



EMMANUEL NEWS

April 2018

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From Rev. Fred Nairn

Somehow, this whole thing - school shootings, the gun violence controversy - has been cast as a debate, more like a fight, between gun owners and non-gun owners; urbanites and suburbanites versus folks who dwell in rural and small-town America. Mary Jo and I went to the March for Our Lives gathering on Saturday morning, March 24. It was freezing cold with a biting east wind and we stood for two hours on the Capital ground in St. Paul with some twenty thousand other shivering people, including many high and junior high school students who had walked the mile or so from their gathering point on Harriet Island to assemble on the Capitol steps. The students and their adult supporters seemed highly energized, passionate and happy to be there, with one possible exception – a grumpy old man who was dragged there by his wife with the promise of sermon illustrations. This scene, minus the grumpy old man, was played out across the country and the world with some eight hundred thousand people in Washington DC.

I do not own a gun, but if I had any reason to own one I would and would expect to be examined on both my reason for wanting a gun and my fitness to own one. During my service as a Padre in the Royal Air Force I was classed as a non-combatant and not allowed a firearm. I still consider myself a non-combatant and will, therefore, never have a gun. I am sure they are fun for hunting or target shooting and I absolutely believe in the right of people to own firearms for legitimate purposes. The demonstrations at the weekend of March 24 were not about preventing law-abiding citizens owning guns – that would be a fool’s errand and why would anyone want to do that? To the extent that the debate and the demonstrations were and are characterized as a movement to overthrow the rights of responsible people to own guns or some other desecration of the Constitution, they are totally false and are cynically manipulated by those who profit most from the sale of assault weapons.

The speeches, mostly by students, including student survivors of gun violence, were sobering and in many cases heart-wrenching. Later, on the car radio, still shivering and listening to the speeches from survivors of the Parkland High School shooting, where seventeen students and teachers were killed, was excruciatingly painful.

I write at the end of the day on Palm Sunday, when in the church’s calendar we enter into the Passion of our Lord - it is the most sacred and most solemn week in the liturgical calendar. Based on the inno-

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Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

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Karen Reicks, Treasurer ('20)

Vestry Positions:
Rachael Sinning ('19)
Verlie Sinning ('19)
Mark Reicks ('19)
Farren Morical ('20)
Sheila Stanton ('20)
Karen Reicks ('21)
John Hull ('21)

Delegates to Region and Convention:

JoEllen Doeber
Alternate: Belvin Doeber

cent suffering and extreme violence of Jesus' passion, it seems to me that the church would have something to contribute to the debate on gun violence and it does, not least, love your neighbor and (Pope Francis, "let the children's voices be heard").

As you read this, Easter Day will have passed with its Halleluiyahs and its promise of life beyond the grave. This Christian Hope may bring solace to those grieving families of Parkland, and the many other people and places who have suffered great loss from deranged and violent attacks. Mary Jo regretted that we didn't have a sign or placard to carry to the rally; I said that we, our bodies, were an incarnation of our protest – we were there – in solidarity. With or without placards or slogans we need to stand up and speak out, even reluctant introverts like me, to make our schools, our towns and cities, our country and our world a safer place than it is today. Entering Holy Week today, the church follows the way of sorrows as Jesus makes his last journey to the hill of Golgotha. Jesus' crucifixion, on the face of it and by any measure, is a disaster and a gross injustice but it is followed three days later by triumph and vindication as God raised him up with by glorious resurrection. These days are dark with uncertainty and some fear, but we must never give up, knowing that love will overcome hate and the dawn will surely come.



Hymn of the Month . . . Revisited

Hymn #603 First Line Title: "When Christ was lifted from the earth" Tune Name: *St. Botolph*
Text Author: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936) Tune Composer: Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

As we do not have a Hymn of the Month at the moment, I decided I would look at the list of hymns that we will be singing during April and select one that has served this purpose in the past. As was the case a couple of months ago, this is once again a re-run of a previous article. I was very pleased to see that one of these was a favorite of mine . . . "When Christ was lifted from the earth".

Not only is the tune pleasant and easy to sing, but I love the text as well. It speaks of Christ's unconditional love for each one of us and our need to follow in his example of ceasing the use of labels and personal prejudices and to completely accept and care for one another. Although all of the verses speak to me, I find the fourth especially meaningful: "Thus freely loved, though fully known, may I in Christ be free to welcome and accept His own as Christ accepted me."

Brian A. Wren is an internationally renowned hymn writer born in the United Kingdom. His philosophy in relation to the many hymns he has composed is that hymns are not simply pieces of music, but rather made up of theology and poetry. Wren has also been a proponent of using inclusive language in his hymns. After examining the predominantly male focus of a great amount of sacred music, he began including women and suppressed or subordinate groups in his writing. He has further challenged the established Church to re-examine and reach beyond its "limits of comfort and convention". His works number 250 and reach across many denominations and expressions of faith. Six of Wren's titles appear in our Hymnal 1982.

The tune that is assigned to #603 in our hymnal is "St. Botolph" and was composed by Gordon Slater (1896-1979). Interestingly, this tune was first published in England in a collection entitled "Songs of Praise for Boys and Girls" and so it was very possibly originally used for a Sunday school hymn. The tune was named for St. Botolph's Parish Church in Boston, Lincolnshire, England, where Slater served as organist for a time. The church honors St. Botolph, the seventh-century abbot of an influential monastery thought to have been northeast of Ipswich in Suffolk, England. This monastery was destroyed during the Danish invasions of that time. Slater also served a time as organist and choirmaster at Lincoln Cathedral where he supervised the rebuilding of the cathedral's organ in 1960. During those years he was also the conductor of the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. He taught at various British Colleges and universities, was a well-known organ recitalist for the BBC, and composed anthems and hymn tunes. In British churches, the hymn "Jesus, the Very Thought of You" is often sung to St. Botolph.

Source:

<http://www.hymnary.org>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_Wren

Emmanuel Episcopal Church



SALAD SUPPER

Tuesday, May 8th

4:30 PM - 7 PM

LAKE STREET & 12TH AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA, MN



A cluster of vibrant pink tulips with green leaves, serving as a decorative background for the event details.

TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE DOOR, OR CALL
320-763-3201

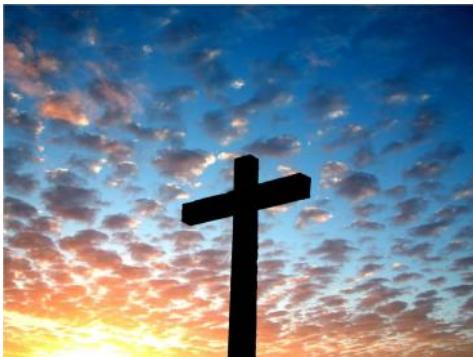
ADULTS \$6
CHILDREN \$4
(AGES 5 - 12)

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD
JUMBLE SALE WILL BE OPEN.

Lectionary Readings for April

April 1
Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43
or Isaiah 25:6-9
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
or Mark 16:1-8
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24



April 8
Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31
Psalm 133

April 15
Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48
Psalm 4

April 22
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18
Psalm 23

April 29
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8
Psalm 22:24-30

Position	April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22	April 29
	Easter Sunday	<i>Morning Prayer</i>			
Priest	Kathleen Galvin	Tom Sinning	Randy Welsand	Fred Nairn	Kathleen Galvin
Organist	JoNette Brogaard	Laurie Krueger	JoNette Brogaard	Nancy Anderson	Mertice Brueske
Lector 1	JoEllen Doebert	Tim Johnson	Mark Reicks	Tim Johnson	Mark Reicks
Lector 2	Belvin Doebert	Farren Morical	John Hull	Farren Morical	John Hull
Altar	Karen/Tim/John	Tim/John	Karen Reicks	Tim Johnson	John Hull
Coffee		Farren Morical	Reicks	Nancy Anderson	Tom Sinning

Remember in Your Prayers: All clergy serving Emmanuel - Bishop Brian - Tom - Jana & Charles - Kathleen - Don & Ann - Edith - Al - Linda - John - Laird - Wendy - Jessie - Dillon - Dana - Simeon - Hunter - Mike & Lana - Cleone - The Doebert Family - Total Ministry Team - Law Enforcement Officers - Military Personnel - Peace in the World - The Food Shelf, volunteers & all who use it - Heartland Girls Ranch - Everyone affected by recent storms and wildfires.





Address service requested

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