



# Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd

Reaching Individuals and Families of the Concho Valley with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ!

## AGNUS DEI

March 2022

"By the sweat  
of your brow  
you will eat  
your food  
until you return  
to the ground,  
since from it  
you were taken;  
for dust you are  
and to dust  
you will return."

*(Genesis 3:19, ESV)*

Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (James 4:7-8)

Familiarity breeds a foggy mind. When we become used to all the modern conveniences we have, we can't identify with how things were before us. Prior to Google and other search engines, do you remember all the physical tasks involved with research? Growing up, my brother Craig and I had a wonderful mentor in a man named Richard Homan. He was born in 1903, When we were boys we helped him with projects and he was a wealth of information about the way things used to be. We travelled around the countryside with him while he was working on tasks and heard countless stories about where people lived and how people lived back in bygone days. Last week Craig reminded me that Richard mentioned that the greatest improvements he remembered in automobiles was when they replaced snap-on canvass with glass designed hydraulic brakes instead of the old mechanical brakes. He said that having glass in the windows, especially during the wintertime, changed the whole driving experience. When he could actually apply the brakes and a vehicle would slow down or stop was a great advancement, even a luxury. Now, we get upset if Google Maps loses connectivity or our adaptive cruise control doesn't do our driving for us. We need to remember where we came from to appreciate the advantages we have. The same is true for us spiritually. We are a new creation in Christ, but we must not take our spiritual identity for granted. Lent helps to ground us.

The season of Lent reminds us of our mortality. When we receive ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday service, we are reminded: "For dust thou art, and unto dust shall thou return" (Gen 3:19, KJV). Lent reminds us that as mortals we will not be here forever. We are to think about things which have eternal consequences. Have you ever noticed how the thrill of something new usually wears off after about six months. We have the tendency to think of each Sunday as a "resurrection day," or like another Easter. While celebrating Easter is great, we might not recognize the trials, temptations, highs and lows that Jesus experienced prior to the Easter. In the season of Easter, we celebrate the risen Lord. During Pentecost, we celebrate life in the Spirit. The "common season" celebrates the teachings of our Lord as we grow in faith. In Advent

*(continued)*

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we anticipate the incarnation of the Lord. The Christmas season celebrates Jesus' arrival and Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of the Lord to the wise men, foreshadowing the Christian message to the gentiles. Lent is the time in the church calendar which examines the holiness of God and our need to repent and be reconciled to Him. If we don't slow down and take the time to recognize that we need a savior, we might be living in a state of presumption that the Lord will forgive our sins simply because that was His mission. We must recognize our constant need for repentance and to continually yield to the Lord.

Lent reminds us that we need to get back to the basics of life. Simplify your life. Remember how life used to be before you turned to the Lord.

Fr. Hal



Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 2:00 A.M. On Saturday night, set your clocks forward one hour to "spring ahead."



### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE SUPPER

Tuesday, March 1st, from 6:00-7:00 PM the Vestry will prepare and serve pancakes and sausage in the parish hall. Shrove Tuesday is the day for removing the 'fat' from our homes in preparation to keep the Lenten Fast. Shrove comes from the old middle English word 'Shriven' meaning *to go* to confession to ask forgiveness for the sins you've committed. It's also known as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday. Join us and bring some friends!

# FEAST

T H E N

# FAST



### ASH WEDNESDAY

The Holy Eucharist with the distribution of ashes to those who wish to receive them will be on March 2, 2022 at Noon and 6:00 PM.



Please join us for  
**'Fish and Dish'**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 25th**  
beginning at 6pm

The church will provide the fish and hushpuppies. Please bring a side or dessert to share. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you know what you're bringing, please let us know.

**Good Shepherd's Annual Spiritual Retreat**  
**April 1-3, 2022**  
**Great House Retreat Center @ Blaylock Ranch**

The Annual Parish Retreat will be held at the Great House Retreat Center near Junction, Texas the weekend of **April 1 –3, 2022**. It will begin on Friday evening and last until noon on Sunday. **The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.**

## *Breath of God*

Submitted by Anngie McWilliams, Written by Sandra Thurman Caporale

There was a moment when Moses had the nerve to ask God what his name is. God was gracious enough to answer, and the name he gave is recorded in the original Hebrew as YHWH.

Over time we've arbitrarily added an "a" and an "e" in there to get YaHWeH, presumably because we have a preference for vowels.

But scholars and Rabi's have noted that the letters YHWH represent breathing sounds, or aspirated consonants. When pronounced without intervening vowels, it actually sounds like breathing.

YH (inhale): WH (exhale).

So a baby's first cry, his first breath, speaks the name of God.

A deep sigh calls His name – or a groan or gasp that is too heavy for mere words.

Even an atheist would speak His name, unaware that their very breathe is giving constant acknowledgment to God.

Likewise, a person leaves this earth with their last breath, when God's name is no longer filing their lungs.

So when I can't utter anything else, is my cry calling out His name?

Being alive means I speak His name constantly.

So, is it heard the loudest when I'm the quietest?

In sadness, we breathe heavy sighs.

In joy, our lungs feel almost like they will burst.

In fear we hold our breath and have to be told to breathe slowly to help us calm down.

When we're about to do something hard, we take a deep breath to find our courage.

When I think about it, breathing is giving him praise. Even in the hardest moments!

This is so beautiful and fills me with emotion every time I grasp the thought. God chose to give himself a name that we can't help but speak every moment we're alive.

All of us, always, everywhere.

Waking, sleeping, breathing, with the name of God on our lips.

Written by - Sandra Thurman Caporale.

# HOLY WEEK



## **Palm Sunday ~ April 10, 2022**

10:30 AM Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist

## **Maundy Thursday ~ April 14, 2022**

6:00 PM The Washing of Feet, The Holy Eucharist,  
and The Stripping of the Altar

## **Good Friday ~ April 15, 2022**

Church Office Closed

12-3:00 PM Prayer Vigil in the Nave

6:00 PM Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death

## **Resurrection Sunday**

8:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service in the Field Beside the Church

9-10:00 AM Easter Continental Breakfast in the Parish Hall

10:30 AM Resurrection Sunday Holy Eucharist

12:00 PM Church Family Photo Shoot

## **CHURCH WIDE PHOTO SHOOT**

On **Easter Sunday, April 17** we will take a group photo of church members immediately following the 10:30 AM Service.



# Project Dignidad 2022 Easter Blessings



Can of green beans or peas  
Can of yams or white potatoes  
Can of peaches, fruit cocktail, or applesauce  
Can of tuna or chicken  
Small bag of rice  
Small bag of pinto beans or can of refried beans  
Box of Jell-O  
Box of crackers  
Box of macaroni and cheese  
Box of cornbread or biscuit mix  
Bag of cookies  
Jar of peanut butter

A Christian gift under \$ 10  
(Resurrection eggs, Cross, Bible, stuffed animal, etc.)

If you'd like to make a monetary donation to help Project Dignidad purchase hams, send your check to:

Project Dignidad  
313 W. Ave. N  
San Angelo, TX 76903  
Note on your check Easter hams

Please bring your baskets to church from April 3 - 13  
and they will be delivered to Project Dignidad.



## It's time to get our house in order!

Well, at least our kitchen. If you have left kitchen items from past events, please come and get them. Beginning March 6th here will be items set out on a table in the Parish Hall.

## PSYCHOLOGY AND JESUS:

### GOD IS LOVE

Valentine's Day has passed but the topic of love continues to draw us beyond Cupid, chocolate, and roses. We love romantic stories with happy endings where two people are somehow united in the promise of a happy future together. Yet love is so much more. God is love (1 John 4:16).

Think for a moment of the depths of love we experience in life. Being raised in a loving home grounds one in stability. Who cannot forget his/her first crush and the giddy feelings of puppy love? Unrequited love aches with angst and melancholy. Finding one's soul mate and life partner is the culmination of mutual love and commitment. Holding a firstborn child or grandchild is indescribable joy.

Love matures with trust and respect. Love endures hardship, pain, loss, sickness, betrayal, and age. Even death cannot separate two hearts united in love.

"How do I love thee? Let me count the ways." So begins the well-quoted Sonnet 43 by Elizabeth Barrett Browning first published in 1850. Writing to her husband poet Robert Browning, she describes love as an external feeling, a possession of great value. Her last lines speak of enduring love which grows beyond the end of life.

"I love thee with the breath, smiles, and tears of all my life; and, if God choose, I shall but love thee better after death."

Few of us mature in selflessness to love another unconditionally. God's love is enduring, everlasting, and unconditional. God gives His love freely, without cost. For our part, we only must believe in Christ and obey God's commands. This is the treasure of great value Browning describes in her poem. This is the treasure our God gives to us.

As God's gift of love is so readily offered, for our part we merely receive. Yet how difficult or awkward is it to accept a treasure we know we did not earn? The answer was revealed on a hill called Golgotha by a Man on a cross. Jesus our Savior paid the ultimate price, compensation for you and me.

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:13-14 NIV

God's love is a covenant, an agreement between two parties where one is sovereign over the other. In His covenant the Sovereign agrees to nurture, nourish, protect, shelter, sustain, forgive, and love the secondary party; that is, human kind. In turn, s/he agrees to trust and obey. In this covenant we have no court order, no legally binding written document, and no "or else" clause. Free will allows each of us to accept the treasure of great value with open heart and mind. God's love is simple, sustaining, and complete.

The curious Christian may ask: how many times does the word love appear in the Holy Bible? The answer is approximate and depends upon the translation, the version, and the original language. In Greek, the major language of ancient Biblical texts, specific types of love have their own word. Eros is the Greek word for romantic love. Philia is platonic love. Philautia is self love. And agape is selfless love. All these words translate into the one English word love.

- ◆ Love appears 684 times in the English Standard Version.
- ◆ Love appears 442 times in the King James Version (not including the word charity in 1 Corinthians).
- ◆ Love appears 479 times in the New American Standard Bible.
- ◆ Love appears 686 times in the New International Version.
- ◆ And Love appears 611 times in The Message.

The Old Testament was written primarily in Hebrew with some parts in Aramaic. But with conquests, migrations, the rise and fall of empires, and man's thirst for understanding, translations were first made into the most widely accepted language of the Greeks.

In the early centuries of Christianity, New Testament documents revealing the life, death, resurrection, ascension, and continued ministry of Jesus were handwritten from oral stories, written letters and texts passed down through the Church as faith spread from continent to continent. Many of the early versions of the New Testament were written in Greek with some in Aramaic.

An awakening of knowledge in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries spurred the interest in Scriptures printed in the original Greek. With the advent of movable type in the fifteenth century and translations from Latin into English shortly thereafter, the King James Version became available in 1610. Prior to this, however, Martin Luther had translated the Old and New Testaments into German in mid-1500. His work led to translations into many other languages.

The Holy Bible is magnificent and majestic on many levels. It is God's Word, God-breathed. The Old Testament is history documented from the creation; God's covenants and holy commitment to His people. The New Testament is proof-positive of His love for us in the telling passage from John 3:16-17.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him." NIV

Yes, God so loved you and me – generations before and after, including our enemies-- that we, through faith in Jesus Christ, might be saved. This amazing fact of faith is the center of Christian hope, trust, forgiveness, reconciliation, and belief.

The Holy Bible is a love story of God who created mankind in His image and set Adam and Eve in a garden with all their needs met. When they sinned, He forgave and called the Israelites His people, leading them into the land of milk and honey. He fulfilled every promise He made in His Covenants including a Messiah, the Savior Jesus Christ who would bear the sins of the world, once for all. And in so doing, God made us heirs to His kingdom with eternal life.

Are you worried, lonely, afraid, lost, or broken? Study the Bible. Holy Scriptures overflow with faith, hope, peace, joy, and love. Are you in need of reassurance, seeking purpose or direction in life? Open the New Testament. Do you want a template for love? Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

"Love never fails."

Jean Stinnett

**IN  
THIS  
ISSUE**

**AGNUS DEI**



- Pastor's Message: Yield to the Lord
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Ash Wednesday Noon and 6pm Services
- March 25th Lenten Fish Fry
- April 10—17 Holy Week Schedule
- Living With Jesus: *God is Love*  
by Jean Stinnett

**Happy Birthday!**  
**March Birthdays**

- 3/12 Rita Baker
- 3/14 Nancy Shaw
- 3/15 Paul Millican
- 3/27 David Harrison

**April Agnus Dei Deadline is March 18th**



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