



*Our
New Day
Begins*

*2020/21
Stewardship
Pledge
Campaign*

-  It's morning at St. Margaret's.
-  A time of separation from one another has made fresh our nearness to God.
-  Inspired by the Spirit, a prayerful, thoughtful search has brought us our new Rector.
-  This vibrant and joyful parish looks forward to that glorious morning when we can safely gather again knowing we are loved.
-  Respond to Christ's call for love, healing, service and forgiveness.
-  Pledge in support of another carefully balanced budget.
-  Our New Day Begins with you.





stmargarets.org

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Palm Desert, California

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 2020

Thank you for choosing to worship with St. Margaret's today. Your virtual presence blesses all those who join this worship. The Morning Prayer Service you will experience has deep roots in Christian history. This gives a sense of being surrounded by all the faithful through time. May you find food for your soul here as we celebrate that all things are possible with God!

Morning Prayer

Prelude Aria

John Wright, Organist

Flor Peeters

Opening Hymn

Hymn 423 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Linda Morgan, soprano; Nicole Benvenuti, alto; Lindsay Karg, tenor; Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, baritone; Fred Swann, Organist

St. Denio

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Greeting

Officiant: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession and Absolution:

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Together: **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Invitatory

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All Together: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting: Come let us adore him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

Plainsong, Tone 4

Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, Cantor

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

13 Return, O Lord; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 551 **Rise up, ye saints of God!**

Festal Song

Linda Morgan, soprano; Nicole Benvenuti, alto; Lindsay Karg, tenor; Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, baritone; Fred Swann, Organist

1 Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2 Rise up, ye saints of God!
His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love
and end the night of wrong.

3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
and quickened by the Spirit's power,
rise up, ye saints of God!

The Gospel

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet"'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Rev. Andrew Butler

Stewardship Witness

Rhiannon Howell

Hymn 593 (for all to sing) **Lord, make us servants of your peace**
Ravae Reynolds, soprano; John Wright, organist

Dickinson

1 Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
where there is strife, may we make one.

2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith;
where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
where all is night, may we sow light;
where all is tears, may we sow joy.

3 Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console,
nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand.

4 May we not look for love's return,
but seek to love unselfishly,
for in our giving we receive,
and in forgiving are forgiven.

5 Dying, we live, and are reborn
through death's dark night to endless day:
Lord, make us servants of your peace,
to wake at last in heaven's light.

Apostle's Creed

Officiant: Please join in proclaiming our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed,
followed by the Lord's Prayer.

People:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Suffrages All join in the bold letter responses

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
- R. And grant us your salvation.**
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
- R. Let your people sing with joy.**
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
- R. For only in you can we live in safety.**
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
- R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
- R. Your saving health among all nations.**
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
- R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
- R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collects and Prayers

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Astonish us once again, O God, and bring forth an abundance of wisdom from your compassionate heart. May all who ask for our prayers know your love, and may we give testimony to your grace through our acts of charity and compassion. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen**

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. Please add your petitions for the world and for those suffering who are close to you: We pray for those who have died, grieving losses from Covid-19, from acts of violence, and from all the perils of this life, including those we now name: We offer these prayers trusting that you are seeing our needs beyond what we know to express. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Officiant offers a Blessing.

Postlude Fugue on “St. Denio”

Fred Swann, organist

John Weaver

Worship Ministers

The Rev. Andrew Butler, *Preacher*

The Rev. Deborah Seles, *Officiant*

The Rev. Susan Green, *Gospeler*

Jim Duke, *Licensed Worship Leader*

John Wright, *Organist and Director of Music*

Fred Swann, *Organist*

Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, *Music Associate, and cantor*

Steven Smith, Sue Shigenaga, *Lectors*

Judy Burton, Mary McKenzie, Cash Baxter and Betty Baxter, *voices of the people*

Emily Vogt, Debby Jansma and Chet Hecht, *Technical assistance*

Patrick Linsk, *Stewardship Witness Videographer*

Text of Hymn 423, Immortal, invisible, God only wise; Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Reprinted by permission of OneLicense.com, License #714167-A. Text of Hymn 551, Rise up, ye saints of God; Words: William Pierson Merrill (1867-1954) Public Domain; Text of Hymn 593, Lord, make us servants of your peace; Words: James Quinn (b.1919), based on prayer att. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); Public Domain.

Readings for Next Sunday, 11/1/20

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

The First Lesson Revelation 7:9-17

The Second Lesson 1 John 3:1-3

The Holy Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

For a direct link to the readings for next week, click [here](#)


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Stewardship 2020/21

Thank you to all who made Pledges for 2021. The Vestry is beginning budget planning so pledging soon is important. Remember to make a Special Gift above your Pledge, which will be doubled by our Matching Fund. You can pay your Special Gift anytime in 2021. Now you can access pledging and Special Gifts online by clicking [here](#).

Chris and Sue, Co-Chairs Stewardship



Sunday Eucharist on the Labyrinth!

Beginning on Sunday, November 1, 2020 we will resume in-person worship on the labyrinth. **All attendees must reserve their seats by clicking on the links below.** If you have trouble with the online ticketing contact Debby Jansma at debbyj@stmargaret.org. If you reserve and then find you cannot attend please let Debby know so someone else can attend. Seating for services is limited to 50 people and once these services are fully subscribed

we will add additional services in the future. Please familiarize yourself with the safety protocols at the link below.

7:30 a.m. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holy-eucharist-on-the-labyrinth-tickets-125545005491>

9:30 a.m. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holy-eucharist-on-the-labyrinth-tickets-125546728645>

How a Christian Prepares for an Election

The church should not be partisan. The church IS political (as she helps her members do our work in God’s work of bringing about Beloved Community). To that end, the Episcopal Church has created the following “Voting Faithfully” guide about how to **pray our values** and how to organize to make sure everyone who is able, votes. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry says:

“It is a Christian obligation to vote, and more than that, it is the church’s responsibility to help get souls to the polls.

“Cast your vote, not on a partisan basis, not based on your biases, but vote your values. Vote the values of human dignity and equality. Vote the values of the rock on which this country was built. Vote.”

The Guide provides links to these:

- Action Steps: ✓ Register ✓ Mobilize ✓ Communicate ✓ Advocate
- Worship: ✓ Quotes ✓ Music ✓ Prayers

https://episcopalchurch.org/files/ogr_vote_faithfully_2020_election_toolkit.pdf



Where to Vote on November 3rd

Please note that this year, St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church is **NOT** a location for voting or dropping off ballots. To find your closest location, please go to <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>

Email Scam Alert

This week, someone pretending to be Mother Deb emailed several parishioners asking them to purchase gift cards on her behalf. These emails were NOT sent from an @stmargarets.org account. Further, St. Margaret's staff will never email asking you to purchase gift cards on their behalf. When in doubt, please check the sender's email address carefully.



The Meditation Lab - Coming up in November!

Thursdays, November 5, 12 & 19 from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

This series will incorporate a short pre-meditation presentation on the range of pandemic-related changes in the brain, mood and memory along with simple ways we can continue to build our resilience. All are welcome to join.

Zoom meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/95226772747?pwd=MDFUUDNXZ2xJcy93dytwZWlVM0dkUT09>

Meeting ID: 952 2677 2747

Passcode: 220699

Kathleen Dale, LMFT

Director of the Counseling Center - (760) 861-5545

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. - Richard Rohr

Additional On-Line Worship Opportunities for October & November

Join us weekly on our Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/St.MargaretsEpiscopalChurch>) for Morning or Evening Prayer on Wednesdays and Compline on Sunday evenings.

October 25 - Compline

October 28 - Evening Prayer

November 1 - Compline - will be shared with
the Diocese as part of the Diocesan
Novena

November 3 - Morning Prayer for Election Day

November 3 - Evening Prayer for Election Day

November 3 - Compline for Election Day

November 4 - Morning Prayer

November 8 - Compline

November 11 - Evening Prayer

November 15 - Compline

November 18 - Morning Prayer

November 22 - Compline

November 25 - Evening Prayer

November 29 - Compline



Noonday Prayer Service - via Zoom

We are currently offering a Noonday Prayer Service via Zoom at noon. The service will be offered Monday through Friday until November 6th.

The Noonday Prayer Service is in the BCP: <https://www.bcponline.org>. Following the very short service, people can pray with the leader or offer their own prayers.

The link to the daily Zoom call is [here](#). We pray at this time for this upcoming election, our country, peace and understanding among all people, and kindness and compassion for all.

If you have any questions, please call Robin Nugent at (513) 673-9568 or email: RPNenninger@gmail.com



"VOICES FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN ISRAEL & PALESTINE"

Join us in an ongoing group to study and learn how we as American Christians can contribute to peace in the Holy Land. Have you traveled there and want to share your experiences? Or, maybe you are confused with terms such as annexation, Zionism, Christian Zionism, settlers, occupation, colonialism, etc.? With resources from Episcopal Peace Fellowship, American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, and speakers from Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths, we will examine how American Christians may be contributing to the misunderstandings and

conflict, and find new ways to follow our baptismal promises to strive for justice and peace among all faiths. There is much to learn from our Israeli and Palestinian brothers and sisters about maintaining faith and hope, despite loss of land, homes, access to holy places, and human rights violations.

I'm a member of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, and excited to have this activity be a part of the Compassion and Justice Ministries. I've studied this conflict since attending University of Beirut, 1969-70, and experienced friendships with Palestinians of all faiths who lost their homes, and some family members in 1948 and 1967. Besides travels to Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Israel, I have been active in Christian and peace organizations such as Fosna/Sabeel, Jewish Voice for Peace, and Churches for Middle East Peace. After staying in the West Bank last year and meeting with various Jewish and Palestinian Christian leaders and human rights organizations, I was inspired by their continued faith and hope, despite deteriorating circumstances & what we experienced as apartheid conditions. I'm committed to advocating and taking action as a Christian voice for their justice and freedom, and look forward to your joining me.

To join or ask questions, contact Melissa at mjmirage@aol.com or (760) 770-4879 and watch for future news about the group.



Neighbors-4-Neighbors (N4N)

The N4N program assists our neighbors in need with food, clothing and other basic life necessities. Before COVID-19, we were helping approximately 400 families per week. Then, overnight, we needed to reinvent how to continue to help in a safe manner. The first few weeks we were assisting over 800 families each week, and doing so with strict procedures in place for masks and safe distancing. Currently, we are assisting over 600 families (2500 people) each week.

To our partners, the USDA, and the FIND Foodbank, and an amazing team of volunteers who are working tirelessly to keep this ministry thriving, and all those who have supported us financially and spiritually, thank you! Thanks to you all, we are continuing to be God's hands here in this community.

How You Can Help

- Donate- A special offering designated to Neighbors-4-Neighbors will help us continue to help others in need. You can send your generous gift by mail, with N4N in the memo line, or by using the "Donate Now" button on the SMEC website at stmargarets.org. Food and clothing donations can be dropped off Mondays from 10 a.m - 2 p.m.
- Volunteer- Volunteers are the lifeblood of this program, and we are constantly needing new volunteers to share the load. We follow strict guidelines for health and safety.
- Pray- We can never have enough prayers... for health, for safety, for bountiful food donations, and plenty of volunteers.

Schedule

- Mondays: - 10:30am-1:30pm – Food Bag Packing
- 10:30am-1:30pm- Clothing Distribution Prep (Beginning October 19, 2020)
- Tuesdays: - 8am-12pm- Food Bag Packing, client registration
- 9:30am-5pm- Food Distribution
- Thursdays (Beginning October 22, 2020):
- 8:30-10am Clothing Distribution Set Up
- 10am-1pm Clothing Distribution (Outdoors on the Meyers patio)

Contact: Chet Hecht, Outreach Director- 760-346-2697 x102 or cheth@stmargarets.org.

Children's (and the Young-At-Heart!) Worship Resources

We have begun an additional offering for the young and the young-at-heart. Check out the youth or children's worship section on our website for a variety of fun, educational stories and activities designed to help our children to learn about God and our Episcopal faith.

Contact: Chet Hecht at 760-346-2697 or cheth@stmargarets.org for more information.