

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
201 EAST CHURCH STREET  
MARSHALLTOWN, IA 50158

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## MARCH EPISTLE 2022

A Publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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### **A Litany for Ukraine**

by Iris de León-Hartshorn, Associate Executive Director, Mennonite Church USA

**All: Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine,**

One: As they seek refuge from the terrible effects of war.

**All: May they find shelter in God's arm,**

One: As they try to calm their fears.

**All: May they find comfort in God's arm,**

One: As they worry about where to find food and shelter.

**All: May they find comfort in God's arm,**

One: As they witness the death that war brings.

**All: May they find solace in God's arm,**

One: As they leave their homes behind to find safety.

**All: May they find strength in God's arm.**

One: Deliver us all from the madness of believing good can come from violence.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

One: Give us the courage to resist the myths of violence.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

One: Forgive us our pride as a super military power.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

One: Give us the compassion that gives birth to generosity and hospitality.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

One: Let us show love and mercy for those fleeing war.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

One: Mold us as a people of peace.

**All: God hear our prayer.**

**May God hear our prayers and the cry of the Ukrainian people.**

*An Invitation to a Holy Lent  
The Book of Common Prayer  
Ash Wednesday Service*

Dear People of God:

The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.

This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church.

Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.



Dear People of St. Paul's,

And so, our Lenten journey begins. Let us be continually aware of God's love and mercy as we take to heart this invitation, for without such awareness, our observance can become a spiritual discipline largely devoid of the Good News Jesus came to proclaim and for which he died.

Yes, we are wounded, fragile, self-serving, and sinful. As Paul so famously puts it, "For the good I desire to do, I do not do, but the evil I do not want is what I do."  
~Romans 7:19

And, YES, we are also the Body of Christ, children of a loving God, called to be the light of the world. May we shine, not only during this season of Lent, but daily and in every imaginable way.

Blessings, *Richard*



**NEW WORSHIP BULLETIN FORMATS:** As a way of lowering our operating costs by minimizing our consumption of paper and ink, we are going to try a new approach to our Sunday bulletin production. Beginning on March 6, our bulletins for both services will be reusable rather than specific to a particular Sunday. The lessons, hymns, prayer list, and any announcements will be available as inserts. For this new approach to work, it is important that we preserve our bulletins following worship. Do let us know your thoughts about this new system.

**ANNUAL MEETING RECAP:** On Sunday, February 27, we held our Annual Meeting following our 10:00 a.m. service. At that time, the following parishioners were elected to serve St. Paul's: Joyce Bayne, Senior Warden, Nick Yancey, Junior Warden, P.J. Joslin, Clerk, Nick Yancey, Convention Delegate and Mike Bayne, Convention Delegate. Joyce Bayne was also elected to serve on our Vestry.

**FINE ARTS AT ST. PAUL'S:** We are happy to announce a preliminary line up of events for 2022. There will be a spring concert featuring Resident Artist, Hudson Lourenco, in May, a folk concert in July, a "Spooktacular" concert on Sunday, October 30 at 3:00 p.m. and a Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m. The May and July concert dates will be published after we receive commitments from the artists who will be performing.

**MEALS ON WHEELS:** Sheryl Readout and Glen Davis will be making their deliveries on Wednesday, March 30.

**ST PATRICK'S DAY POTLUCK:** On Thursday March 17, plan to come to church to pray, to eat, and to learn. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. with worship in our Reflection Room and then we will move to the Conference Room for a meal followed by a brief Lenten Program. Corned beef and cabbage will be provided and everyone else is encouraged to bring a side dish or salad to share.



We pray for those who have requested our prayers: Larry Hays, Orlin and Sally Klinkefus, Jim Bayne, Allan, Tom, Joyce Hopfensperger, Sandy Vas, Butch Baer, Beth and Tom Costello, Jon Klinkefus, the McInroy family.

We pray for all those celebrating birthdays in March, especially Brent deSilva, Jonathan Wait, Joeann Finch, Scott Lindborg, and Olivia Hubbard.

We also pray for those observing March anniversaries, especially Mike and Joyce Bayne.

We pray for the clergy and people of every parish in our diocese and for our companion dioceses of Nzara and Swaziland in Africa, and our companion diocese of Brechin in Eastern Scotland.

We pray for all who suffer under the weight of this pandemic and strength for those who labor for our health.

We pray for leaders in every community and nation, especially for Joseph, our President and Kimberly, our Governor, that they might seek justice, promote unity, and care for all those they serve.

### **A Prayer for Ukraine**

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.  
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.  
We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.  
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen

*Archbishops Justin Welby & Stephen Cottrell*

# On the Lighter Side

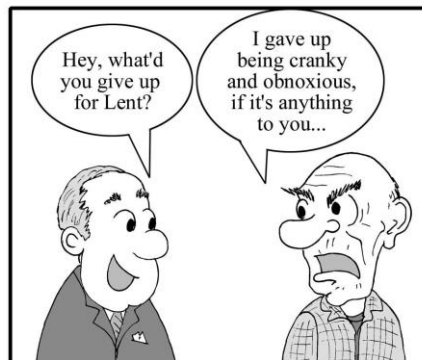
FunStressRelief.com



Thanks to Steve Dryal (See Matthew 4:1-11) 03-31-2009  
INTO BREAD? ... IF YOU'RE GOING TO TEMPT  
IN THIS DAY AND AGE YOU CAN'T GO ALL  
CARB ON PEOPLE FYI



"My parents are giving up desserts for Lent. So I'm balancing the family diet by giving up vegetables."



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