

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**January 23, 2022**

*Welcome to the Church of the Messiah*  
*We are delighted to have you worshipping with us.*



**For Social Justice**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer (1979) page 823*  
*adapted by DMW*

***Church of the Messiah***  
***Mission Statement***

*The Church of the Messiah is an inclusive and welcoming community*

- *Committed to serving God by serving neighbors near and far;*
- *Affirming the dignity of every human being;*
- *Believing we are called to be stewards of creation.*

- *adopted by the Vestry of the Church of the Messiah on February 10, 2015.*

**ALL ARE WELCOME: A Word from the Rector and Wardens**

As an Episcopal parish, our intention is to welcome any and all who come into our midst whether physically or virtually. We are delighted to have you here. Welcome!

**ZOOM AND LIVE-STREAMING INFORMATION**

**Our 10 AM Sunday worship service will be live-streamed via Zoom.**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO DOWNLOAD ZOOM:**

1) Go to this link: <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the directions to download Zoom. Depending on what type of device you are using, the link will take you to the Zoom website or the App Store if you are on a mobile device. Zoom is **free**, and **there is no need to sign up or create an account**. All you need is the software/app installed on your device.

2) Then join us for Sunday services at this link: <https://zoom.us/j/632447285> We suggest you plan on getting to our virtual church at 9:45 AM to give yourself plenty of time to get settled. You can go ahead and test this link now ahead of time to make sure that everything is working. Because virtual church hasn't actually started yet, you will end up looking at a screen that may show a live video of you if you have a camera. On Sunday at 9:45AM when you join, you will be looking at the sanctuary.

**REMINDER: WE ARE NOW OFFERING TWO SUNDAY SERVICES: 8 and 10 AM**

In an effort to combat the psychological isolation and depression that is increasing from the rise in COVID infections, as long as the bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts allow us, the rector and technology team at the Church of the Messiah are committed to continuing to gather safely and offer two services in person on Sundays: 8 AM and 10 AM. Unless, otherwise noted, both services will be Holy Communion.

The 10 o'clock service will also be available on Zoom for all who wish to attend the service virtually.

***ALL SAFETY PROTOCOLS WILL CONTINUE: including practicing social distancing, wearing a mask throughout the service and giving your name and contact information (if we don't have the latter) for contact tracing purposes.***

RE: HEAT AND DOORS Because everyone has been very conscious of following the safety protocols above, the vestry and rector agreed that doors can remain closed (unless the nave is close to capacity, in which case a door will be opened), windows in the chancel will be open, the heat and overhead fans will be on during services.

Thank you very much for your continuing patience as we share in the worship of God as a community caring for one another whether in person and online.

*~ The Vestry and the Rev. Deborah Warner*

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Our prayers are asked for those who suffer from racial profiling, addiction, anxiety, abuse, dementia, cancer, emotional distress, are suffering from or ministering to those with COVID-19 here and around the world. We pray for all who are unemployed or homeless, are refugees seeking safety and security in this and other countries and for all who are ministering to their needs and for those in the armed forces. We pray for those who are victims of natural disasters and changes in the earth's climate and for the people of Afghanistan, and Haiti.

In our parish prayer list, we continue to pray for Charlie, Larry, David, Robert, Miyoko, Richard, Emily, Steve, Janet, Bunk, Sarah, Johnny, Bruce, Betsy and Amy.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup> at 11:30 AM on Zoom**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM on Zoom.  
If you are a chairperson of a committee, please submit your report by email to the church office by Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> summarizing the committee's work in 2021.  
Thank you very much.

### **Cathedral Church of St. Paul to host celebration of the life and witness of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, February 2, 6:00 PM**

The diocesan community is invited to join in giving thanks for the life and witness of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Wednesday, Feb. 2, the Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas), at 6 p.m.

The livestreamed service of Holy Eucharist will be held at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. Bishop Alan M. Gates and Bishop Gayle E. Harris will co-preside, and a sermon will be offered by the Rev. Noble Scheepers, co-chair of the diocesan Racial Justice Commission, who was mentored by and worked with Tutu.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, in-person attendance at the service will be limited to 50 people. To reserve a space, e-mail cathedral administrator Brad Rothrock at [cathedral@diomass.org](mailto:cathedral@diomass.org). The livestream will be available to view on the cathedral's website (<https://www.stpaulboston.org/services2020>), as well as the cathedral's [YouTube channel](#). Those attending in person are invited to bring candles from their church or home to be blessed by the bishops during the service. Baptismal candles will also be blessed and will be available for churches to purchase from the cathedral, at cost, in the season ahead.

An offering is being invited to support the Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation: <https://www.tutu.org.za>. Donations can be sent directly to the foundation online or checks can be made out to the Cathedral Church of St. Paul with "Tutu Foundation" in the memo line.

In preparation for the service, the cathedral invites people to send brief (~100 words) personal remembrances, thanksgivings and tributes to Tutu, as well as scans of photographs from encounters with him, for inclusion in a wall of tribute in the cathedral sanctuary. Please send all material to [cathedral@diomass.org](mailto:cathedral@diomass.org).

### **PATHWAYS UPDATE**

Complications mostly related to the Covid-19 pandemic substantially delayed construction of the planned new pathways linking the Stone Church with the new Parish and Community Center. In October, the Vestry created a new Pathways Committee (Paul Graney, Charles Mann, Susan Morse, Terry Soares, Jean Taft) with a mandate to review plans and move the project forward.

Following the Committee's on-site review with PCC project landscape architect, Tom Lee, the Vestry has commissioned Lee to develop detailed plans for the construction of the pathways and schematic designs and sketches of potential replacements for the existing wooden ramp to include stairs. The new structure would accommodate the expanded use of the Stone Church's side entrance that provides the most direct approach to the PCC patio and the preferred access door to the Woods Hole room. At some point, it will be necessary to remove the aging rhododendrons that have grown up against the present ramp, but their removal will be delayed as long as feasibly consistent with the demands of the project. The Capital Campaign raised some funds specifically earmarked for the pathways, but how far these will go will depend upon completion of the project plans including options for replacing the ramp structure.

### **FINANCIAL OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS CAN NOW BE MADE ONLINE**

Contributions may be made **online** through Vanco Payment Solutions. These can be scheduled on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual basis. If you wish to donate now, please go to the church website: [www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org](http://www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org) and click on the *Donate Now* tab on the upper right of the page.

We also have the capacity to receive stock transfers. For further information on any of the above, please call the church office at 508-548-2145 and leave a voice mail.

**Jan. 6, 2022: Presiding Bishop Michael Curry’s address to the nation  
A Moment of Peril and Promise**

The nightmare of last January 6th was not just an event. It was a revelation. It was a revelation of deeply dangerous divisions in our nation—some political, some ideological, some racial, and some disguised as religious.

But it was also a revelation that there are forces intentionally seeking and working to divide us. Left unchecked, unaddressed, and unhealed, this can lead to the decline and deconstruction of our nation and make it impossible for us to strive to be *“one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”*

The nightmare of January 6th was not just an event; it was a revelation. But it was a revelation in another sense. That day, and our response to it, contain potential for both peril and promise.

The peril is the possibility of the decline, deconstruction, and even destruction of our nation and its most cherished values. But that peril is only an inevitability if, as William Butler Yeats said in another context, *“the best lack all conviction while the worst are filled with passionate intensity.”*

But the promise is the revival and renewal of the United States as the multiracial, multiethnic, pluralistic, democracy that our founders envisioned when they began this experiment. That promise becomes a real and greater possibility if enough of us will summon the spiritual courage necessary to claim it.

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It is not an exaggeration to say that we are living in a moral moment of spiritual peril and promise.

Such a moment demands moral vision that sees beyond mere self-interest and beholds the common good—a spiritual strength stronger than any sword.

Let me suggest three spiritual keys to this.

**Renew our relationship with God**

First, we must renew our relationship with the God who the Bible says, “is love.” With the God who is the Creator of us all. We must each find our path to connect with God in ways that are loving, liberating, and life-giving. I do so as one who strives to follow Jesus Christ and his way of love. We must each find the path that is authentic to us.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., for example, prepared a set of moral and spiritual principles in the 1950s, which he invited those committed to the nonviolent way of change to study and to live by.

They included such principles as these:

- Remember the nonviolent movement seeks justice and reconciliation, not victory
- Walk and talk in the manner of love, for God is love
- Pray daily to be used by God that all men and women might be free
- Sacrifice personal wishes that all might be free
- Observe with friend and foes the ordinary rules of courtesy
- Refrain from violence of fist, tongue and heart

I would dare say that we could use those principles today. But his first principle was: Before you march, meditate on the life and teachings of Jesus

The wisdom behind this was that to truly be an instrument of unselfish, sacrificial love—to truly seek justice and not mere revenge—to truly labor for the realization of God’s Beloved Community for all of us and not just some of us, here on earth as it is in heaven, to truly be an instrument of love, we need the very energies of love from the source of all love to help us become instruments and vessels of that love.

To truly love, to truly do justice, to truly love mercy, as the prophet Micah said, we must humbly walk with God. To truly live by love, we need connection to the very energy of love itself. However you do it, whatever your path, find a way to a loving, liberating, and life-giving relationship with God.

### **Revive our relationship with each other**

Second, we must revive our relationship with each other as children of the God who made us all, and therefore as brothers, sisters, siblings, as the human family of God. The late Archbishop Desmond Tutu once said, “If you want peace, you don’t talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.” How we both treat and relate to others is a decision.

In the last century Martin Buber taught us that we can either relate to each other and the world itself as I-It or I-Thou. If other people and indeed the created world itself are seen and treated as IT, then they are dealt with as things, as objects to be used and even abused. They exist for our whims. But if the other person and the created world itself are seen and treated as THOU, as holy, as sacred, then they are loved, honored, respected, cherished and cared for. How different would our politics be, how different would our relationships with each other be, how different would our nation be if we would work at getting to know and cultivate relationships with our brother, or sister, or siblings.

### **Resurrect our commitment to the ideals we share**

Third, we must resurrect our commitment to the ideals and values that we share. We do have some generally accepted ideals and values. Flawed as he was, Thomas Jefferson gave voice to one of those ideals when he wrote in the Declaration of Independence:

*“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”*

Abraham Lincoln gave voice to these values when he said in the Gettysburg Address:

*“Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”*

Every one of us was taught these words of a lofty ideal as children in school.

*I pledge allegiance to the flag  
of the United States of America  
And to the republic for which it stands  
One nation, under God, indivisible  
With liberty and justice for all*

We may and will disagree on many things. We may and will strive and fail and wound one another and beg forgiveness along the way. But we do have some ideals and values that we share. And one of those ideals, I believe, is our experiment in democracy itself, our representative form of government, based on the promise of liberty and justice for all, which itself is based on the hope that we may be one nation, even with our many differences.

To be sure, no form of human government attains perfection. Only God is perfect. The Preamble to the Constitution wisely reminds us that each generation must continue the work of forming “*a more perfect union*.” No, our democracy is not perfect, but it offers the best hope yet devised for government that fosters human freedom, equal justice under law, the dignity and the equality of every human being made, as the Bible says, in the image of God.

Reinhold Niebuhr said it well: “*Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible; but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.*” Democracy itself is a shared ideal and value that we must uphold and labor to defend.

A near-sacred cornerstone of this ideal of democracy is the vote. The individual’s right to vote, and our respect for the collective will of the people expressed in their votes, are foundational to the temple that is democracy. The vote and the collective will of the people must be upheld as sacred and inviolate; it must be respected and protected, “*that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.*” Let us be people of conviction and choose the promise that is before us.

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We don’t think of it this way very often, but unselfish, sacrificial love for each other may well be the supreme value on which democracy depends. On the Great Seal of the United States, above the bald eagle, are banners on which the Latin words, “*e pluribus unum*” are written. Those words mean, “*from many, one.*” One nation from many diverse people.

But do you know where those words come from? They come from the writings of Cicero, who lived during the time of the Roman Republic. Cicero said, “When each person loves the other as much as himself, it makes one out of many.” In other words, when each person loves the other as much as he loves himself, it makes one out of many possible.

That’s what Cicero wrote about democracy. Moses and Jesus identified love as the supreme law of God for life.

This is indeed a moment of both peril and promise. But if love is indeed the supreme law of God for life, as I believe it is, then God’s way of unselfish, sacrificial love for each other could well be the key to the life of a nation, and the world itself. That way of love could well be the key to our truly becoming “one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” Therein is the promise!

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*For more info contact:*

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# January 2022 - March 2022

January 2022							February 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 23 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	24 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	25 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	26 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	27 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	28	29
30 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual) 11:30am Ann. Mtg. -	31 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	Feb 1 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	2 Groundhog Day Groundhog Day (United States) 10:00am - 2:00 PM	3 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	4	5
6 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	7 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	8 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 11:00am WHWC (WH Room/PCC)	9 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	10 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday (United States)
13 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	14 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	15 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 5:00pm Vestry Mtg. (Virtual)	16 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Virtual)	17 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	18	19
20 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	21 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Outreach 3:00pm W H Meditation	22 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	23 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	24 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	25	26
27 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	28 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	Mar 1 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	2 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	3 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	4	5

Church of the Messiah

## Church of the Messiah

### 2021 Vestry

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Jean Taft	<i>Warden</i>
Nancy Rea	<i>Warden</i>
Winifred Dick	<i>Clerk</i>
John Holden	<i>Treasurer</i>

Open	2022	Paul Graney	2022
Charles Mann	2023	Peg Nicholson	2023
Susan Morse	2024	Rachael Rhude	2024

### Deanery Representatives

Dicky Allison	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Helen Gordon	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Denise Jay	Deanery Representative

### Staff

The Rev. Deborah Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Brittany Lord	<i>Music Director, Organist</i>
Nancy McDonald	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Jennifer Kelly	<i>Bookkeeper &amp; Financial Recorder</i>
Bruce Bagley	<i>Church Sexton</i>
Doug Amon	<i>Cemetery Sexton</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

### The Rev. Deborah M. Warner

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