



THE

MARCH 2022

# TRUMPETER

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAYS

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service (In-Person)  
9:15 am - Adult Study Series on *The Shack*  
10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service  
(In-Person & Livestreamed via Facebook Live)

### TUESDAYS

9:30 am - Morning Prayer Service (In-Person)  
10:00 am - Evangelism Study

### WEDNESDAYS

7 pm - Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAYS

9:30 am - Morning Prayer Service (In-Person)  
5:30 pm - Evening Prayer on Facebook Live  
6 pm - Bible Study on Facebook Live & Zoom

HAPPY  
St. Patrick's  
Day!

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

9020 S. Saginaw Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
(810) 694-3600  
*Office@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

**STAFF**

The Rt. Rev. Prince G. Singh  
*Bishop Provisional*  
*The Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan*

The Reverend Jerry Lasley  
*Rector*  
*Rector@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,  
*Priest in Residence*  
*FrMike@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie,  
*Associate Emeritus*

Nada Radakovich, *Director of Music*  
*Nada@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

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Elizabeth Sailus, *Administrative Assistant*  
*Elizabeth@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Joel Stoeklin, *Sexton*  
*sexton@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

**VESTRY 2022**

Frank Burger, *Senior Warden*  
*SeniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Steve Huber, *Junior Warden*  
*JuniorWarden@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Bill Thewalt, *Clerk*

Bobbie Walton, *Treasurer*  
*Treasurer@stchrisgrandblanc.org*

Ken Duck (2023) Flo Gjerstad (2024)  
Ellen Safley (2025) Colleen Shrank (2025)  
Kay Van Natta (2023)

**LENTEN SERVICES & STUDIES**

We are offering a host of weekly services and studies in person during the Lenten Season:

**Sundays**

9:15 - Adult Formation (In-Person)  
We will be studying the book *The Shack* by Wm. Paul Young. Please obtain the book on your own.

**Tuesdays**

9:30 am - Morning Prayer Service (In Person)  
10 am - Evangelism Study Series (In Person)

**Thursdays**

9:30 am - Morning Prayer Service (In Person)  
5:30 pm - Evening Prayer Service  
(Online on Zoom & Facebook Live Only)  
6 pm - Bible Study (Online Only)

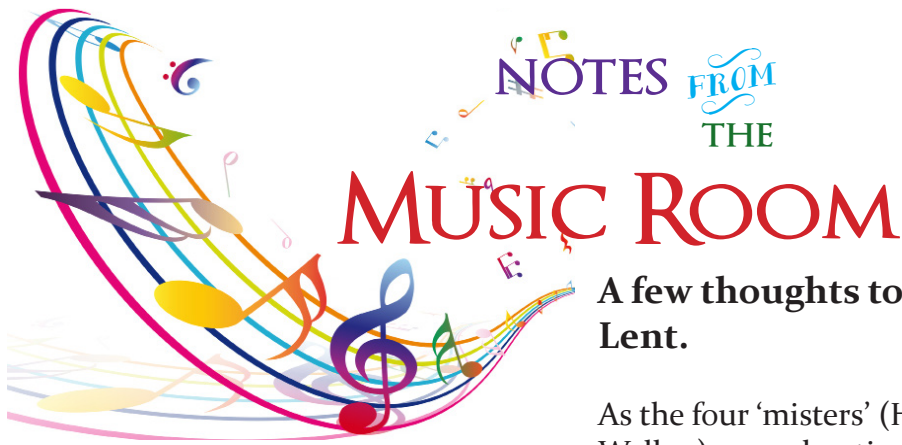
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**SAVE THE DATE!**

Please join us on Saturday,  
April 23, 2022 for our  
Coat Closet Kick-Off

This evening of food, fellowship, desserts and music will be the kickoff benefit for our newest outreach ministry St. Christopher's Coat Closet. Live entertainment will be provided by our own Ken Duck and admission will be new or gently used winter gear or a donation earmarked "coat closet"

Read Luke 3:10-11 then mark your calendar!



## A few thoughts to consider during the season of Lent.

As the four 'misters' (Hassold, Shayna, McCoy-Jacobs and Walker) were chanting Psalm 51 on Ash Wednesday, the beauty of those four voices struck a deep chord within my person, and the meaning of Ash Wednesday became starkly clear. Following our service, after I was home, I picked up my Book of Common Prayer, and I read how we are invited to "observe Holy Lent, by *self-examination and repentance*; by *prayer, fasting and self-denial*, and by *reading and meditating on God's Holy Word*."

Father Jerry conducted a little experiment with us last week at the very start of his homily. If you will recall, he asked us to try to live/exist comfortably in silence for one minute.

Then he told us what he observed in our behavior as a congregation - i.e. when we started to look about the Nave, when we started squirming in our seats, etc. - How we were 'okay' at the 15 second mark, around 30 seconds we started to show physical signs of being uncomfortable with those added 15 seconds of quiet, and then around 45 seconds, we were just about ready to jump right out of our pews! This was a very interesting social experiment, and he was quite right---we need to feel 'safe/comfortable' being/breathing in silence.

This, I believe, touches upon the invitation for us to observe Holy Lent by *Self Examination and Repentance*. For musicians, this can be a place of great discomfort, because we feel a duty (as it is our 'job') to bring beautiful sounds between beautiful liturgical texts during a service. I do believe that if the music part of our service can make space for silence, this, too, will support our congregation in our ability to find stillness, to pray, to feel the presence of God.

Some other possible 'moments of silence' during the service could be allowing a time of silence following a liturgical movement within the service. As well, during Holy Communion. Rather than have a Communion Hymn, we could also enjoy those moments in contemplative silence.

I try very hard to align the text of the hymns we sing in our church with the given liturgical readings, lessons, Gospel and psalms, hoping to help encourage our own individual act of self examination.

*Prayer:* An argument could be made for the phrase (I don't know how many times Noralynn Hassold has said this to me) "He who sings, prays twice!". St. Augustine is credited for having held this belief. I do, as well. Thank you for the reminder, Noralynn!

*Fasting and Self-denial:* To musically 'fast' can be challenging. I am sure that most of us know that 'Alleluias' are omitted from our service music/music during Lent. I think, too, during Lent, our parish organist,

## UPCOMING LESSONS

### March 13 - Lent 2

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

Psalms 27

### March 20 - Lent 3

Exodus 3:1-15

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

### March 27 - Lent 4

Joshua 5:9-12

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Psalms 32

### April 3 - Lent 5

Isaiah 43:16-21

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

Psalms 126

### April 10 - Palm Sunday

*The Liturgy of the Palms*

Luke 19:28-40

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29

*The Liturgy of the Word*

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14-23:56

or Luke 23:1-49

Psalms 31:9-16

**Find the readings every  
week at  
[lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net)**

Continued from  
page 3

Greg Hassold has played pieces of a more somber tone, using fewer reed stops, mixtures on our instrument. This too, will provide the contrast then when Easter is here, and he can pull out ALL OF THE STOPS!

Also, a possible moment of 'musical fasting' would be to remove a prelude or a postlude; have the choir sing/chant plainsong chant, and too, singing without accompaniment, a capella.

*Reading and Meditating on God's Holy Word.* Being a church musician provides time, necessary time, to 'read and meditate on God's Holy Word'. Offertory anthems, lessons, Gospel readings, psalms, all of these moments of our service provides us time to truly meditate on God's Holy Word. A particularly spiritual time is had when concentrating on the text of a hymn, and understanding how it came to be, no matter how old it might be, and that, as humans, we still struggle with certain issues/celebrate certain moments. These texts provide a connection which is very deep. Try to look at the words of a hymn as poetry.

Mid-Lent. I offer this text from Hymn 145, "Now Quit Your Care" to please read and hear in your heart:

#### ***Now Quit Your Care***

*Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry; for schemes are vain and fretting brings no gain. Lent calls to prayer, to trust and dedication; God brings new beauty nigh; reply, reply, reply with love to love most high; reply, reply, reply to love most high.*

*To bow the head in sackcloth and in ashes, or rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal; but to be led to where God's glory flashes, his beauty to come near. Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear; make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear.*

—Hymn 145, verses 1-2

In Christ, I am yours,

*Nada Radakovich*

Director of Music





## FROM THE PRIEST'S DESK

March Madness. You might be thinking basketball when you see those words. Unfortunately, that is not where I'm headed in this writing.

We are now in the season of Lent. A time of madness. It is a time when we are reminded that we are in the world and not of the world. As I mentioned in my Ash Wednesday sermon, this is a time of joy. Joy? With all that is going on in the world right now! Absolutely!

You see, Jesus lived in the world as it was. There was sickness, greed, war, prejudice, and the list goes on and on. Then comes Jesus. Jesus did not let the madness overcome him. Jesus remained faithful to himself and to the plan God had for him and for us.

Jesus spent some time in the desert. He fasted and prayed. The devil even tempted him. That crafty devil even knew scripture! How dare he! Jesus not only KNEW scripture, Jesus IS the Word Incarnate!

We have all likely felt like we were lost in the wilderness. We might feel that way still, with the pandemic continuing, inflation, and the war in Ukraine. It can be difficult to navigate our way through life with all of this happening. How are we to survive?

One way is to stay connected. Mask mandates are subsiding. (Masks are now encouraged, but not required at church). Many folks are slowly starting to return to in person worship. There are still some who are not and that is okay. In no way do we want you to come and feel unsafe at any time. Not at church, not anywhere. We are starting to have Coffee Hour once again after the 10:15 service.

But there is importance in being community. We are going to continue our online services. If that is

what is right for you, we want you to know that you are still a part of our community!



Romans, Chapter 8, vs 35-39 tells us that:

*Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.*

*And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus*

Continued on page 6

*our Lord.” Neither can not being physically present separate us! We believe in the Communion of Saints. Those mighty folks who have gone before us and have now entered into God’s holy heaven. As Episcopalians, we are “connected” with the saints, and we are connected to one another.*

We are now in a time when we need to find a new understanding of what it means to be community and how we will move forward. Continuing in-person activities while maintaining a close connection to those who are unable to physically join us.

So, as we begin to explore a new path, I would ask you to be mindful of what brings you joy at church and through our online services. What new ways can we be “community”? And how we might create new opportunities that are both meaningful and sensitive to the needs of all.

It is time to come out of the wilderness and explore the new creation that we will find only in and through Jesus. Where is God calling us? What does the future hold for us? Dare to dream and let us have faith to follow where God calls us!

Blessings,

*Jerry+*

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## OUR DOORS ARE OPEN!

Through the years our Social Hall has been rented for birthday parties, graduation open houses, bridal and baby showers, wedding receptions...and the list goes on.

As well as providing (much needed) additional funds, it gives an opportunity for the wider community to visit and appreciate our building. Part of that opportunity is experiencing the friendly, helpful face of one of our members while guests are here.

If you would like to be one of those friendly faces-opening the church and being on site during an event-please contact Ellen Safley @ 810 444-0860 or leave a message in the office and become a part of our Event Hospitality Team.

# Holy Week 2022

## Palm Sunday

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10**

8 & 10:15 AM EUCHARIST SERVICES  
(10:15 AM ALSO LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK)

## Maundy Thursday

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14**

6 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE  
7 – 10 PM VIGIL (SIGN UP IN GATHERING SPACE)

## Good Friday

**FRIDAY, APRIL 15**

7 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

## Easter Sunday

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17**

8 & 10:15 AM EUCHARIST SERVICES  
(10:15 AM ALSO LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK)

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St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
9020 S. Saginaw Road, Grand Blanc, MI

[www.stchrisgrandblanc.org](http://www.stchrisgrandblanc.org)

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR MARCH 2022				
	LECTOR / INTERCESSOR	GREETER(S)	TECH	ALTAR GUILD
<b><u>March 13</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells	Don & Nancy Wells	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Ken Duck	Jan Taylor Bobbie Walton	Bill White	Colleen Shrank
<b><u>March 20</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Dave & Melissa Butler	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Frank Burger	Mike Latesky Flo Gjerstad	Frank Burger	Anne Naber
<b><u>March 27</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Kay Van Natta	Don & Nancy Wells	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Flo Gjerstad	Joyce Thewalt Helen Lackey	Audrey D'itri	Colleen Shrank
<b><u>April 3</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Jane Brewer	Jane Brewer	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Bobbie Walton	Jan Taylor Mary Van Duyne	???	Shirley Showler
<b><u>April 10</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells	Sharon & Dale Rice	-----	-----
<b>10:15 am</b>	Tristram Shayna	Shirley Showler Becky Stermer	Tristram Shayna	Sharon Rice
<b><u>April 17 – Palm Sunday</u></b>				
<b>8 am</b>	Dave & Melissa Butler	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	
<b>10:15 am</b>	Bob Luckey	Jane Yorks Flo Gjerstad	Bill White	Colleen Shrank