



Gospel Grapevine

I am the vine, you are the branches. John 15:5



April 2012

The shortest ending of Mark *By The Rev. John Leech*

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And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid. (Mark 16:8, RSV)

The shock must have been great. Greater than the shock of any day before. They stood before the empty tomb. And they knew. They knew it was true. He was not there. He had gone before. He had gone before them, into the night. And through it, and beyond it. He had gone into the morning of a new day. The day he promised. The day he told them about. The day of the Lord. It was his day. And it was theirs. They did not know what to do with it. They did, they did know, they knew some things: they knew to go and tell every body all about it. They knew to proclaim it from the rooftops. They knew: they were women. What did they know? Who would believe them? What were they, after all? Who were they to know, to tell, the terrible secret? (He was alive.)

He was alive and everything must change. Everything must be different from now on. They ran down the street. No one knew. No one but them. But soon, that would be different too. As the day begins. Early morning sounds began to rustle around them as they hurried home. Ordinary sounds, the sounds of the first day of the week. *The first day.* You said it, brother. The first day of everything. What would finally happen was in the future. This was the hinge point – or just past it.

Wasn't the shift really something that had come in the dark of the night, after the full moon had come and gone? Just a day before?

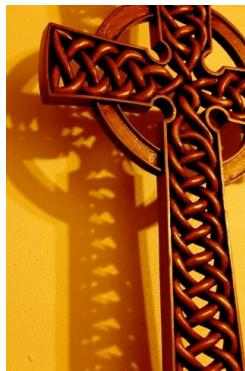
After the Passover, after all the noise, the sounds too loud for human ear, after the violence, came the quiet— the quiet, the mourning. Saturday. Nothing moved. Nothing stirred. It was the Sabbath: nothing worked that day. Nothing and nobody. He was gone. For ever. And then. They went on the morning of the first day of the week. Not just morning yet, perhaps not even dawn, as they began to leave their separate homes and go out. When they met in the street, you could just tell a black thread from a white, if you held them up together before your eyes, or a friend's eyes.

And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.

It was day. But what would it bring? They went. And they saw. They saw nothing where something should have been. And they knew. It was all over. And it was just beginning. What would the future bring? All they knew was it was a future with hope. But it was a wrenching, strange future, and one being born in hard labor. What had happened was beyond human hope. Beyond the wreckage of their lives, ones they knew. (He was alive.)

He was not there. What are you doing here? What are you looking for? Whom do you seek? We seek Jesus. And will you find him here? Will you find him in the morning, where the stone has been rolled away, and the

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**St. Alban's
Episcopal Church**
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Phone: 425-778-0371
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www.stalbansedmonds.org

**Worship Schedule
Sundays**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 a.m. Adult Education
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
Children are welcome at all services;
childcare is available during the
10:30 service.

St. Alban's Vestry

Liz Bee, *Senior Warden*
Karen Cresse
Carol Gordon
Eric Hanson
Keith Oles
Morrie Tugby
Shirley Wilson
Judy Kistner, *Clerk*

Delegate to Convention 2012
Phil McClelland, *Delegate*
Mona Carter, *Delegate*
Robin McClelland, *Alternate*

Staff

The Rev. John Leech, *Rector*
Lisa Coale, *Parish Administrator*
JoAn Andenes, *Organist & Music Director*
Kendra Long, *Sunday School Director*
Ben Johnson, *Youth Leader & Webmaster*
Mona Carter, *Newsletter Editor*

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.;
2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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tomb is empty? Where the gardener's helper's discarded cloak has gone missing? Some one needed it. Some one went away. And where he has gone, you should follow. Into the future. The future with hope. A hope in what has begun to be fulfilled. (He is risen.)

The beginning of the new world – a world where God raises from the dead, makes alive again – or better, makes new – what calls us into being ourselves. (The Lord is risen.)

He is risen indeed.

The end is where we start from. —T. S. Eliot

On my bookcase is a paperback New Testament. It was the first part of a new translation and when my great-grandfather got his copy, he wrote the date inside: *Dec. 21, 1948*. There was something slightly controversial about this translation, the *Revised Standard Version*. It was in contemporary English, modern English, and it contained the best modern scholarship of its time. So in the text it gave the shortest ending of Mark. The Gospel of Mark, the translators determined, may originally have just ended like this:

And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

Back up a sentence or two. The women had come to the tomb, where Jesus was laid, on the first day of the week. They came with spices, to anoint him. But they asked each other: Who will roll away the stone that covers the mouth of the tomb? Only to find: it was already rolled back. Inside they found a young man sitting, all dressed in white.

“Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.”

So they knew what to do, what to say.

And it terrified them.

Reading for Passion *By The Rev. John Leech*

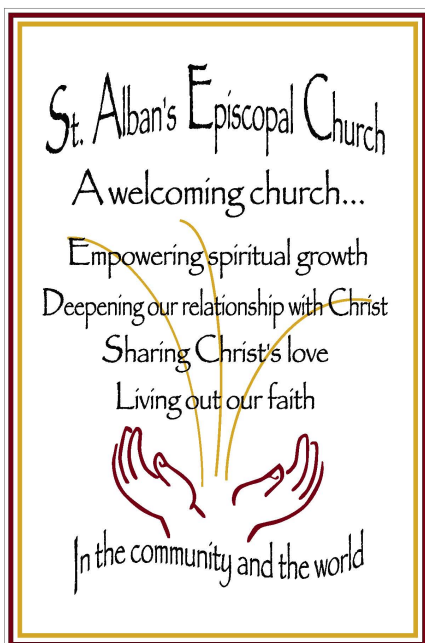
We often choose a study book for Lent. This year, during Holy Week, my personal devotions will be guided by

N. T. Wright, *Christians at the Cross: Finding Hope in the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus* (Ijamsville, MD: The Word Among Us, 2007)

Bishop Wright offers a sermon cycle on the themes of each day of Holy Week, from the Passion to Easter. In his sermon at the Eucharist on Palm Sunday, he suggests the figure of a four-part harmony to explain how we should see the Scriptures - and ourselves, in light of it.

1. The melody: the story of Jesus from Palm Sunday to Good Friday.
2. The bass line: underlying the gospel theme, the story of the love of God the creator for his suffering world, the Old Testament.

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Parish Care Team

By Shirley Wilson

The Parish Care Team has organized teams to handle such tasks as visiting shut-ins, sending cards, making phone calls, offering meals, and helping with transportation. We need your help to keep us informed of the needs of the Parish so that no one will fall through the cracks. If you hear of a need in one of these areas please call Mary Ellen Gardiner or Shirley Wilson and we will pass the information on to the right people. Please note that all requests for help will be kept confidential.

Senior Gems *By Shirley Wilson*

Your Parish Care Team is planning an all-parish event that will help us better understand and support family and friends during the aging process. A 30-minute DVD will be presented, featuring Teepa Snow. She is an occupational therapist and dementia expert with over 30 years of clinical experience in the field of geriatrics and dementia care. She will present the many aspects of dementia, including tips on how to interact in a positive and effective manner with someone who has dementia, improving their quality of life. I hope you will decide to join us for this important and informational meeting. Please put this date on your calendar.

When: Sunday, April 15, 2012,

12:00 noon (after 10:30 service)

What: Senior Gems Presentation

Where: In the Parish Hall

Cost: Free

Agenda:

- Light lunch provided by Parish Care Team
- ½ hour DVD presentation "Senior Gems"
- Discussion follows

We are providing this viewing for informational purposes only. It in no way substitutes for a medical evaluation or consultation.

Life in the Body of Christ* - A Poet Among Us

By Shirley Wilson

One of the purposes of the annual Vestry Retreat is for Vestry members to get to know each other better. We were delighted to talk with Carol Gordon and learn about her life and talents. One of the things she shared was her love of poetry. Yet her accomplishments include other interesting things as well. She moved to Edmonds and started attending St. Alban's six years ago. The move was primarily to be near her youngest daughter and her fifteen-year-old twin granddaughters. She also has a daughter who works as a tour guide in Panama and is married to a Panamanian who is a member of the Embera Tribe. Her son lives in Olympia, has three grown children, and works for the Department of Natural Resources. For fun, Carol often attends poetry workshops in Port Townsend and meets with other poetry groups. Eager to learn new things, she is active in the Creative Retirement Institute (CRI) which is affiliated with Edmonds Community College and is aimed at people over fifty who are interested in the arts and sciences.

Carol and her older brother began their lives in Los Angeles; but after five years, their family moved to a suburb of San Francisco where she eventually graduated from Burlingame High School. World War II was under way during her early childhood so her father joined the Air Corps as a teacher. This necessitated them moving to the San Joaquin Valley, a rural agricultural area which she loved. However, there was a housing shortage in that area during the war, making it necessary for her family of four to live in one room over a garage for close to three years. Then they moved to Bakersfield, not Carol's favorite place to be. Tragically, her father died when she was only fourteen. She eventually graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English Literature. In 1955, she married Bonner Gordon and became a stay-at-home mom. Their young family eventually moved to the Northwest; first Oregon and then Olympia. After her children were launched in school, Carol got her Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Chapman University and worked until retirement as a mental health counselor. Bonner's love of boating led him to do thirty years of volunteer work in the Coast Guard Auxiliary as a teacher. Sadly, he died in 1996 while doing the work that he loved. He was honored, posthumously, when the Admiral gave him an Award of Merit for his years of volunteer work in the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In recent years Carol has traveled to some interesting places. She has been to Africa, Antarctica, and the North Pole. On this last trip she saw polar bears, walrus's, ice formations, and learned about polar explorers. At the actual North Pole (which is not on land, she clarified) they had champagne and a huge picnic. Twenty-six countries were represented on the Russian Ice Breaker. During the ceremony, the group of 125 people made a huge circle. First they turned right, with hands on each other's shoulders, and then they walked in a complete circle. The procession symbolized honoring peace while walking around the earth. Each traveler had their picture taken with the ship sign that said, "90 degrees north." One forward thinking man even packed his Santa Clause suit and wore it for his photo. This was a cool experience in more ways than one. Next summer Carol plans to travel to Sweden, Norway and Denmark. After that, who knows what interesting adventure may await this poet?

**If one member suffers, all suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice (1 Cor. 12:26).*

**ECW Birthdays
April**

- 4/01 Sandy Fakenbridge
- 4/03 Kathy Kuhn
- 4/04 Mona Carter
- 4/26 Barbara Halterman



Easter Egg Stuffing

By Ben Johnson

The Youth Group is collecting Easter Egg stuffing items for the Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt. We are looking for donations of candy, stickers, or small trinkets that can fit into plastic Easter eggs. You can bring your donations to church and either drop them off in the Sunday School bin or give them to any of the Youth Group members or Youth leaders. Any candy should be wrapped and of the miniature variety. Last day to bring donations will be Palm Sunday, April 1st, as the Youth Group will be having their Easter Egg stuffing party that day. Pizza will be provided for any of the volunteers that help stuff Easter eggs on April 1st.



Special Collections for Outreach

On the third Sunday of each month we take up a special collection for outreach.

March: Episcopal Relief & Development (<http://www.er-d.org/>)

April: Mustard See Associates (<http://msainfo.us/>)

May: Rebuild our Church in Haiti (<http://www.ecww.org/rebuildhaiti>)



Financial Report

(January 1 - February 29, 2012)

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget Est.	Last Year
Pledged Offerings	\$ 24737.00	\$ 22118.00	\$ 21183.00
Unpledged Offerings	1880.00	2166.00	2059.00
Other Income	<u>2745.12</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3382.34</u>
Total Income	\$29632.12	\$24950.00	\$26624.34
Total Expenses	\$ 33830.93	\$28498.00	\$ 33191.16
Income/Expenses	\$ -4468.81	\$ -3548.00	\$ -6566.82

Pledged offerings exceeded the budget estimate by \$2619. Unpledged offerings were \$286 less than the budget estimate.

Expenses exceeded the budget estimate by %5333 - due to building maintenance expenses and usual quarterly payments that are paid in January and February. Thanks to the increase in pledged offerings, it looks like we are able to cover expenses much better than last year (though there is still a shortfall in income over expenses).

Lisa Coale
Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

Camp Houston *Summarized by Mona Carter*

Sound the fanfare and release the confetti, summer camp registration is now open. Head to the summer camp page, on www.Huston.org website, to view the summer schedule. All prices have remained the same, a full list can be found on the website. And don't forget: you receive \$45 off each camper's registration with the early bird discount if you register by April 15th. Time to start practicing the camp houston song!



Never been to camp before and want to see what it's like? Join us on Saturday, May 19th for free tours of the property and a community BBQ! This is a great opportunity to see the cabins, walk the trails, get to know the Huston Staff, and learn a new craft. Bring your friends and family to celebrate the beginning of summer with us.

Families interested in a campership (financial assistance to attend camp) can contact their parish clergy to request funding from The Bishop Curtis Scholarships. Families not affiliated with the Episcopal Church can contact the Huston Office directly. Financial aid is not based on income. We welcome and invite all children to join us for camp regardless of financial standing.

A camp experience is one that every child can benefit from. If you would like to donate to the Director's Campership Fund to help send a child to Huston, please contact the office at 360-793-0441 or info@huston.org

Turning Points

For this much thanks: *Patty Timonen* for serving on the vestry this past year and a half. To our dedicated Sunday singers and musicians: *JoAn Andenes, Kären Ford, Verne Giddings, Howard Hayden and Sarah Leech.*

All Find a Welcome: *Kempton and Fawn Hewitt, and Jim and Pam Pomeroy*, have returned to us from points south. *Denise Robertson* is on her way, while *Phil and Helen Hull* continue to bask in southern rays . . .

Among our visitors and newcomers since the first of the year:

Pat and Berdene Walsh. Jane Schindler. Lisa Moss from Bellingham. *Myra Matson and Jay McGinnis. Barb Levy* from Saint Paul's. *Ed Doll* from Christ Church Tacoma. *Harlan and Penny Curtis. Canon Janet Campbell.*

Farewell: *Bob and Brenda Wiggins* have moved to Calgary, Alberta. The *Treichel/Tulleners* family has moved to Spokane.

We will exalt you, O God our King: *Aleene Sullivan*, for healing from cancer.

May they know God's healing power: *Robert Elder, Carolyn Clayton, Shirle Hartley, Nick Kimmel, John Kistner, Hunter Langford, Sara Marie Leech, Barbara Lenac, Kenneth Mead, Jeff Munsey, Keith Oles, Chris Perry, Carl Potter, Millie Salmon, Morrie Tugby, and Claudia Walker.*

We ask God's protection on: those who live or serve in places torn by war, civil strife, or natural disaster, including *Meredith and Kendra Long* as they travel to work with World Concern staff in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Burma, and Thailand. We pray for *Bruce Gritten*, and parishioners' family members and friends who are serving in the military.

Reading for Passion *(continued from page 2)*

3. The tenor: the story of our own world, our own community.
4. And the alto part: your own personal story.

So: the Gospel story, the Old Testament story, the story of our whole community, and the stories of our individual personal experiences: each of these is an essential part in the harmony we sing together as we embark on the pilgrim way of Lent. And it is the song we sing as we approach Jerusalem in Holy Week, bearing at first palm branches and human hopes, as we progress through the events of the greatest week on the Christian calendar, from Palm Sunday through the days and nights of the week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and at last the new beginning, Easter morning.

Affirmation of Faith: An Invitation *By The Rev. John Leech*

In baptism, we thank God for his gift of life and publicly acknowledge his love. Baptism is a sacrament (holy ritual to symbolize grace) in the Christian tradition that is traced back to Jesus himself being baptized in the river Jordan. (Mark 1:9-15)

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey where those who have been baptized as children make a firm commitment to Christian discipleship.

Through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop, the Church also asks God to give those being confirmed power, through the Holy Spirit, to live the life of discipleship.

Our canons invite us into this celebration: *It is expected that all adult members of this Church (sixteen years of age and over), after appropriate instruction, will have made a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and will have been confirmed or received by the laying on of hands by a Bishop of this Church or by a Bishop of a Church in communion with this Church. Those who have previously made a mature public commitment in another Church may be received by the laying on of hands by a Bishop of this Church, rather than confirmed.*

Early in the Easter season, our diocese offers an opportunity for its adult members to make a mature public affirmation of their faith, in company with their brothers and sisters in Christ from across the diocese.

Regional Confirmations

Bishop Cabell Tennis will confirm and receive members of our Church in a regional celebration on Saturday, April 28th, at St. Mark's Cathedral, 11:00 a.m.

This is an occasion for all of us to turn out in support of people being confirmed or received, and an opportunity for some to make that affirmation themselves. Are you ready to make this faith commitment? Please speak with Father John after services.

Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt *By Ben Johnson*

The Sunday School will be having their annual Easter Egg Hunt after the Easter service on April 8th. Please invite friends and family to join us for the fun. Kids are more than welcome to bring their Easter baskets, but we will have bags available for them to collect their treasures as well. If you have any questions please contact Ben Johnson @ 206-819-2319.

Celebrating Children

To the parents of our young children, may we suggest . . .

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All our welcome!
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for the children to see and hear.
- Quietly explain the parts of the Service.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn the liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you have to leave the Service with your child, please feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said: "Let the children come to me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God to Christ and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- Please let your child draw or doodle if they want to.
- Please know that there is babysitting & Sunday School available during the 10:30 service.

To the Members of the Parish

A smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small active children. The presence of Children are a gift to the Church. They give us a "future full of hope."

A Few More Items to Add to Your "To Do" List *By Dan Mullene*

OK, so you have been working on your "To Do" list, and you've been making headway. Last month you remembered to set your clocks forward one hour for daylight savings time. You also checked the batteries in your smoke detectors. (You did do that, didn't you?)

You have set aside some canned food to put in the food bank at Church this Sunday. You've eaten all of the Girl Scout cookies you bought last month. (Well, maybe that's not on your list. But weren't they good?)

I have one more thing for you to add to the list: Please give some prayerful thought to planning a gift for St. Alban's in your estate plans. And make a note on your calendar that Sunday, June 24th we will be recognizing those who have already made gifts to St. Alban's when we celebrate Legacy Sunday. (I guess that's really two items!)

Remember the articles that Maryellen Young wrote in the last three Grapevines, sharing with you details about the importance of planned giving and explaining how the St. Alban's Endowment Fund and our Legacy Society work?

In January she discussed memorial funds and how they are handled. In February, Maryellen talked about the endowment fund and how contributions are invested, and how they can be used.

The article in the March Grapevine reviewed how gifts to St. Alban's from your estate plans or Planned Gifts are handled by the Endowment Fund Board.

If you missed the articles, or would like to read them again, you can find them on our web site at this link: <http://stalbasedmonds.org/announcements/>

And before I let you get away: Please add one more thing to your list: Make a note to ask the members of the Planned Giving Committee / Endowment Fund Board for more information on how easy it is for you to help St. Alban's get ready for the future through your own planned gifts. The members are: Dan Mullene, Barbara Lagozzino, Reilly Mannery and Mary Fowler.

Live Simply

Love generously

Care deeply

Speak kindly

Leave the rest to God

Calendar Notes

(looking ahead)

April 1 - Palm Sunday -
Procession

April 5 - Maundy Thursday
service 7pm

April 6 - Good Friday services
noon & 7pm

April 8 - Easter Sunday

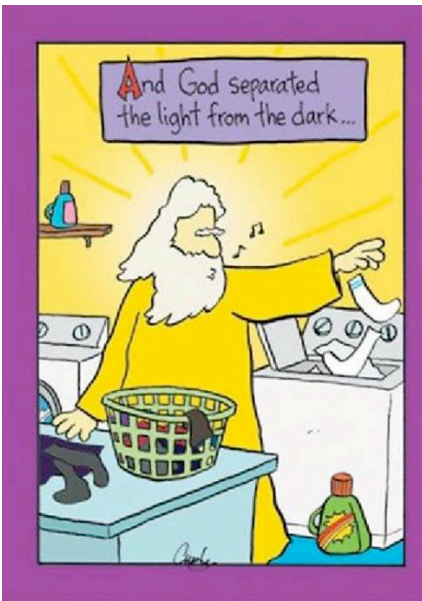
May 5 - The Rev. M. Sue Tait to
preach and preside

May 20 - Ascension Sunday

May 27 - Feast of Pentecost

Newsletter Articles for Next Issue-Due April, 18th

Send articles and photos via email to Mona Carter at mikenmona2@comcast.net. Be sure they have a .doc extension on the file for text files or jpeg for photos. Or, place hard copy items in the plastic holder marked "Grapevine" on the wall next to the front door in the Narthex. All articles and announcements are subject to editing. Please include your name and contact information.



Hands On Activities *By Maryellen Young*

St. Alban's Hands On activities provide us an opportunity to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us by sharing our time, our money, our food and cooking for others in need. These activities are a chance for us to reach out and share God's love ministering to the needs of the community beyond St. Alban's doors.



Compass Center Move-In Kit: We recently delivered the Move-In Kit donations to the Compass Center and they were very excited to receive them. The Case Managers will help with the distribution.

Compass Center Dinner: Our next Compass Center Dinner was Sunday March 25. The menu consisted of meat loaf, au gratin potatoes, green beans with onions and peppers, jello salad, fruit and brownies. Thanks to all who participated (article written before all details known). We'll celebrate the first picnic of summer at Compass Center on Sunday, June 24th.

Food Bank: Our next Food Bank opportunity is Saturday June 2nd. Save the date and come join us.

Cedar Valley Books

In May watch for the opportunity to sign up to give a gift of a book to a student who participates in the "Reading with Helki" program in Camille Hartley's classroom. This was one of our most popular events last year. Of course, we give these gifts in Helki's name, our own therapy dog. For only \$5 you can help a child start his or her own library. Last year for some children this was the first book they had ever received.

We welcome anyone interested in outreach to join us at our meetings. We are always looking for ways that we can reach out to those around us that appeal to the interests of our community and we need your suggestions. Our next meeting is **Thursday, June 14th** at Maryellen Young's home. Call 425-776-2461 if you need directions.

Announcements

Prayer Beads will meet Tuesday, April 3rd, at 7:15 p.m. in the Annex.

Edmonds Mobile Medical Clinic, an affiliate of Puget Sound Christian Clinic (PSCC), is open on Tuesdays 8:00-11:30 a.m., at Edmonds United Methodist Church. The Edmonds clinic is looking for volunteers, especially nurses. Please contact Lynn Heitritter, R.N., Ph.D., site coordinator, at rheitritter@msn.com if you are interested in this ministry.

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed - Please sign up on the calendar posted on the kitchen door. Thanks to all who have volunteered in the past. Questions? Call Evie Arneson, 425-774-1568 or Marjorie Garrard, 425-778-7313.

Notary Services: Lisa Coale is a Notary Public and would be happy to notarize documents for you. Please call the church office at 425-778-0371 to make an appointment.



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
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Lenten Prayers for Hungry People

(prepared by Bread for the World)

Holy Week (April 1-7)

Jesus is anointed for burial

While [Jesus] was at Bethany . . . a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head . . . [Jesus said], "She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial." —*Mark 14:3, 8*

But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."
 My times are in your hand;
 deliver me from the had of my enemies and persecutors.
 Let your face shine upon your servant;
 save me in your steadfast love. —*Psalm 31:14-16*

Prayer:

O Christ, by your crucifixion and resurrection, you overcome death and all the powers of evil. Grant us faith to trust your promise of new life so that living in your steadfast love, we may be extravagant in sharing with all those in need. *Amen*