

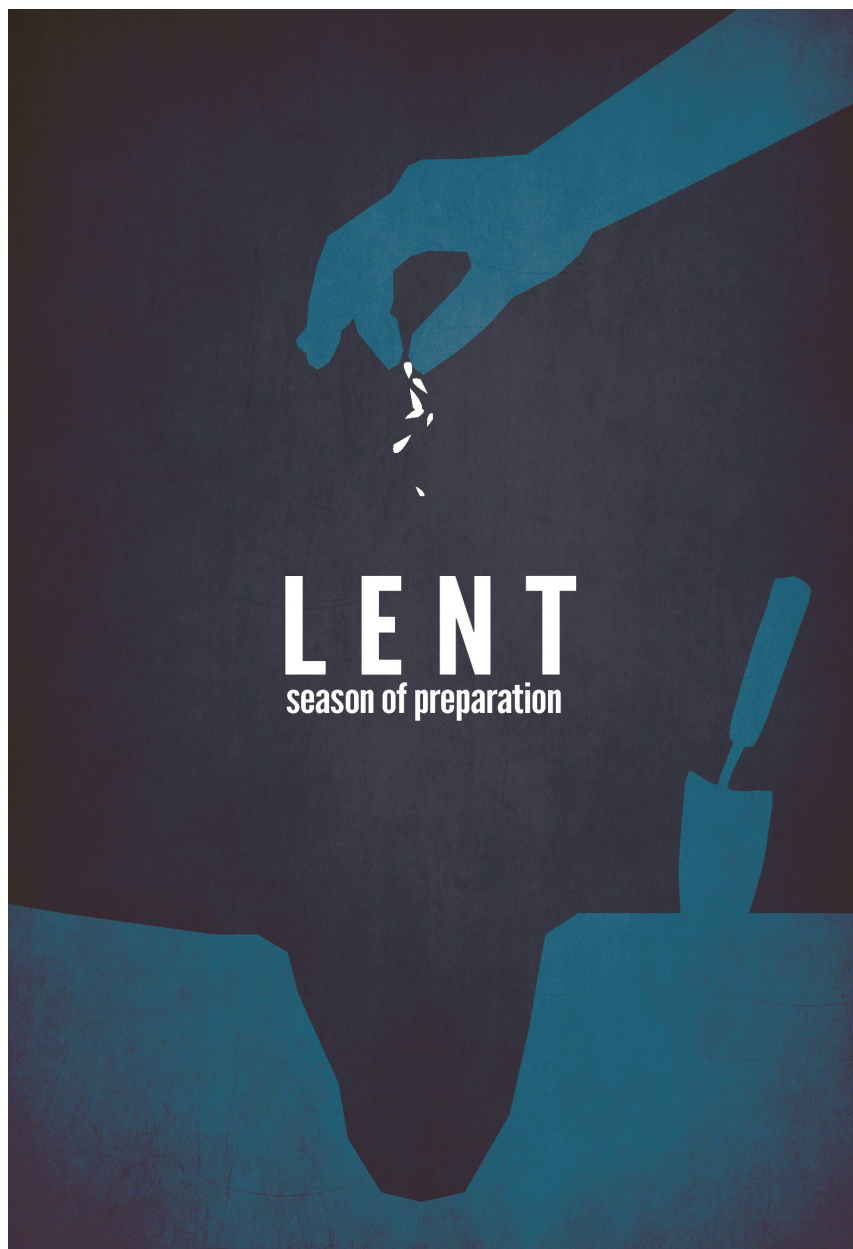
**Spring
2020**



Prayer and Service for the Spread of Christ's Kingdom

**Diocese
of
Central
Pennsylvania**

**Daughters
of
the
King
Assembly**



Spring Equinox 2020

March 19

Spring is a metaphor for change.

Letter from our Diocesan President

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Praying that peace, love, and good health abide you all.

I recently read a letter to Episcopalians from Bishop Curry where he gives us “An Invitation... to Turn and Pray on Behalf of our Nation.” He encouraged readers join this call to by praying, fasting and repenting for our country’s missteps.” He recommends visiting the Reclaiming Jesus website <http://www.reclaimingjesus.org/>. Please take a few minutes and visit this website. I found that it filled my soul with what’s good and right. No negativity, just *hope*. I have watched the video with the leaders of various faiths make their statements and every time I am uplifted and reminded the power of Jesus. As Daughters we should make our own “Declaration” and live by it every hour of everyday.

Our Diocesan Board made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020 Spring Assembly out given all the unknowns during this worldwide crisis. Please pray for guidance for your chapter presidents and other members of the board.

News about other upcoming events such as the Province III Retreat will be passed along to all Daughters in our Diocese as soon as they are announced.

Peace, FHS

Carolyn Hinton

Diocesan Officers

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Apostles for Christ News

We here at Apostles for Christ have had some set backs with our projects. First, we just learned that the Episcopal Home in Shippensburg will be closing their doors at the end of the summer and it looks like we will not be making palm crosses to give to residents in nursing homes in the York area. We, like all Daughters, are keeping our friends and parishioners and cleric staff in our prayers. Stay strong, Sisters, God loves us and cares for us.

Peace, Carolyn Hinton

Harriet Lane Johnston News

The Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter began the new year committing to devoting each of our monthly meetings on the 3rd Monday by combining a bit of business, prayer and goal study in our effort to follow the National Office in it's call to us to "Reignite the Order." We have had two robust and well guided discussions and look forward to continuing once we able to reconvene as a group.

Our 1st Monday of the Month prayer gatherings have been extended so that we now meet for 45 minutes, and we have opened these prayer times to all who would like to join us in prayer. We have enjoyed having Brother David Rutledge lead us through our gatherings.

Presidents' Day offered several of the daughters a chance to learn more about our Chapter's namesake, Harriet Lane Johnston during a talk given by a Lancaster History enthusiast.

Human Trafficking is a continued work in progress for us. Most recently, three of us met with Bethany Smith, who had previously presented a fabulously informative and eye-opening interactive evening called "In Her Shoes." Bethany has just returned to Lancaster ,and we plan to work with her to take this program into our Diocese, beginning with our Diocesan Chapters and our local convocation.

On February 13th we were encouraged to mark one of our hands with a bright red 'X' to support Red X Day, to support the End It Movement – a collective of everyday people united by hope that we can put an end to slavery and Human Trafficking in our lifetime.

For now, we meet, no longer as a part of a gathering, but together, nonetheless, as we raise our voices in prayer, sharing prayers and 'listening' experiences by email and texts. We are finding new venues and voices for prayer and support, providing quiet, yet powerful strength. A sermon I heard this past Sunday suggested that perhaps we should consider this time of unsettlement, solitude and separation from our everyday norm, as our opportunity to experience with Christ, His time in the wilderness, making it our time to journey, really journey, with Him.

To that end, I offer the following, and hope that you are all, dear daughters, keeping safe and well. Our Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter holds you all in our hearts and prayers.

Susan Landin, Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter

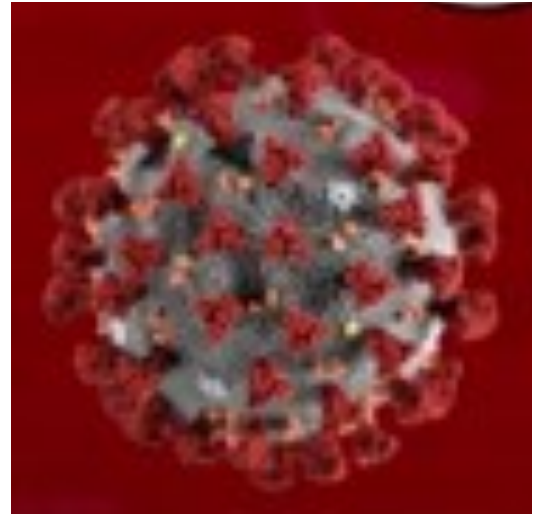
Pandemic

By Lynn Ungar

What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath —
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
better than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Center down.

And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
In ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love — for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health, so long as we shall live.



Thanks to both Susan Landin & Heather Trenary (Harriet Lane
Johnston Chapter) for sharing this.

A Spring Blessing Rupp & Macrina Wiederkehr

Blessed are you, spring,
bright season of life awakening.
You gladden our hearts
with opening buds and returning leaves
as you put on your robes of splendor.

Blessed are you, spring.
In you is a life no death can destroy.
As you exchange places with winter
you harbor no unforgiving spirit
for broken tree limbs and frozen buds.

Blessed are you, spring.
You open the closed buds of our despair
as you journey with us
to the flowering places.

Blessed are you, spring.
You invite us to sing songs
to the frozen regions within
and to bless the lessons of winter
as we become your partner in a new dance.

Blessed are you, spring.
Like Jesus, standing before the tomb of Lazarus,
you call to us: "Remove winter's stone, come out,
there is life here you have not yet tasted."

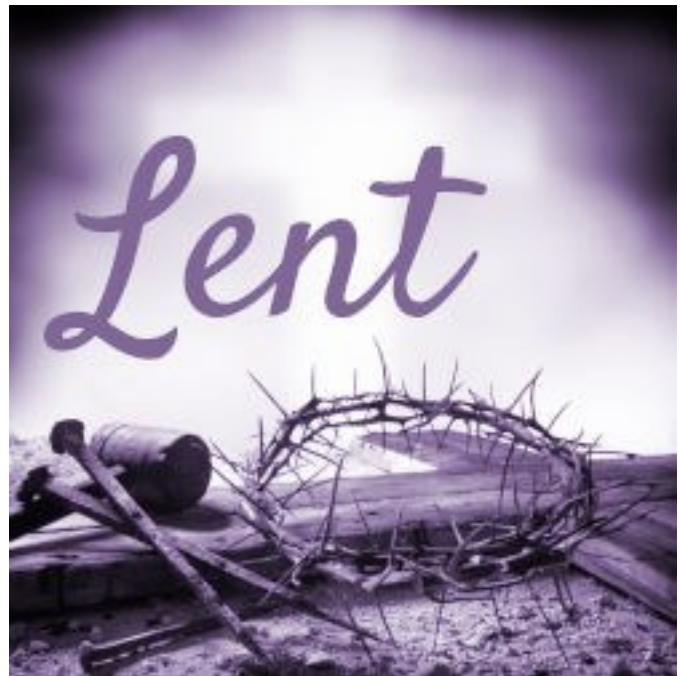
Blessed are you, spring,
free gift of the earth.
Without cost we gaze upon your glory.
You are a gospel of good news
for the poor and rich alike.

Blessed are you, spring.
Your renewing rain showers and cathartic storms
nurture the potential that sleeps in Earth's heart
and in our earthen hearts.

Blessed are you, spring,
season of resurrection, sacrament of promise.
Like Jesus you rise up out of the darkness,
leaving around you a wake of new life.

Blessed are you, spring,
miracle child of the four seasons.
With your wand of many colors
you work your magic in the corners of our darkness.

Blessed are you, spring,
season of hope and renewal.
Wordless poem about all within us
that can never die.
Each year you amaze us
with the miracle of returning life.



A Prayer for Our Times

God of the present moment,
God who in Jesus stills the storm
and soothes the frantic heart;
bring hope and courage to us
as we wait in uncertainty.

Bring hope that you will make us the equal
of whatever lies ahead.

Bring us courage to endure what cannot be
avoided,
for your will is health and wholeness;
you are God, and we need you.

Amen.

From Linda Hoover:

Listening to the music in the link below made me think of all of you and our times together joined in spirit, prayer, and fellowship. Stand firm and stay safe for His sake....

<https://www.facebook.com/saintsandrewwandmatthew/videos/231766438006794/?vh=e&d=n>



The **Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew**,
downtown Wilmington, Delaware,
was created in 1996
when two churches, one black, one white, merged.

Their members are lovingly mixed by race, gender, age,
career, sexual orientation, education, and senses of humor.

They offer wonderful music, too!