, Carolyn Magruder, John McClendon, Isabel McKnight, Bob Rutherford, Genie Foster Sanford, D'ana Snow & Marty Adams, John Sopala, Wally & Sue Swanson, Tim Tirey, George Warren, Bud Wallace, Travis Wilburn, Rick Zwickey

Ongoing Prayer Requests:

Dave Baldock, Christopher Blackwell, Christopher Bridges, Pat Brislin, Marsha Butler, Pat Cannon, Jim Council, Margie Cowart, Margaret Cummins, Suzanne Damour, Dee Grantham, Carol Hafner, Roy Hall, Wanda Hall, Trevor Hawkes, Susan Hill, Jossie Hurst, Leslie Johnson, Theresa Johnson, Geoff Jones, Alexander Kielek, Beverly Koepp, David Lee, Patrick Lynch, Bob McKnight, Ken McNamara, Lance Monley, Doug Montgomery, Ross Moore, Lou Morgan, Buddy Morrow, Elsie Mosher, Sara Patton, Al Rawls, Rochelle Robinson, Mary Rudolf, Zera Roussel, Stephanie Sanchez, Bennie Savage, Pat Schlimmer, Nick Shoultz, Cathy Slagle, Phyllis Springen, Albert Thompson, Julia Warren

For the Departed:

For Those Serving in the Military: Crew of the USS Roosevelt

Ryan Bowman, Matthew Cheatham, Chase Clark, Jackson Deaton, Michael Duchesne, Christopher Dukarm, Chris Evans, Diana Evans, Landis Fouts, Deron Frailie, Steven Grey, Matthew Harris, Rusty Henry, Karen Hubley, Daniel James, Matt Jones, Shane Kennedy, Daniel Lambert, Chris Lessard, David McMillan, Patrick Mong, Bryan Quinn, Neil Quinn, Justin Ramsey, Neil Sevelius, Derek Siegel, Andy Tuttle, Brad Yonkers

For those with Birthdays:

June 23-30: (23) Marianne Loes, Nicole Denham, Paul Thomason, (24) Elizabeth Poe, Christopher Currie, Kimberly Overstreet, (25) John Matson, Amelia Marron, Caroline Marron, (27) Pam Schmidt, (28) Logan Dunn, (29) Barbara Pollock, Carianne Brown, (30) Theresa Johnson, Sam Parker, Colton Bridges

July 1-31: (01) Pat Gatlin, Tina Erickson, (02) Erica Marron, Audrey Wilson, Kyle Loes, (03) Kelleigh Cassity, (04) J.J. Lamb, Miguel Arreola Gomez, (05) Elizabeth Faust, Sarah Hale, Jeffie Parish, Beth Johnston, (06) Rebecca Cox, Diana Evans, (08) Terea McMaster, Chase Jackson, (09) Ed Kirby, John Rudolf, Linda Organic, Christian Lucas, (10) Randy Walton, (11) Wendy Robertson, (12) John Strange, Pat McKeown, Josh Dedrickson, (13) Eileen Henderson, Dean DeNeefe, (15) Sally Boom, Betsy Moseley, Lee Richards, Jonathan Doyle, (16) Mike Koepp, (17) Amy McKnight, David DeNeefe, (20) Arnold Farmer, Louise Green, Linda McNamara, Helen Walton, Esteban Morrow-Reece, (21) Micah Porter, (22) Matthew Thomason, (23) Patti Gatlin, Bill Harrison, Coleman Wood, Melissa Hoercher, J.D. Ross, (24) Jerry Dixon, Catherine Kiser, Matthew Robertson, (25) Alice Frederick, Jim Blackwell, (26) Carson Nicolson, (27) Shellie Teague, (28) Sue Ann Turnipseed, Harper Beckham, (29) Marty Adams, Gabriela Pino, Marshall Eppes, Audri Richards, Craig Morgan, Holly Wolfrom, (30) Dorothy Moore, Casey Williams, Carol Eppes, Megrez Mosher, Anna Lynn Akins, (31) Stephen Pecot, D'ana Snow, Susan Johnson

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Daphne, Alabama 36526

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The Rev. Thack H. Dyson, *Rector*

Elizabeth Faust, *Christian Education & Preschool Administrator*

Tina Erickson, *Youth Leader*

David Kielek, *Life Center Sexton*

John Matson, *Choirmaster*

Terri McMillan, *Administrative Assistant*

Joan McKnight, *Staff Assistant*

Office Hours 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Monday-Thursday)

8:00 a.m. — Noon (Friday)

Church Telephone: 251-626-2421 Fax: 251-626-2456

E-mail: officestpaulsdaphne@gmail.com

Facebook Page: St. Paul's Eastern Shore

Thrift Shop Telephone: 251-626-6102

***We worship together as we seek God, serve God,
and share God with love and acceptance for all.***