

February

TRINITY TOPICS — FEBRUARY 2024

WARDENS WORLD

I would like to highly recommend that everyone consider attending the Ordination and Consecration of the Tenth Bishop of The Dioceses of Southern Ohio on February 17 at 11:00 a.m. at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus. The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr. will be the chief consecrator and The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Bishop of Indianapolis, will preach at the ordination of Bishop-elect Kristin Uffelman White.



Attendance is open to all. The service is an occasion of joy for the whole church, and no one will be turned away. The service will also be livestreamed on the diocesan website if you are unable to attend. The ordination is expected to last approximately two-and-a-half hours. The Convention Center is at 400 N High St, Columbus, Ohio in the Short North Ballroom.

Clergy who intend to vest and process will wear cassock, surplice, and a red stole. Lay attendees should wear what is normally appropriate for service at our church.

Trinity would like to make car-pooling possible. Please let the office know if you are interested in attending so that we can co-ordinate transportation. I am assuming that departure would be around 9:00 a.m.

This will be memorable. Thousands of people worshiping, praying, and singing in one location should not be missed. Having attended the Great Commissioning under Bishop Thompson held in Cincinnati, I can attest to the power and excitement. Please join me in Columbus!

Be Safe, Be Well, We Love You



Faith

All the great religions at the more mature levels learn and teach a different consciousness, which we call the contemplative mind, the nondual mind, or the mind of Christ. The levels of spiritual development begin with dualistic, exclusionary, either/or thinking and become increasingly nondual, allowing for a deeper, broader, wiser, more inclusive and loving way of seeing.

If we are to live on this Earth, we cannot bypass the necessary tension of holding contraries and inconsistencies together. Daily ordinary experiences teach us nonduality in a way that is not theoretical or abstract. It becomes obvious in everything and everybody, every idea and every event, almost hidden in plain sight. Everything created is mortal and limited and, if we look long enough, paradoxical. By paradox, I mean something that initially looks contradictory or impossible, but in a different frame or at a different level is in fact deeply true. (EX: "The beginning of the end.")

I am talking about just holding the tension, not necessarily finding a resolution or closure to paradox. We must agree to live without resolution, at least for a while. This is very difficult for most people, largely because we have not been taught how to do this mentally or emotionally. We didn't know we could—or even should. As Paul seems to say (and I paraphrase), hope would not be the virtue that it is if it led us to quick closure and we did not have to "wait for it with patience" (Romans 8:24–25).

I think opening to this holding pattern is the very name and description of faith. Unfortunately, in Christianity, faith largely became believing things to be true or false (intellectual assent) instead of giving people concrete practices so they could themselves know how to open up (faith), hold on (hope), and allow an infilling from another Source (love).

We must move from a belief-based religion to a practice-based religion, or little will change. We will merely continue to argue about what we are supposed to believe and who the unbelievers are. We need contemplative practices to loosen our egoic attachment to certainty and retrain our minds to understand the wisdom of paradox.

Contemplative prayer is largely just being present: holding the tension instead of even talking it through, offering the moment to God instead of fixing it by words and ideas, loving reality as it is instead of understanding it fully. In our daily lives, this prayer is most commonly articulated as a willingness to say, "I don't know." We must not push the river, we must just trust that we are already in the river, and God is the certain flow and current.

That may sound impractical, but the way of faith is not the way of efficiency. So much of life is just a matter of listening and waiting and enjoying the expansiveness that comes from such willingness to hold.

~~ Exerp CAC Daily Meditation

February Blessing

*"What we choose changes us. Who we love transforms us.
How we create remakes us. Where we live reshapes us.
So, in all our choosing, God make us wise.
In all our loving, Christ make us bold.
In all our creating, Spirit give us courage.
In all our living, may we become whole.
And the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
be with you and those for whom you pray -
this day and forever more." Amen.*

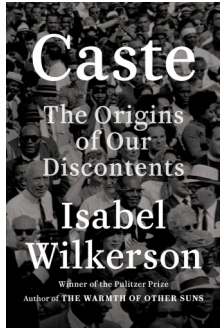
Contemplative Prayer Sessions Continue . . .

9:15 am - 9:45 am: Contemplative Prayer via zoom:

Zoom Meeting ID: 818 9854 4534

Password: 438678

BOOK STUDY BEGINS FEBRUARY 22: We will meet in the Workman Lounge.



The Origins of Our Discontent by Isabel Wilkerson, available from your favorite bookseller or Amazon. It is available in Audio, Kindle, Paperback, or Hardcover. All but the Hardcover is under \$20.

Meeting Schedule: Thursdays, 11:00 am – 12:30 (12 meetings)

First Meeting: February, 22


Meeting Dates: February 29; March 7, 14, 21 (NO meeting on 3/28);
April 4, 22, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16 (Last Meeting).

Please join us for this informative and challenging look at the world through a lens which offers a different perspective, a different filter, and, an underlying history of the world that can help us to more fully see the world as Jesus did giving us light to see all humanity as Jesus does.



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	<p>Ash Wednesday begins the Season of Lent, with the first Sunday of Lent falling on February 18.</p> <p>Trinity will offer two service times on Ash Wednesday: Noon and 6:00 pm</p>
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The Annual Meeting was held on January 21, 2024. Lunch was provided during the meeting.

The Vestry for 2024 consists of:

Jim Beerbower, Sr. Warden

David Cobb, Jr. Warden

Continuing members:

Joanie Gutermuth: Outreach

Jenny Anticoli: New Member Ministry

Kevin Kirsch: Pastoral Search Committee

Evanthia Owen: Building and Grounds and Fellowship

Sandy Ehrlich

Convention Delegates:

Jim and Susan Beerbower and Dave and Carole Cobb

Alternate Delegates:

Kevin and Kathleen Kirsch

"Thank You" to all Vestry members, committee chairpersons and members who have worked so hard this past year and commit to continuing in 2024.

Worship Committee and Wednesday Evening Prayer: Susan Beerbower

Music: Brandon Evans & Wiley Smith

Pastoral Care: Rev. Eileen and Dave and Carole Cobb

Altar Guild: Sherry Conard

Lectors: Millie Woryk

Endowment: David Cobb

Emergency Preparedness: David Cobb

Torrence Med. Fund: Carole Cobb

Memorial Garden: Jim Beerbower

Stewardship: Jim Beerbower

Financial Reports: Jim Beerbower

What We Believe:



As Episcopalians, we believe in and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection saved the world.

We believe that God loves you – no exceptions.

The Episcopal Church embraces a legacy of inclusion, aspiring to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being; people of all genders and sexual orientations serve as bishops, priests, and deacons in our church. Laypeople and clergy work together in leadership and governance.

From the Episcopal Church website: www.episcopalchurch.org



News to Know



Pat Marchal (2/3), Kyle Duchak (2/3),
David Duchak (2/10) Marina Shaw (2/16),
Kathleen Kirsch (2/19), Priscilla Stull (2/22),
Charles Begovich (2/27)

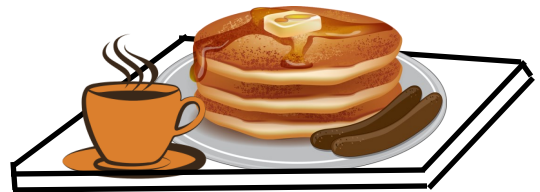


Thanks to a generous donation, the equipment for installing the DPA Stereo System for the piano, which includes two mics, has been ordered.

SHROVE "SUNDAY"

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, PLEASE JOIN US
IN THE PARISH HALL.**

**THE MEN OF THE CHURCH WILL BE SERVING
PANCAKES AND SAUASAGE**



MEMORIAL GARDEN — Trees and shrubs were order and have been planted. Trees were staked and fencing put around them for protection from the deer in the area.



ON THE CALENDAR

SUNDAYS: 10:30 am Worship Rite II

WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 pm **Celtic Evening Prayer:** A quiet time of reflection may be just what you need in the middle of the week.

Thursday, February 1 1:00 pm Fellowship Meeting

Monday, February 5 10:00 am Building and Grounds Meeting

Saturday, February 24 10:00 am Outreach Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 25 Worship Committee Meeting after coffee hour.

FEBRUARY 14

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES: Noon and 6:00 pm



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