

Dear Friends in Christ:

The end of May saw Pentecost Sunday (5-24) and Holy Trinity Sunday (5-31). While rain on the 24th did its best to quench the Spirit, Holy Trinity attendance was a little better. We had wonderful attendance at worship prior to Easter and then people started staying away—perhaps to leave extra seating and elbow room for St. Somebody Else. Sadly, St. Somebody Else has not been present for ever so long. All of those generous and thoughtful people are welcome to come back.

June begins the ordinary season following Pentecost. It is ordinary not in the sense of being drab and uneventful; it is ordinary in the sense of the Sundays having ordinal numbers attached to them. June 7 is the Second Sunday after Pentecost. June 14 is the Third Sunday after Pentecost, et cetera. These ordinal numbers continue until the end of November when we celebrate Christ the King Sunday. This is the second of the two ordinal seasons—the first being the Season after Epiphany. In that season the Gospel readings are focused on the gradual revealing of who and what Jesus is. In the Season after Pentecost, the Gospel texts focus on the nature and growth of the Kingdom of God. Since we are in Year A of our three-year lectionary, the texts from Matthew's Gospel will lean into Jesus as the one who fulfills the Word of God spoken through the law and the prophets, and the nature of the kingdom of God will be revealed with reference to God's Word through the law and the prophets.

I anticipate that we will continue in the sanctuary until July 5 at which time we will move worship to the Dieterich Annex to take advantage of the central air conditioning. We will be back in the sanctuary on Rally Day at the latest.

Meanwhile, we hope to have another successful Vacation Bible School in August. We pray that the usual suspects will be doing their usual outstanding work. The number of kids has been less in recent years, but the enthusiasm and spirit is still sky high. Stay tuned for details.

We have some graduations to observe. Emily is graduating college. Kevin is graduating college in South Carolina. Sarah is graduating high school and heading for Clemson. Congratulations to them and their families.

We are hopeful that the boiler replacement in the parsonage will be finished during the month of June. We are also getting bids to rebuild and refurbish the front doors of the church.

Sometime over the Summer we hope to see a Memorial Garden appear by the European Beech Tree near the Dieterich Annex entrance. Eoghan is doing that as an Eagle Scout project.

Yours in Christ,

John Shepherd McKenzie