



St. Boniface Episcopal Church

5615 Midnight Pass Road • Siesta Key • Sarasota, Florida 34242
(941) 349-5616 www.bonifacechurch.org

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, DMin., Bishop
The Rev. Wayne Farrell, Rector
The Rev. Elisa Hansen, Deacon
Dr. James W. Guyer, Organist/Choirmaster

October 3, 2021 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. ~ Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Nimrod (from Enigma Variations) *Elgar (arr. Gower)*
Minuet (from Berenice) *Handel (arr. Williams)*

The Word of God

Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful we adore thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise S-266 vs. 1 & 2

Introduction *Antiphon*

Splen - dor and hon - or and

king - ly power are yours by right, — O Lord our God,

1. Splen - dor and hon - or and king - ly power are yours by right, —

— O Lord our God, 2. For you cre - a - ted ev - ery - thing that

is, and by your will they were cre - a - ted and have their be - ing. [Ant.]

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Job 1:1; 2:1-10 There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 26 8:00 all say 10:00 sung by the choir

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.
- 9 Do not sweep me away with sinners, *
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
- 10 Whose hands are full of evil plots, *
and their right hand full of bribes.
- 11 As for me, I will live with integrity; *
redeem me, O LORD, and have pity on me.
- 12 My foot stands on level ground; *
in the full assembly I will bless the LORD.

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

10:00 Hymn 679 Surely it is God who saves me



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed
fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his
help is near. So re - jice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with
va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the
liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon Michael Piovanne

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest; **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Celebrant Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Leader and People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People* **And also with you.**

Greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

8:00 Offertory **Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful we adore thee** (see page 1)

10:00 Offertory Anthem

At the name of Jesus R. V. Williams

At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow, every tongue confess him King of glory now;

'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season, to receive a Name from the lips of sinners, unto whom he came,

faithfully he bore it spotless to the last, brought it back victorious, when from death he passed;

bore it up triumphant, with its human light, through all ranks of creatures, to the central height,

to the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast; filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

Name him, Christians, name him, with love strong as death, name with awe and wonder and with bated breath;

he is God the Savior, he is Christ the Lord, ever to be worshiped, trusted, and adored.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue all that is not holy, all that is not true;

crown him as your Captain in temptation's hour; let his will enfold you in its light and power.

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again, with his Father's glory o'er the earth to reign;

for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

10:00 **Presentation Hymn 450 vs. 4**

Ye heirs of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

Prayer Book page 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-127

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the

forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

8:00 a.m. And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

10:00 a.m. Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Anthem 8:00 a.m. all say 10:00 a.m. all sing

Hampton

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God. To those who, due to this pandemic, are unable to eat and drink the Bread and Wine; I assure you that all of the benefits of this Holy Communion are received spiritually, even though the Sacrament is not received physically.

People may pray **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I offer my praise and thanksgiving in communion with those who are receiving the blessed bread and cup at this Holy Eucharist. As I embrace you with all of my affections, send your body and blood to dwell spiritually in my life. Amen.

10:00 a.m. Communion music:

Choir

Set me as a seal *Rene Clausen*

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.

Hymn Children of the heavenly Father

1. Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly in His bos - om gath - er;
 2. God His own doth tend and nour - ish, In His ho - ly courts they flour - ish;
 3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the Lord His chil - ren sev - er;
 4. Praise the Lord in joy - ful num - bers, Your pro - tect - or nev - er slum - bers;
 5. Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

1. Nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en, Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 2. From all e - vil things He spares them, In His might - y arms He bears them.
 3. Un - to them His grace He show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 4. At the will of your de - fend - er Ev - ery per - son must sur - ren - der.
 5. His the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn 450 All hail the power of Jesus' Name! (omit 4 & 5)

6 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate
 2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar
 3 Hail him, the Heir of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did
 * 4 Ye heirs of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the
 * 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the

ball, to him a - scribe, and

1 fall; bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and
 2 call: praise him whose way of pain ye trod, and
 3 call, the God in - car - nate, Man di - vine, and
 4 fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and
 5 gall, go, spread your tro - phies at his feet, and

crown him Lord of all! to him a -

1 crown him Lord of all! bring forth the roy - al
 2 crown him Lord of all! praise him whose way of
 3 crown him Lord of all! the God in - car - nate,
 4 crown him Lord of all! hail him who saves you
 5 crown him Lord of all! go, spread your tro - phies

scribe, and crown him Lord of all!

1 di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 2 pain ye trod, and crown him Lord of all!
 3 Man di - vine, and crown him Lord of all!
 4 by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 5 at his feet, and crown him Lord of all!

6 Let every kindred, every tribe,
 on this terrestrial ball,
 to him all majesty ascribe,
 and crown him Lord of all!

Postlude

Processional in E-flat Major *David N. Johnson*

St. Boniface Episcopal Church continues in Christ's love to invite, welcome, and include all in worship, healing, teaching, fellowship, and service in our diverse, inclusive Christian community.

Announcements

COVID PROTOCOL UPDATE Bishop Smith, supporting the CDC guidelines, is requiring everyone to wear masks for all indoor church gatherings. This includes worship, visits to the office, and class or small group meetings indoors on campus. Masks are available at the Welcome Table. In addition, at the 10 am Communion is received at the Baptismal Font. Please remain masked to line up and receive the Bread. Then, as your return to your seat, unmask and consume your wafer. Fellowship after worship is outside, masks are not required. Thank you for understanding.

Fellowship

- ❖ Blessings and best wishes to those celebrating **birthdays and anniversaries** this week: Carolyn Bruder, John Dickie, Stevan Diklich, Mollie Farrell, Bill Logan, Henry Mitchell, Donna Nicholson, Larry Patton, Richard Vinton, Betsie Danner & Vince Brennan, Mara & Mike Dougherty, Joan & Don Sutherland.
- ❖ Stop by the “Front Porch” following worship for **fellowship and conversation** over a beverage and individually pre-wrapped goodies. Please contact the church office if you would like to provide items for an upcoming Sunday (941-349-5616).
- ❖ Join us for **virtual coffee hour** at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays, contact Lisa Wolf for the Zoom link, lwolf@bonifacechurch.org.
- ❖ **Men of Boniface** gather Fridays at 8:00 a.m. by Zoom, contact Reg Irvine for information and invite, reg.irvine@verizon.net.
- ❖ **Every Act of Giving** The Gratitude Commission is very excited to join with all of St Boniface to discover our shared Blessings and explore how God manifests his Grace in each of our lives. Over the next few months the Gratitude Commission will share a variety of experiences, all centered on acts of giving and gratitude. Following their initial presentation, you will find everything on our Every Act of Giving webpage.
- ❖ The Gratitude Commission and the Vestry invite you to join us for fun, fellowship and info about St. Boniface in 2022 at one of our **Grateful Gatherings**. RSVP no later than 17 October by signing up in the church entry, calling the church office or visiting our website.
 - Grateful Lunch Gathering on the Courtyard ~October 28, 12:00 pm
 - Grateful Zoom Gathering ~ October 28, 6:00 pm
 - Grateful Dinner Gathering on the Courtyard ~ October 29, 5:00 pm
- ❖ **Special Concert Event** Calling all film lovers! St. Boniface presents the silent film classic Phantom of the Opera with live organ accompaniment by Dr. John Schwandt Sunday, **October 24**, 7:30 p.m. You won't want to miss this thrilling night of film and music! Join us in-person (masks required), or view it streaming from the comfort of your own home (each ticket purchase includes private link). \$20 Adult, \$10 w/ student ID (verified at door), free for 18 and under. Get your tickets today at bonifacechurch.org/music.

Worship

- ❖ Rector **Wayne Farrell** is away on his annual time of Continuing Education, returning Sunday October 10. For pastoral care emergencies, call the church office. Our Assisting Clergy is available.

- ❖ **Evensong service & recital** TODAY at 5:00 p.m. featuring Young Artist Showcase finalist Leela Sundaram, Soprano and the St. Boniface Parish Choir. Works by Hurd, Brewer and Sumsion.
- ❖ **10:00 a.m. Tuesday**, Holy Eucharist in the Chapel.
- ❖ **Contemplative Prayer** meets via Zoom bi-monthly at 10:30 am on the first and third Wednesdays of the month (**October 6 & 20** ID: 886 9678 4674 Passcode: 077733).
- ❖ Wednesday **worship and potluck** gathers in the Parish Hall at 5:30 pm for Evening Prayer (Eucharist first Wednesdays of the month) followed by a Pot Luck supper outside. Please bring a salad, main dish, drink or dessert to share. Contact Katherine Johnson for info, 941-927-2066.
- ❖ **Pet Blessing** Our Eco- Stewardship Team hosts this annual celebration of the Feast of St. Francis, Saturday, **October 9**, 10:00 in the Outdoor Chapel. Contributions of pet food for Sarasota County Humane Society are most welcome.

Healing

- ❖ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. to knit prayers together into shawls for those needing to be wrapped in God's healing love. Contact Meg Larrabee by email meglarrabee@hotmail.com.
- ❖ **Beyond the Broken Heart** Everyone must deal with the issues of loss at some point in life. People we care about die. People we care about stop caring about us. Jobs disappear. Health diminishes. Security is lost. The Grief and Loss support group can help navigate such difficult times. We meet twice a month, gathering on the second and fourth Sundays (next on **October 10 & 24**) in the Healing Mission at 11:30. For more information contact Rita Piovane 610-442-0984 or driritav@gmail.com.
- ❖ The **Healing Mission** is suspending in-person appointments at this time. A prayer session is available over the phone. Call 941-349-5616 x335 and leave a message.

Teaching

- ❖ **Church School** *Weaving God's Promises* Children in Pre-K4 to 5th grade gather Sundays at 10:00 a.m, then return to their parents in church just before Communion. The first Sunday of the month is Family Sunday, and children and our teachers are invited to participate in the full worship experience by joining their families for the entire service.
- ❖ **Sunday morning 9:00 a.m. Bible Study** with Fr. Jeff Hamblin (jlh@jeffreyhamblin-md.com) meets in the Library and on Zoom.
- ❖ **Sunday Book Discussion** meets at 9:00 on Zoom to discuss *Life of the Beloved* by Henri J.M. Nouwen. For more information contact Vince Brennan vhbrennan43@gmail.com.
- ❖ **Circulo español** Conversational Spanish Group resumes **October 6**, meeting by Zoom on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. Contact Mary Gordon for more information, 941-923-2302.
- ❖ The **Center for Spiritual Transformation** invites you to join us on Saturday, **October 9** at 10:00 am for parishioner Rick Pereira's presentation, "Every Baptized Person is Called to Ministry," discussing Education for Ministry [EfM] and how it supports participants to think theologically, reflect faithfully, and speak convincingly about their beliefs. (Zoom ID 849 5849 3207 Passcode 596368)

- ❖ The **Women's Book Group** meets this month on Monday, **October 11** at 3:30 p.m. to discuss *Lock Every Door* by Riley Sager. For information and meeting place, contact Cynthia Smyth 908-568-9210.
- ❖ **Literary Ladies** discuss this month *This is Happiness* by Niall Williams by Zoom Thursday, **October 14** at 10:30 a.m. Contact Marilyn Hill, 941-374-1990, for information.
- ❖ **Special Presentation** Rabbi Ben Shull of the Jewish Congregation of Venice and Bette Zaret & Mary Collier of the Jewish Federation of Sarasota/Manatee present *Confronting Anti-Semitism and telling the Jewish Story* on Wednesday, **October 13** at 2:00 pm here at St. Boniface Church. Join us in-person or watch by livestream. For more information contact Doug Francis, 941-921-6820.

Service

- ❖ **St. Nicholas Fair**—Your help is needed for our December 4th event! Look for the green *Sign Up Helpers Needed* poster outside and volunteer at one of the many tables, publicity, or set-up/take down opportunities.
- ❖ **Special Giving this month** bolsters our **teaching ministries**. Through our varied programs – Sunday School, adult education groups -- we learn what it means to be people of God and followers of Jesus. We find practices to strengthen our inner lives. We learn how carry that love, healing and compassion into the world. Thanks to Zoom, we can continue learning and growing together since many of our programs meet online or via a hybrid of online and in-person. You may make your gift in memory or thanksgiving.
- ❖ **All Faiths Food Bank** Later this year we hope to have the food bank's familiar bright yellow barrels out again. In the meantime you may donate non-perishable items at the food bank (941-379-6333), Salvation Army of Sarasota (941-952-0349), Meals on Wheels of Sarasota (941-366-6693), or any Sarasota County Goodwill location. *We cannot accept items at the church at this time.*
- ❖ **Covid vaccinations**—no appointment needed at the Sarasota County Health Department (2200 Ringling Blvd), offered daily 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Also available at Publix, Walgreens and CVS pharmacies.
- ❖ **Thank you** - you have met the match supporting the **Disaster Relief Fund**. More than \$10,000 will be going to Episcopal Relief & Development, helping people in vulnerable communities devastated by recent catastrophes.



Every Act of Giving

The Gift of Wonder

I was the kind of child who asked a lot of questions. The world fascinated me, I was filled with wonder. As a consequence of my inquisitive nature, I learned a lot.

Many kids are like this, asking questions about the world around them, testing the relationships they have experienced. Not only do children ask questions, but they expect answers, and they expect answers that are true. Until children learn to find other sources for information, answers are all they have.

The loss of the innocence of childhood brings an end to asking questions, for some. We become awkward, second guessing our understanding. “Maybe I should know the answer, already?” “I don’t want to be the first to ask.” “They’ll think I’m not paying attention...” We replace the act of wonder with the practice of worry.

Three years ago, our congregation made a special effort to include children in the annual pledge campaign, offering each child the opportunity to have a conversation about their giving and their hopes for the church. We learned two important things: Children are generous – we had 100% participation from the kids, each one of them turned in a pledge card. (And, the treasurers will be happy to know that we had 100% redemption rate on the pledges, as well!)

The second thing we learned, was that the kids had lots of suggestions for ministries, ways to volunteer, ideas about church. Filled out in crayon or pencil, each pledge card was a touching, deeply theological, beautiful expression of generosity and hope – of love.

When Jesus suggests that we must receive the wonder of the world and the work we are given to do as children, I think the example above is exactly why. We must get back in touch with our sense of wonder, of possibility, of love. These are the basic skills God needs from us to work in God’s vineyard.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How do you reacquaint yourself with your sense of wonder when you realize you might have lost it through the trials of life experience?

How does feeling hopeful impact your generosity?

*J. Davey Gerhard is the Executive Director of TENS,
and a member of Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in San Francisco, California*



THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP