FOR REFLECTION

What does living into the questions mean for us Christians?

Bp. Shelby Spong suggests it entails deepening the personal Self - our Soul - so as to embrace the power of life lived in God, to expand our consciousness in order that we might see realities that the eyes do not normally see. It is to pursue human life that is not governed by the need for security and self-preservation, but rather is expressed in the ability to give ourselves away. It is to live not frightened by death, but rather to embrace the reality of death so as to go so deeply into our humanity that even death itself is transcended. In living into the “Yes, but how” question surrounding these tasks, one can become more fully human, more fully alive.

Rainer Maria Rilke 1875 - 1926

Letters to a Young Poet is one of Rilke’s best known books. In it, he explores how a poet feels, loves, and seeks truth in trying to understand and experience the world around him.

Rilke told the young poet, “Learn how to live the questions.”

Rainer Maria Rilke, German poet and novelist. His work has been described as lyrically intense and inherently mystical. "He invokes haunting images that focus on the difficulty of communion with the ineffable in an age of disbelief, solitude, and profound anxiety. These deeply existential themes tend to position him as a transitional figure between the traditional and the modernist writers." Rilke’s writing is influenced by the work of the sculpture Rodin, and the artist Paul Cézanne. Rodin influenced him toward the value of objective observation, dramatically transforming Rilke’s poetic style from his earlier subjective language into something quite new in European literature.

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In Need of Prayer of Home Communion?
St. Luke’s Prayer Ministers are available during the 10:30 AM service to pray with you. If you would like a name added to our Prayer Chain, contact Tami Wrice with your request at 435-901-1128 or t-wrice@hotmail.com. If you know of someone who needs Home Communion, contact our Lay Eucharistic Visitor Team by calling or emailing the Church Office. Blessings!

PLEASE PRAY FOR……
THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:
✓ Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Diocesan Bishop and for all the people and parishes in our diocese. Pray especially for Grace Church in St. George.
✓ All people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people and leaders of The Church of England.

OUR NATION & ITS LEADERS:
✓ Our government leaders that they may live & work in a spirit of calm reason & cooperation on behalf of the common good.

THOSE WHO ARE FACING SUFFERING & HARDSHIP:

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
✓ Recovery for the victims involved in the large fire in the Philippines,
✓ An end to terrorism and the wisdom to find a way to live together in peace.
✓ An end to the conflicts in Yemen, Ukraine, Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan and healing for all victims.
✓ A lasting, permanent peace between Israel & her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……
Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Jon Henry 
Friend of St. Luke’s

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR……
✓ For our Assist. Rector, Mthr. Claudia Giacoma and her family.
✓ For those having Birthdays this week: Tricia Daily on Tuesday.

Our Parish Community Prayer list: ++ Please note that we will place a + after each name for each week the name is on our prayer list. After four weeks (++++) the name will be removed unless otherwise requested.
The Scripture Passages
6th Sunday after the Epiphany A - February 12, 2017

Collect of the Day: Living One, who in the creation provided freedom as a gift; free us from the need to possess, control or condemn others that we may rejoice in the beauty and wonder of the human community; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen.

The Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Today’s reading from the Hebrew tradition comes from the 15th chapter of the Book of Sirach. Also known as the Book of Ecclesiasticus, the Book of Sirach is a collection of moral counsels and maxims, often utilitarian in character. They are applicable to all conditions of life: to parents and children, to husbands and wives, to the young, to masters, to friends, to the rich, and to the poor. Many of them are rules of courtesy and politeness; and a still greater number contain advice and instruction as to the duties of man toward himself and others, especially the poor, as well as toward society and the state, and most of all toward God. Please read the following passage with me by reading the parts in bold print…..

If you choose, you can keep the commandments,
and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice.
He has placed before you fire and water;
stretch out your hand for whichever you choose.
Before each person are life and death,
and whichever one chooses will be given.
For great is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is mighty in power and sees everything;
his eyes are on those who fear him,
and he knows every human action.

Here ends the reading.

The Muslim Scriptures:
All of the world’s religions offer their own version of moral laws. Most religions, including Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity, teach a single standard of law that applies to all people. In Hinduism, however, there are different dharmas for people of different social status, stage of life, and quality of inborn nature, even though this differentiation should not obscure an underlying unity in the divine principle. Sometimes religions distinguish between the law for believers and the law for unbelievers. Regardless of this tendency to pluralism of laws, we can discern an underlying common ground for the moral law--often called natural law--which transcends religion or social circumstance. Please read with me from the 39th chapter of the Qur’an by reading the parts in bold print…God has revealed the fairest of statements, a Scripture consistent, with promises of reward

paired with threats of punishment, at which creeps the flesh of those who fear their Lord, so that their flesh and their hearts soften to God's reminder.

Such is God's guidance, with which He guides whom He will.

And him whom God sends astray, for him there is no guide.
Here ends the reading.

The Christian Gospels: Matthew 5:21-37
Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise you, Lord Christ.

Offertory Sentence:
Priest: My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, when you come to the Table of the Lord, come not only to receive the presence of the Lord, but also to give your life completely to Him. As Jesus said, the Greatest Commandments are these:
People: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

[Hebrew & Christian scripture passages are reprinted with permission from the World Council of Churches. Passages from extra-biblical sources are reprinted with permission from World Scriptures.]

Please Help the Rector Plan a Meaningful Lenten Liturgy TODAY at 12:15 in the Office Area.
Dear People of the Diocese of Utah:

As I have travelled throughout our diocese and like you have watched and read the news and seen posts on various social media outlets, I see there is a common thread of agitation. It has been reported, observed and growing since the election of Donald Trump as the President of the United States.

This agitation is present in people regardless of political leaning. It is common to all. I stress this: it is common to all. I have had conversations with people of our diocese who report there is dissension within their families and with coworkers that has resulted in the breaking of familial bonds and friendships.

This is deeply troubling and heartbreaking to me. I have been offering many prayers for the people of our diocese. I believe that it is important in these situations to take a deep breath before engaging in conversation with family and friends who do not share your political opinions. As the letter of James says, “You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger…” (James 1:19)

If you do not agree with a person try to refrain from any statement that attacks or judges the character of him or her. State your opinions and feelings as your own and that you are not asking the other person to agree with you. And most importantly, that you value and cherish your relationship regardless of your differences.

We have seen, and will continue to see public demonstrations, for and against, actions taken by both our federal and local political leaders. This is democracy in action. Democracy is often noisy. Our republic, which is the United States of America, needs the engagement of the people to function well. People should never simply acquiesce to whatever decisions our elected leaders make especially if they run counter to our nation’s fundamental values of freedom, equality, and justice for all. To do so is irresponsible. Our elected leaders work for us. It is our tax dollars that support them.

How do we walk together as the body of Christ in the midst of political winds that have divided our nation and reached its fingers into our own individual families? This is not a new question. It has been with the Church from the very beginning. Paul exhorted the Corinthians to remember that they were the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27) He instructed them that each member had a place in the body of Christ. He warned them to not boast about human leaders. They did not belong to any human leader, they all belonged to Christ and Christ belongs to God. (1 Corinthians 3:21-23)

Christians gather around Jesus Christ. At Communion, Jesus is the host and we are the guests. As such, while individually we may passionately disagree with another, when we come together we are called to be one body. Our unity is found in Jesus Christ.

Beyond our local congregational settings, what is the stance of the Episcopal Church? The Episcopal Church has passed resolutions through The General Convention that call for gender equality, endorse efforts against gender violence, call for the protection of the environment and to address systemic racial injustice as well as many other social justice concerns.

As the Bishop of The Diocese of Utah, I have taken a vow to defend the faith of our Church and guard its unity. As the Bishop of the Diocese of Utah, I take my stand firmly as one who adheres to our Baptismal Covenant that informs, expresses and guides our faith as Episcopalians. Thus, I will seek to serve Christ in all persons regardless of their political opinions, religious affiliation, or ethnic or cultural heritage. I will strive for justice and peace. I will call and witness for the dignity of every human being. This was a mandate you gave me when you called me to be your bishop. I took this to heart.

I have been very active in the public square in working for this since being ordained as your bishop and I will continue these efforts and call upon you to do the same. As a follower of Jesus and the bishop of our diocese, I can do no other than this. I thank you for your prayers, support, encouragement as fellow followers of Jesus. Together let us endeavor to keep our congregations, ministries, and families as places of peace and let us work together to shine the light of Christ in all places in our community, state, nation and world.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Utah
Questions to Guide Our Discussion:
(We have only about 20 minutes or about 5 minutes per question.....
time for 2 or 3 people to answer.....please be "efficient" with your answers.)

1. What has been your most frequently experienced emotional reaction to the things said and the decisions made by President Trump since his election? Do you relate to the Bishop's opening description of the "common thread of agitation" he has experienced within the people of the Diocese of Utah?

2. Assuming that our thinking generates and determines our feelings.....Choose one decision made by President Trump and describe your emotional reaction to that decision.....Now, identify one or two salient thoughts that may be the source of your emotional reaction? In other words, what are you saying to yourself about that decision?

3. When you are evaluating and reacting to a decision made by someone in power such as the President, the Governor, or a member of one of the legislatures, what are the top priorities and key values and principles you use to make your evaluation, e.g., impact on your wallet, support of business, protecting the environment, compassion for those less privileged, impact upon the poor or the disenfranchised, etc.? What moral principles do you use in your evaluation? How do you decide whether a decision is morally-socially good or morally-socially bad?

4. Do you have any suggestions about how we, the people of St. Luke's, can routinely engage the important and often divisive issues facing our nation and communities while maintaining civility, intellectual integrity and respect for one another?

Pancake Supper and Bingo Night
Tuesday, March 28th, 6:00-8:00
St Luke’s Parish Hall

The Youth and Social Committee are hosting a Pancake Supper in celebration of Shrove Tuesday

All proceeds will benefit St. Luke's Mission Funds

Tickets will be on sale after Sunday services and during the supper on the 28th
$10 for individuals and $30 for families up to 5
Price includes dinner and one bingo card per person
Extra bingo cards available for sale at $2 a card

Other donations welcomed

If you are interested in joining in on the fun, let us know

Contact:
Katherine Martz (katherinemartz@comcast.net)

There will be a sign up at church as well.
Express Your Gratitude to Our 3 New Vestry Members!:
Linda Dugins, Mike Fiery and Rusty Martz
and
Our 5 New Diocesan Convention Delegates:
Jane Hamilton, Mary McEntire, Judy Hanley, Nancy Conrow
and Sharon Christiansen.

An Evening of English Music & Nonsense

Songs, Verse and Fun from
Flanders and Swan, Noel Coward, Gilbert and Sullivan,
Henry Purcell, AA Milne and Edward Lear

Keith Trickett, Bass & Felicia Lundie, Soprano
with Emily Williams, Piano

Flanders and Swan · Gnu, Warthog, Hippopotamus, Sloth, Wopom, Elephant, Spider, Wild Boar
Noel Coward · Mad Dogs and Englishmen, Bar on the Piccola Marina
Gilbert and Sullivan · Modern Major General, Lying Awake with a Dismal Headache.
Henry Purcell, Duets from Orpheus Britannicus (arr. Britten)

Monday, February 27th at 7:30
St Luke's Church, 4595 Silver Springs Drive, Park City

This is a Charity event supported by St Luke's Episcopal Church.
All Proceeds will be in aid of the Peace House, Park City.
Thank you for your generous Donation.

STOP PRESS!!! WORLD PREMIER
The program will also include a new setting of AA Milne's "The Alchemist" By John Paul Hayward
Our Vision for the Future of Park City and Summit County and Rising Taxes: How Do We Pay For It All?

Our city and county are growing. There are a number of government projects being planned to respond to this growth: transportation, school development, property purchases and more. Each has implications for our quality of life and our tax burden. How much is enough? Is there a limit to the local taxes we can shoulder? These and other questions will be discussed with a panel of key community leaders and audience Q&A.

On the Panel:
Tom Clyde - Citizen
Tom Fisher - Summit County Manager
Diane Foster - Park City Manager
Jeff Jones - Economic Development Director, Summit County
Chris Robinson - County Councilman
Jack Thomas - Mayor of Park City

Please do not miss this important community conversation.
All citizens are urged to attend.

Monday Evening - February 13th at 7:00 PM
at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Snyderville

Hosted by the Project for Deeper Understanding
Simulcast on KPCW beginning at 7:06 PM
CONSIDERING JOINING THE ST. LUKE'S COMMUNITY? JUST WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH?
Our rector would be delighted to make an appointment to meet with you. He will do his best to answer your questions and to help you to feel welcomed and included at St. Luke's. When you are ready to have a conversation, just let him know at either: pastor@stlukespcc.org or 435-901-2131.

AUTUMN GOSPEL GROUP FOR WOMEN 50ish & UP: FOURTH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:00 AM
Meets on the fourth Saturday of each month, 10:00 - NOON. We are beginning a new book, "Autumn Gospel" by Kathleen Fischer. Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info, please call Dyan Pignatelli, 435-782-3330 or Joyce Pearson, 435-659-0724.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE:
WWW.STLUKESPARKCITY.ORG
On the website newcomers will find info about our church and what to expect when they visit. In addition, there is information about all of our missions, finances and programs. You can view previous sermons through a link to You-Tube on your phone or home computer. Go to You Tube, then St Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City, UT.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
We have started our new study "Divine Dance-The Trinity and Your Transformation" by Richard Rohr. It is available on Amazon and on kindle. On Wednesday nights 6:30-8:00 PM.

ST. LUKE’S CARE GUILD
If you or someone you know has any requests or needs, please contact Katherine at katherinemartz@comcast.net or Harriet, harrietmstephens@gmail.com, (435)655-1888.

USHER/GREETER LEADER NEEDED
Please thank Ed and Julie Fiscus for leading this group and doing such a great job of organizing it. They will be stepping down and we need someone that can take over for them. They currently have ushers and greeters scheduled through the middle of March. We need someone to take over this position before then. The job is basically scheduling people for each Sunday. Not to difficult, plus you may get to know some new people. Please contact Fr. Charles or Beckie know if you would be willing to take this over.

WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER
We meet the second Tuesday of every month, On February 14th we will meet at the church at 6:30 PM. Please bring a dish or drink to share.

CENTERING PRAYER
Meets Monday mornings at 9:30 AM & Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Library. Please join us in this contemplative practice of Holy Silence. Come at anytime.

PROGRAM AND COMPLINE
Cathedral Church of St. Mark, 231 E. 100 South, SLC. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 7:00 P.M.
A celebration of the life and music of St. Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)
Dr. Margaret Toscano, Associate Professor of Classics and Comparative Studies at the University of Utah, will deliver the presentation, "Hildegard of Bingen: Lover of God and All Creation." Following the lecture, Dr. Emily Nelson and Dr. Christopher LeCluyse, founders of Utopia Early Music, will present on particular aspects of her music, in preparation for a Compline service featuring rarely heard pieces composed by Hildegard. Compline is an evening service of prayer and music. All are welcome.

NEW WAY TO MAKE A DONATION: You can now do it directly from your mobile phone, computer or a tablet. Go to our new website: www.stlukesparkcity.org to make a one time donation or set up a recurring donation from a credit card or checking account.