



Crossings

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✠ EPISCOPAL
875 COTTON STREET, SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA
JUNE 29, 2016

Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 9:30 and 11:00 AM
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Wednesday: 12:15 and 6:00 PM

Nursery

Sunday
9:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Choir Practice

Sunday: 9:45 AM

Sunday School

Sunday: 11:00 AM

The Vestry

Reece Middleton, Senior Warden
Gerry Brooks, Jr. Warden
Christine Hennigan, Secretary
Melissa Fowle
Jo Ann Horton
John Hughes
Meredith Lucius
Kendall Raymond

Monty Walford, Treasurer
(non-vestry)

Contact Information

Telephone: (318) 222-3325
Fax: (318) 681-9506
Email: holycrossshr1@bellsouth.net

Please visit our website
www.holycrossshreveport.org

Deadline

Material for *Crossings* must be received by **12:00 Wednesday**.
Please send to
lynn.walford@lsus.edu

"Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire, O still, small voice of calm" Hymns 552 and 553, *The Hymnal, 1982*

Sometimes—most times, probably—it's hard to hear God's voice. We wonder why God doesn't speak out loud or act in earth-shattering events as in Old Testament times so we can make no mistake about God's thoughts and will. Why does God seem to be absent so much of the time, especially when things are not "right" with us and with God's world?

Can it be that we don't know how to listen?

Elijah was pretty sure God was with him—as long as God answered his command. "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again." And life returned to the widow's son (1 Kings 17). "Answer me, O LORD, answer me. . . ." And the Lord sent fire and rain from heaven (1 Kings 19). But when he was afraid for his life and at the point of giving everything up, "he gave Yahweh the word," and God's voice was not so discernible. Frederick Buechner (*Peculiar Treasures, San Francisco: Harper, 1979*) tells the story:

Queen Jezebel was determined to get even with Elijah for what he had done to her spiritual advisers, and to save his skin he went and hid out on Mt. Horeb. Again *he gave Yahweh the word*, not because he wanted anything set on fire this time, but just to keep his hand in.

Again the lightning flashed, and after that a wind came up that almost blew Elijah off his feet, and after that the earth gave such a shake that it almost knocked him silly. But there wasn't so much as a peep out of Yahweh, and Elijah stood there like a ringmaster when the lion won't jump through the hoop.

Only when the fireworks were finished and a terrible hush fell over the mountain did Elijah hear something, and what he heard was so much like silence that it was only *through the ear of faith* that he knew it was Yahweh. Nonetheless, the message came through loud and clear: that there was no longer any question who had been the star at Mt. Carmel, and that not even Elijah could make the Lord God of Hosts jump through a hoop or pop out like a rabbit from a hat.

Elijah at Mt. Horeb



“. . . [W]hat he heard was so much like silence that it was only through the ear of faith that he knew it was Yahweh.” It seems that Elijah’s ego had come between him and his trust in God. He was running and hiding, complaining to God that he was the only one left in Israel who was still faithful to God, even begging God to take his life because he wasn’t so special, after all. So “*again he gave Yahweh the word.*” We can’t see much possibility there for Elijah to hear any new word from God. I wonder how many times we think we have “the plan” for our lives, even think it’s God’s plan for us, and our thoughts are really like an earplug preventing us from hearing God’s answer in our prayers. We believe we ask for a vision, but in reality we’re asking for God’s blessing on what we’ve already decided.

Can it be, on the other hand, that there’s so much noise all around us that we can’t discern God’s voice in our lives? Or that we expect God to answer in a loud, clear voice that shakes the earth like an earthquake, or knocks us off our course like the wind of a hurricane, or burns our plans outright in a great fire, all of a sudden? Our story of Elijah and Yahweh tells us God was not in the hurricane, the wind, or the fire.

It’s true, God does speak in discernible words at times, and if we are willing to hear God’s voice, we can hear it in catastrophic events that warn of our neglect and abuse of nature and one another, or of the tragic futility of war. But I think God’s presence with us is more to be likened to the still air that surrounds us. So quiet that it is easily squelched by noise or crowded out by ego. And it’s true that each century seems to get noisier and make those lives dwelling in it busier—less time to be still, quiet, less time to listen or even be inclined to listen—voices shouting louder and louder to be successful, competitive, the best.

Israel’s journey with Yahweh is enlightening. There’s much the children of Abraham had to learn about the God who is so different from the gods constructed by the pagan peoples; there’s much we can learn from Israel’s stories about the God who is so different from the gods that entice us today. In most of the stories God’s voice comes loud and clear: plagues in Egypt, a sea parted down to the dry land, a bush on Mt. Horeb “all aflame, yet . . . not consumed,” lightning and thunder on the mountain, the walls of a pagan city tumbling down.

But the story of Elijah on Mt. Horeb summons in us a different prayer: that we will listen to hear God’s voice in the silence; that we will build time for silence in our own lives; that we will sharpen our “ear of faith” so we may discern the voice that is the most vital, the most critical, the most loving, and the wisest in our lives because it has only our well-being in its heart.

The Rev. Mary B. Richard

Daily Feast: Meditations on the Word, Year B

Louisville: Westminster, John Knox Press, 2012



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Proper 9, July 3, 2016

*2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30
Galatians 6:1-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20*

(Galatians 6:1-16) Freedom in Christ brings responsibility for the welfare of others. In Christ, believers become keepers of their brothers and sisters. The authentic Christian life humbly devotes itself to the benefit of others, sharing and receiving whatever is helpful.

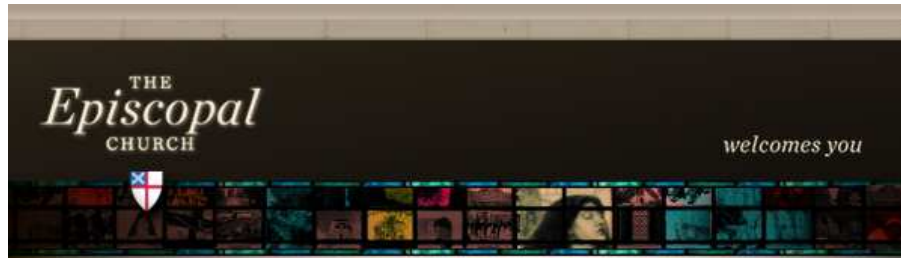
Robert A. Bryant

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 10, July 10, 2016

*Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37*

In our day we tend to think of judgment in an exclusively negative way. A judging God is what we got over when we discovered a loving, gracious God. You have no doubt heard the old chestnut, “The Old Testament is a collection of laws and judgment; the New Testament is a collection of love and Grace.” This is not only a grossly unfair characterization of the Hebrew Scriptures, but also a mischaracterization of biblical views of judgment. In the Bible, the judgments of God are part of the graciousness of God.

William H. Willimon



From the Episcopal Public Policy Network:

Election Toolkit helps Episcopalians engage in nonpartisan activities

Lacy Broemel, manager of Communications and Operations in the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations, explains that Episcopal Church policy recognizes voting and political participation as an act of Christian stewardship. The Church calls upon congregations to engage in conversation about public policy issues, to develop voter registration and issue education campaigns, and to advocate to counteract threats to voting rights.

To provide education about the election as well as to assist in being prepared, the Episcopal Church has developed an online toolkit with a webpage that outlines how individual Episcopalians and congregations can participate in the electoral process through a number of nonpartisan activities.

Through the Episcopal Public Policy Network (EPPN), information is also available on an important initiative, the Episcopal Pledge to Vote. The EPPN is calling on all Episcopalians to pledge that they will cast a vote in the general election. You can make your pledge to vote and find the toolkit which is designed to assist Episcopalians in being informed and engaged voters on the EPPN election webpage.

Among the possible non-partisan activities offered are: engaging young adults who are eligible to vote for the first time, hosting a candidate forum, advocating for voting rights legislation, and hosting Get Out the Vote campaigns.

All election engagement resources, including the downloadable Episcopal Election Engagement Toolkit, are available on the EPPN website: <http://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/EpiscopaliansVote>.

Calendar for Summer

Sundays	Informal Eucharist	9:20 AM	Rose Garden or Chapel (depending on weather)
	Choir Rehearsal	9:45 AM	Nave
	Nursery	9:30 AM – noon	Education Building
	Sunday School	11:00 AM	Education Building
	Holy Eucharist II	11:00 AM	Nave
Saturdays	Holy Eucharist	5:00 PM	Chapel
Sunday, July 3	Holy Eucharist with guest oboist Carol Lynch, in a Celebration of American Music	11:00 AM	Nave
Sunday, July 10	<i>The Continuing Feast</i> (postponed from July 3)	after the 11:00 service	Undercroft

Prayer List

Wanda Allen
Warren Bankston
Michael Breedlove
Tyrone Braden
Jay Colvin
Evelyn Corley
Janice Crawford
Amy Crone
Ron Dean
Jean Dooley
Elizabeth Eglin
Shirley Enani
Ed Finuf

Lady Martha Garner
Austin Gleason
J. M. Hardwick
Stephen Hazel
Christine Hennigan
Thomas Hennigan
Terry Hutchinson
Kenneth Jordan
Flo Little
George Love
Kenneth Lowe
Chris Lowery
Lisa Martin

Mim McCoy
Paige McCranie
Melody Mhyre
Doug Meshell
Ila Riggs
Bob Robinson
Linda Robinson
Sandra Robinson
Brady Sessions
Tommy Simrall
Allyn Stroud
Ansel "Buddy"
Stroud

Jack Theuerkauf
Jennifer Theuerkauf
Robert Todd
Cliff Townsend
Mattie Washington
Charlotte Webb
Molly Wilkinson
Roger Wilkinson
Bill Wright
Larry Wright
Mary Wright

If you would like to request an addition to the Prayer List, please call the church office, 222-3325. Our practice is to keep names on the list for six weeks. If we have an update at that time requesting that we continue to pray for the person, we will leave the name on the list. If not, we will remove it. You can always call if you would like us to add it again.

We pray for those who serve and are served by The Fuller Center for Housing; for all who are homeless or hungry; for people in West Virginia and California suffering floods and fires; for the people of Mexico, South and Central America, the Middle East, and all places where there is war and fear; for migrants in Africa and Europe, for all immigrants seeking acceptance and safety, and for all who seek peace; for the people of our country, that we may find together the way of compassion and peace from our prejudices and racial tensions; for law enforcement officers and the people they serve; for candidates seeking office this year; and for our President and Congress, that they may work together to pass legislation to lessen the danger of violence and injustice in our country and provide for the needs of the most vulnerable.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Epiphany Opelousas, the Rev. The Rev'd Annie Etheredge, and the Rev. Deacon Don Leger (Jeanette); and for St. Luke's, Grambling, and Bishop's Warden Velora Duncan.

Prayer is an act of love; words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love.- **Teresa of Avila**

Say Ministries

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 3, 2016

Sat. 5:00 PM Lector: Trish Peyton
Sun. 11:00 AM:

Lectors: Greg Criddle, Nathaniel Means
Prayers of the People: Ginger Paul

Eucharistic Ministers: Reece Middleton, Jo Ann Horton

Acolytes: Audrey Roberts, Hannah Wallace

Ushers: Bill Richard, Steve Snodgrass

Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: Mary Richard, June Kirkland
Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: Jo Ann Horton, June Kirkland

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 10, 2016: Morning Prayer

Sat. 5:00 PM Lector: Larry Wright
Sun. 11:00 AM:

Lectors: David Richard, Steve Snodgrass
Acolytes: Herschel Richard, Joe Bob Evanson

Ushers: Tommie Sue Brooks, Gerry Brooks

Altar Guild Sat. 5:00: June Kirkland, Mary Richard

Altar Guild Sun. 11:00: Tommie Sue Brooks, Becky Snodgrass

Service Music

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Proper 9, July 3, with Carol Lynch, oboe

Mass: Powell and Hurd

Psalm 30:1-6, 12, 13: metrical setting from the *Bay Psalm Book*; tune, St. Flavian

Anthem: *There's a wideness in God's mercy*, Calvin Hampton

Solo: *Simple gifts*, Joseph Brackett, arr. Copland

Hymns: 718, *National Hymn* 529, McKee 316, *Canticum refectionis* 557, *Vineyard Haven*

Oboe and Organ: *The Winter's Passed*, Wayne Barlow

Organ: *Suite No. 2, Trumpet Tunes*, Calvin Hampton

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Proper 10, July 10: Morning Prayer

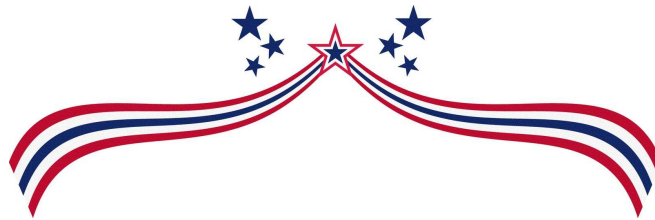
Choir Cantic: *Jubilate Deo*, Purvis

Canticles: S 231, *A Song of Praise—Benedictus es, Domine* 679, *The First Song of Isaiah*

Solo: *He that is down needs fear no fall* "Wigtown", anon. melody from Scottish Psalter, 1635

Hymns: 7, Ratisbon 708 *Sicilian Mariners* 390, *Lobe den Herren*

Organ: *Fanfare*, Percy Whitlock



A Celebration of American Music Sunday, July 3



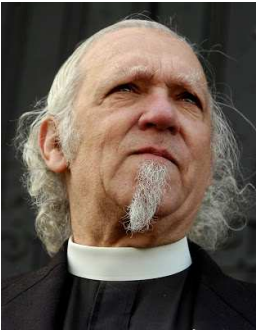
Oboist Carol Lynch

This Sunday, July 3, at the 11:00 Eucharist, we will celebrate Independence Day with music written by American composers. Anthems, hymns, voluntaries, and the mass music will all reflect the diverse sounds of our American musical heritage. Joining our choir and organ will be oboist Carol Lynch. A native of Denver, Colorado, Carol Lynch holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Metropolitan State University of Denver. She was a soloist with the Metro State Symphony for the *Strauss Oboe Concerto*, and with the Metro State Wind Ensemble for the performance of Ferrer Ferran's *El Bosque Mágico*. She was a member of the Denver Young Artist Orchestra, and has performed with a number of different groups across Colorado and Wyoming. Since moving to Louisiana in 2014, Carol has performed with the Texarkana Symphony, the Shreveport Symphony, the South Arkansas Symphony, and various other groups across the Ark-La-Tex area. Carol is currently a freelance oboist in the Northwest Louisiana region.



Honoring Father Paul

on the Fiftieth Anniversary of His Ordination to the Episcopal Priesthood



Father Kenneth Paul, Rector Emeritus of Holy Cross, was ordained to the Episcopal Priesthood in May of 1966. One of his many gifts to the community was his crucial role in the founding of Hope House in 2004. To honor Father Paul for both these anniversaries, we will make a generous gift to Hope House. If you would like to contribute to the donation, please send your check to the church office, or put it in the offering plate. Please be sure to mark the check clearly “Fr. Paul donation.” Thank you for helping us recognize Father Paul and Hope House.



The Continuing Feast will move to July 10

As most of you know, we traditionally celebrate *The Continuing Feast* on the first Sunday of each month. This year, however, the first Sunday of July falls during the Fourth of July holiday weekend, when many people are out of town or have family celebrations. For this reason, *The Continuing Feast* will move to the following Sunday, July 10. And remember, since the hot days of summer are upon us, please consider bringing a salad or other cold dish to the feast. We look forward to seeing you there!

Angels Explained by Children

Angels work for God and watch over kids when God has got to do something else.

Mitchell, age 7

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his Son, who's a very good carpenter.

Jared, age 8

My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good at science.

Henry, age 8



St. Luke's newest mission . . . Louisiana Downs



In May, St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry tried a new experiment—a mission at Louisiana Downs Racetrack. Many of the track employees have no medical insurance or are underinsured, and are in need of basic health screenings and preventive services.

The track administration gave permission for the van to park behind the racetrack, and distributed flyers to their employees encouraging them to visit St. Luke's. The response was very good, and a number of people received blood pressure checks, glucose screenings, and other primary services.

The van was there again last week, and again the response was positive. The clients were happy to have such services available to them where they work, and were very appreciative. In addition to providing basic preventive screenings, the St. Luke's medical staff and volunteers were able to detect potentially serious medical conditions in some of the clients, and were able to prescribe medication and refer them to medical facilities.

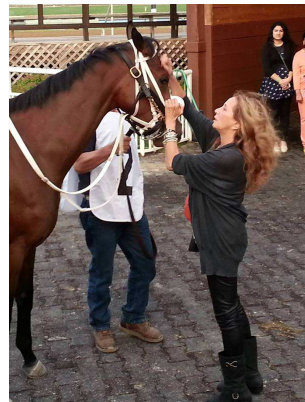
The experiment was such a success that St. Luke's is planning to continue visiting Louisiana Downs on a monthly basis during the racing season, in hopes that the word will get out among the track employees so that more can be served.

St. Luke's needs volunteers for this and their other missions. Of course, medical professionals are always needed: physicians, nurses, physician assistants, social workers. If you don't have a medical background, you can help in a number of other ways:

- Help register patients
- Drive the van
- Assist in the office (especially if you have computer skills)
- Assist with grant-writing

If you'd like to volunteer for any of St. Luke's missions, please call Betty at 318-424-0156, or email office@stlukesmedicalministry.org.

Thank you for your support of St. Luke's!



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Mission Statement: *The Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, Louisiana, strives to be the presence of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond, through worship of Almighty God, open inquiry, sharing fellowship, valued diversity, genuine inclusiveness, and servant leadership—encouraging all to exercise God's gifts and calling as we share the Gospel of Hope in programs, to serve without regard for religious affiliation, race, or economic status.*

Hope House: There is an ongoing need for coffee, sugar, creamer, laundry detergent, disposable razors, and personal size hygiene products (soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc.). Donations can be taken to 762 Austen Place or to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Forward Day by Day for **June and July**, in both standard and large-print editions, is available in the Narthex and the Undercroft.



The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Ph.D.
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jacob Owensby, Ph.D., D. D.
The Rev. Mary B. Richard
The Rev. Sally M. Fox
The Rev. Kenneth W. Paul
The Rev. Donald D. Heacock
Mr. Bruce Power
Mr. Ron Dean
Mrs. Laurie Connell
Mr. Charles Alford

XXVII Presiding Bishop
IV Bishop of Western Louisiana
Rector
Assisting Priest
Rector Emeritus
Director, Holy Cross Child Placement
Organist-Choirmaster
Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus
Office Administrator
Sexton