



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
THE LION'S PAUSE



Greetings!

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)

Read This Week's Lesson

Frankly Speaking

This Sunday, many will don red clothing to commemorate Reformation Sunday and the life and witness of Martin Luther. To put Reformation Sunday in context and challenge our thinking about the Reformation, here are excerpts from a 2011 Diana Butler Bass blog post: [Putting the Protest Back in Protestant](#). [Click here](#) if you would like to read the full article.

. . . On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther challenged the Roman Catholic Church's theology of salvation and sacraments, thus initiating the religious movement that became known as Protestantism. On the Sunday before October 31, Lutherans (and some Presbyterians and Congregationalists) recall these events in worship.

.....

It strikes me as interesting that those who followed the teaching of the new reform movement did not come to be known as “Reformists,” rather the moniker that stuck was “Protestant.” Luther and his associates were protesters rather than reformers—they stood up against the religious conventions of the day, arguing on behalf of those suffering under religious, social, and economic oppression. These religious protesters accused the church of their day of being too rich, too political, in thrall to kings and princes, having sold its soul to the powerful. The original Protestants preached, taught, and argued for freedom—spiritual, economic, and political—and for God’s justice to be embodied in the church and the world.

It is time to put the protest back in Protestantism.

The heart of Protestantism is the courage to challenge injustice and to give voice to those who have no voice. Protestantism opened access for all people to experience God’s grace and God’s bounty, not only spiritually but actually. The early Protestants believed that they were not only creating a new church, but they were creating a new world, one that would resemble more fully God’s desire for humanity. The original Protestant impulse was to resist powers of worldly dominion and domination in favor of the power of God’s spirit to transform human hearts and society. Protestants were not content with the status quo. They felt a deep discomfort within. They knew things were not right. And they set out to change the world.

In the United States, Protestantism has often been torn between the impulse to protest (the abolition movement, women’s rights movements, the Civil Rights movement) and the complacency of content by virtue of being the majority religion. After all, if you are the largest religious group in society—if you shape the culture—what do you protest? Yourself? Protestant success in the United States has always been a bit at odds with the primary

impulse of the faith to resist convention in favor of challenging injustice.

Now, however, as part of a religious plurality and no longer the majority faith, Protestants can rediscover the courageous part of their identity too long hidden under a veneer of cultural success.

Diane Butler Bass' post continued by urging Protestant churches to start a protest movement for good government and "a nurturing capitalism that . . . [promotes] a universal economy of human flourishing."

Throughout Mark's gospel we hear that the kingdom of God has come near. In Sunday's Gospel (Mark 10:46-52), the blind beggar Bartimaeus emerged from the crowd and cried out to Jesus: "Son of David, have mercy on me! . . . My teacher, let me see again." I wonder how each of us is called to live out our baptismal vow to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." (BCP, 305) How might each of us, through word and deed, recapture our forebears' tradition of reform and protest to proclaim the kingdom of God?

Notable *Music this Sunday*

For this Sunday of the Reformation we will use Luther's "A Mighty Fortress" both as a congregational hymn and a choral setting

using Luther's vigorous original rhythm. Bach's "I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ" - a miniature masterpiece of the organ literature will comprise the prelude. Soloist Norman Warren will present Oswald Smith / Homer Rodeheaver's Gospel song "Then Jesus Came" which is based on the Gospel lesson of the day.

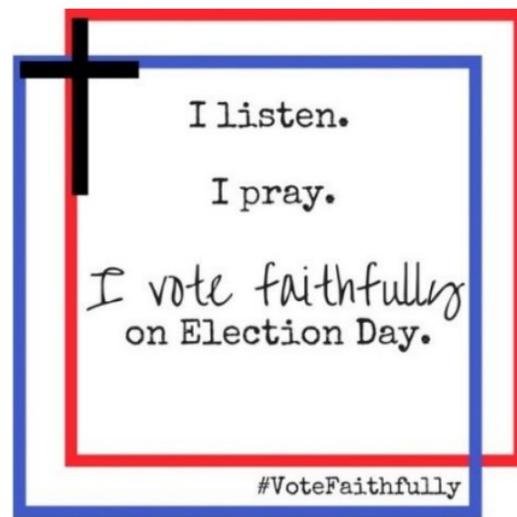
A message from the Bishop:

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

For each of us, as citizens of the United States, voting is both a right and a responsibility. The democratic society to which we aspire is dependent upon our thoughtful and informed participation. As well, voting is an important vehicle for the responsible exercise of our vocation to be Christian. It is one way we give voice to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and bring to life the values that our relationship with him inspires.

As we approach Election Day, I encourage you to exercise your responsibility as a citizen and as a Christian, and vote on or before November 6. In preparing to do so, you may find this linked resource helpful.

Gratefully,
The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.
Bishop of Ohio



Saturday, October 27:
Altar Guild Cleaning Day, 9:00am

Tuesday, October 30:
Finance Committee, 3:30pm (Library)

Wednesday, October 31:
Study Group, 10:30am (Family Room)

MOD Squad - Save the Dates
Wednesday, November 14th, 6:30pm (Mulligan's Pub)
Wednesday, December 5th, 6:30pm (TBD)

THE WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be on Tuesday,
December 18, at the Massillon Woman's Club. Guests are
welcome. Please mark your calendar now. More information will
be available in November.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS DOWNTOWN
Holiday time of the year is rapidly approaching. We will again
be helping our Canton neighbors in need of food at
Thanksgiving. We are collecting one item only: stuffing mix.
Our window of collection is very limited. Please help us stuff
the narthex with stuffing by the end of October. Last year
there were a thousand families in need of food. Please leave
stuffing mix on the front table. Thank you!

THANKSGIVING BASKET "MOVING NIGHT"
We also will be helping on "Moving Night," Friday, **November
16th** as the filled baskets are moved upstairs to the St. Paul's
Canton parish hall. Compline and a reflection will follow this
work. The time will be announced. this is a great activity for
junior and senior high school students and older "kids" too!
To sign up, [click here](#)

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS WRAP
Please join us on **Sunday, December 2nd at 9:00am!**
Wrappers are asked to bring their own scissors.
Many hands make light work.

Save the Date:
Monday, November 5th: Election Eve Prayers, 7:00pm
Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd: Holy Eucharist, 10:00am
Christmas Eve, 5:30pm (family service) & 10:00pm
Christmas Day, 10:00am
December 30th: Lessons and Carols 10:00am

Puppet Gang

Puppet Gang Sunday Practices for the Christmas Show

October: 28

November: 11, 25

December 9: Dress Rehearsal

December 16: Show

Please respond to text reminders the Saturday before practice.
For more information, please contact
Sandy Paradis or Jan Hudson.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Ken Pakenham, Joan Werren, Ron Hill,
Peg Hill, Ken McPeck, Conley Family, Tom Burns

Family and Friends: Susan, Johnny Willoughby, The Shafer Family (friends of the Gordons), Layna (friend of Boyds), The Moore Family (friends of Nadels), The Latora Family, Erin, Allison & Family, Carol Morton, Barry (friend of Gordons), James McIlvaine (Sandi Kaustinen's father), Baby Hudson, Shirley Allen (friend of the Mulls), Michelle Garber (family of Geoff and Bobbi Gordon), Matt Gagnon, The Kesslers, Gabe Russo (cousin of Katie Cerrone-Arnold), Mary Frech, John Helmkamp (friend of Ron and Cindy Brown)

For the birth of:

Trystan Jacob (grandson of Jane & Bruce Schutrum)

For all those serving in the armed forces:

For all those who have died.

-Please share updates with Bobbi Gordon.-

PRAYER CHAIN:

St. Mark's has a group of prayer warriors who pray for specific needs of those on the prayer chain. If you would like to place yourself or a loved one on the prayer chain, please contact Bobbi Gordon at

ggordon24@sbcglobal.net

Please note, prayer requests may be placed on the Prayer Chain, in the Sunday bulletin's Prayer Concerns, or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference.



THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF OHIO

This Week's Bicentennial Prayer comes from:

St. Timothy's Church - Massillon

Faithful God,
we thank you for steadfastly guiding the people of St.
Timothy's
through many generations these past 180 years.
Give us the courage to seek you in our community,
the faith to step out in boldness,
and the trust that you will never forsake us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Upcoming Servers

Servers today Sunday, October 28th:

Acolytes, 8:00am: Susie Hines

Acolytes, 8:00am: Sharon Ryan

Acolytes, 10:00am: Lesley Kiesling, Alexis Wilson, Colin Jenkins, Lauren Hoot, Justin Crowl

Eucharistic Minister, 8:00am: Diana Cornell

Eucharistic Ministers, 10:00am: Bruce Schutrum

Ushers: Robert Kocab, Alex Korosi, Mike Ryan

Altar Guild 8:00am: Susie Hines, Carol Popovic

Altar Guild 10:00am: Louise Moore

If you are unable to serve, please try to find a sub as soon as possible and notify the office. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,
St. Mark's Episcopal Church



515 48TH ST. NW CANTON, OH 44709
330.499.2662 | OFFICE@STMARKS-CANTON.ORG
WWW.STMARKS-CANTON.ORG

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We seek to unite all people with God and each other in Christ through worship, fellowship, education, and service.

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