



## Red Door in the time of COVID 19

June 21 - 28, 2020



### The more things change . . .

. . . you know the ending of this adage. Well, perhaps the traditional ending no longer holds true, and I, for one, hope that it does not. I want life to be better. Better than it was before this virus arrived and better than it has been for centuries for our sisters and brothers oppressed by notions of white supremacy and institutions of inequality and inequity. If we can learn anything from the last three months at all, it is that life changes. However, if we really think about it, we would realize that this is not news, not really. At the celebration of Holy Eucharist in the context of The Burial Office we hear, "For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended . . ." (BCP page 382). We know that life changes, and that God is with us throughout the varied changes and chances of this life.

According to Saint Matthew, the resurrected Jesus told his first students that they would meet him again in Galilee, which was not a bucolic backwater of peace but a region full of political, economic, and cultural turmoil. As +Michael Curry points out in *Crazy Christians*, the word "galilee" also refers to a porch or vestibule at the entrance to a church. A transitional space, our galilee marks a threshold between our church and the world around us. The space outside the red doors of St. John's and at the foot of the tall white columns, is our "galilee." Let's go to our galilee to meet Jesus. See you there.

Henny+

# Reality, Lament and Hope

A SERVICE FOR THESE TIMES

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2020

7:00PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84608528017>

Or dial 929-436-2866, then enter Meeting ID: 846 0852 8017#

This is a worship service planned by our diocese to acknowledge realities of the times in which we live, to lament the loss of lives, justice, and dignity, and to offer prayers of hope for the future of all people of our country.

## Vestry to meet June 21

Our vestry will hold a brief meeting starting about 10:30. On the agenda will be making a final decision on whether or not to hold our Fall Festival, receiving a financial report from our treasurer, and reviewing our preparations for re-entry into our building, the resumption of in-person worship (whenever Bishop Perry permits this), and the continuation of online worship.

## Statement on Race

Visit [www.edomi.org](http://www.edomi.org) to read a statement written recently by our bishop on the subject of race and justice. It asks us specifically to honor our baptismal vow to “respect the dignity of every human being” (BCP page 305).

Please read this statement, and if you concur with it, add your name and the name of our church. Bishop Perry also requests that we share this statement on our social media and invite 5 friends to sign and share it.

Bishop Perry will be asking every parish of the Diocese of Michigan how it will work to create a more just and equitable country where ALL may flourish, so please be thinking of what work you would like to do with St. John's!

## Sources of information about our diocese and The Episcopal Church

Subscribe to Episcopal New Service at <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/> and you will receive in-depth reporting and analysis of local, regional, national and international news for Episcopalians and others interested in our church's mission and ministry. Episcopal News Service is the officially sponsored online news source of the Episcopal Church.

To learn what is happening in our own diocese, visit <https://www.edomi.org/news/newsletter/> to sign up to receive important announcements, notices of events, job opportunities, and much more.

## Bible study June 24

Beginning at 11 a.m., we will conclude our discussion of *Crazy Christians A Call to Follow Jesus* by The Most Rev'd. Michael Curry.

Know of a book that you would like to read and discuss? Email the author and title to [revhenny@stjohnswestland.com](mailto:revhenny@stjohnswestland.com).

## Big thank yous

- to Linda Copeland and her friend Glen for continuing to mow St. John's extensive grounds;
- to Don Streeter and Ed Parker for installing a gate in the hallway outside the tool room; (This gate will help STEP consumers remain in the appropriate areas of St. John's. STEP plans to launch "What's Cooking in Westland" some time this summer.)
- and to everyone who is remaining supportive of St. John's in this difficult time!

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**The Red Door is sponsored by:**



**Affordable Dog Grooming – Leslie  
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