

## Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

**St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY**  
(Member of the Chenango District)

### *The Parish News*

[www.stannsaftonny.org](http://www.stannsaftonny.org)

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

**Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 761-4601 Office: 656-9502**

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at one of the numbers above.

**In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.**

**Wardens: Dan Vail: 607-240-9264 Tracey Tallmadge: 607-343-1301**



November. Honestly, I've struggled for days trying to figure out what to write for November.

As we approach Thanksgiving, it may be incredibly difficult to say what we're thankful for this year. As I write this in late October, our communities have seen spikes in Covid-19 cases. I can't help but wonder (and worry) about what the situation will be when this message goes out to you and as we make our way through November.

But, even before we get to Thanksgiving, many people are afraid of violence surrounding Election Day. Given the fact that the President decided to tell his violent supporters to "stand by" instead of telling them to "stand down" is, to put it mildly, quite worrisome.

Through my days of struggling with trying to imagine what November will bring, the one thing I've found comfort in is the readings for daily Morning Prayer. The wisdom texts of Ecclesiasticus (not to be confused with Ecclesiastes, by the way) and especially the Psalm readings have been healthy reminders that this is God's world and God will have God's justice made manifest.

We are living through very troubled times, no doubt about it. But this world comes from a loving, life-giving, creator God. We know this, and can be certain of it, because we know Jesus Christ who has given us the perfect expression of God's will for God's creation – healing, feeding and forgiving; life-giving love for all of God's creation.

As followers of Christ, we have our role to play, but we also know that God will have God's way – the way of love. Many are tempted to think we are living in the "End Times". All I can say for certain is that this is a very troubled time. But if you are thinking this is the "End Times" then please remember what that really means: heaven will be joined to earth, justice will prevail, the nations of the earth will be fed and healed and live in peace and harmony. God will have God's way of love made manifest in all of God's creation. Amen. And Alleluia!

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

**The SERVICE SCHEDULE is not available due to the COVID-19 and absence of parishioners in Oct to fill it in. Once regular services begin again, Lay Readers in attendance will be asked to read the lessons for that particular Sunday. The readings for each Sunday in November are listed below. Please take the time to read the lessons and Gospel for each Sunday.**

The coronavirus is causing more than its share of problems but it hasn't stopped us from having a Sunday worship service. Holding a service via the "zoom" software is a little strange but seems to be working okay. If you have not tried tuning in for a "zoom" service, why not try it next Sunday. Everyone who has their E-mail address on file should be receiving a forward of Fr. David's instruction letter for each service. If you have not been receiving that letter, please advise Tom Vail of your E-mail address and you will be added to the parish listing. [Bottom415@aol.com](mailto:Bottom415@aol.com) Yes, the "zoom" service is different, but change is what life is all about. Services are also available through the Diocese via their website.

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Lectionary (Year A)						
Nov 1		Revelation 7:9-17	Psalms 34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3		Matthew 5:1-12
Nov 8		Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalms 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18		Matthew 25:1-13
Nov 15		Judges 4:1-7	Psalms 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11		Matthew 25:14-30
Nov 22		Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalms 100	Ephesians 1:15-23		Matthew 25:31-46
Nov 29 YEAR B		Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9		Mark 13:24-37
Dec 6		Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a		Mark 1:1-8



Altar Duty for the month of November is Carol Cimini 693-2907 or Melrose Kelly 639-1090. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Tracey Tallmadge 343-1301 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that she can include a notice in the bulletin.

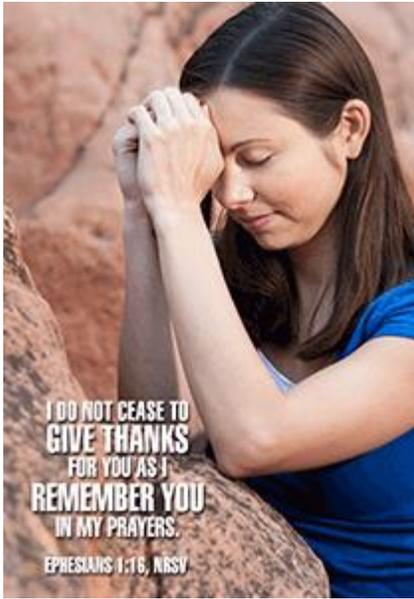


**St. Ann’s Prayer List for November 2020**

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201. Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.

- | <u>Short Term</u> |
|-------------------|
| Raevin            |
| Thomas            |
| George            |
| Eileen            |
| Anne              |
| Anonymous         |
| Karen             |
| Alyssa            |

- | <u>Long Term</u>                |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Fr. David Hanselman             |          |
| Fr. Steven White                |          |
| Deacon Kay                      |          |
| Pastor Becky                    |          |
| Rev. Elizabeth Gillett          |          |
| Fr. Geoff Doolittle             |          |
| Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe |          |
| Bishop Michael Curry            |          |
| The Revs. Ralph & Liz Groskoph  |          |
| Emmanuel Church                 |          |
| Epiphany Church                 |          |
| Zion Church                     |          |
| St. Paul’s Church               |          |
| St. Andrew’s Church             |          |
| St. Matthew’s Church            |          |
| St. Peter’s Church              |          |
| Carol                           | Peter    |
| Joyce                           | Dakota   |
| Mya                             | Nate     |
| Holly                           | Marion   |
| Hailey                          | Amaya    |
| Clifford                        | Rachel   |
| Richard                         | Burdette |
|                                 | Bill     |



The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

*Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love’s sake. Amen.*



*Anniversaries*

11/15 Ron & Cindy Sherman  
11/24 Al & Pat Tucker

*Birthdays*

11/ 6 Robin Felldin  
11/15 Sophia Hanselman

*Please let me know if I am missing a Birthday or Anniversary. Call or email 607-343-1301 [cttallmadg@aol.com](mailto:cttallmadg@aol.com)*

November 2020 Special Days

- All Saints' Day — November 1, 2020
- Since we will not have a sign-up sheet listing those we would like to remember in our prayers, please mention the names of loved ones during the Prayers of the People
- Daylight-Saving Time Ends — November 1, 2020
- Stewardship Sunday - November 8, 2020
- Veterans Day — November 11, 2020
- UTO Fall ingathering – November 22,2020
- There is always the opportunity to help those less fortunate than ourselves. The United Thank Offering (UTO) helps others in this country and around the world. Please send your check to St. Ann’s putting UTO on the memo line.
- First Sunday of Advent — November 29, 2020

November 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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					

~~~~Service Schedule~~~~

November 1<sup>st</sup> HC (bread only) In person w/ Father David. Service will be shortened. Social distancing will be practiced

November 8<sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer in person.

November 15<sup>th</sup> ZOOM with Convention

November 22<sup>nd</sup> Morning Prayer in person.

November 29<sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer in person.

**\*\*\*During in person services, the service will be shortened, we will practice social distancing, masks must be on and hand sanitizer will be available. We will also ask for Reading volunteers.**



**CHURCH TERMS: GOSPEL** - Anglo-Saxon, "good tidings," or the good news concerning Christ and salvation in Him. (1) Any of the four biographical books of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) which recount the life and works of Jesus Christ. (2) A passage read in a service from one of these books is called the Gospel Lesson.

**GOSPEL SIDE** - The left side of the sanctuary as the congregation faces it; the side to the clergyman's right. The right is the side of the highest honor and from which the Gospel is read. Also known as the Gospel Horn.



At the Veterans Home in Oxford, NY, they are trying to make Veteran's Day a little more special and need your help! We are asking for people in the community to send cards or a short letter addressed to "Any Veteran" so Recreation Therapy staff can pass them out on Veteran's Day and bring a little sunshine to their day. Please address envelopes to:

Any Veteran  
 NYS Veterans Home at Oxford  
 Attn: Kristen Slate  
 4207 NY-220  
 Oxford, NY 13830

Humor for these times

From Church bulletins: Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24<sup>th</sup>. in the Church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Day 121 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture.

" What do you call panic-buying of sausage and cheese in Germany? The wurst-kase scenario.



### St. Ann's Vestry Synopsis *From the Annual Meeting, October 4<sup>th</sup>*

1. Congratulations to Amy Wieber and Kerri Vail, elected to three-year terms as vestryperson and to Tracey Tallmadge elected to a two-year term as warden.
2. Fr. David thanked everyone who contributes to the parish life, operation of and financial support of St. Ann's.



**Just a very friendly reminder that the weekly pledges are still greatly needed to keep up with paying the monthly bills. We know times are difficult and with not being in church on Sundays we forget, and it is understandable. However, if you could possibly mail your pledges to St Ann's it would be greatly appreciated. You do not have send each week, monthly would be fine.**

**Mailing address is:**

**St. Ann's Episcopal Church  
P. O. Box 22  
Afton, New York 13730**

**Your support to St. Ann's is always gracious and greatly appreciated.**



## Dying for Hope

From "The Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel

"People in many nations appear to be searching with a new intensity for spiritual moorings," observed pollster George Gallup. "One of the key factors prompting this search is certainly a need for hope in these troubled times."

Can't you feel it? With the increase in violence, terrorism, conflict, and economic uncertainty, there seems to be a corresponding increase in hunger for hope. "What does it all mean?" people wonder. "Isn't there more to life than just getting by and hoping things won't blow up?"

But there is good news: God offers a hope so powerful it can transform a person's life and future. But it's not the kind of hope we usually think about. Much of what we call "hope" falls into three categories: *Wishful thinking, blind optimism, and hopeful dreams.*

**Wishful Thinking:** Wishful thinking is trying to change reality with our thoughts. We blow out the candles on our birthday cake and say, "I hope I stay healthy for another year." It's the superstitious feeling that maybe, somehow, some way, our sincere desires will help things go the direction we want them to, even though we really don't have any power to make that happen.

**Blind Optimism:** Another hopeful attitude we commonly see is blind optimism. It's good to have a positive outlook, but some optimists paper over their problems as if those problems don't exist: they avert their eyes from the ugly aspects of the world; they act as if, for them, everything will be fine all the time. This might seem admirable, but, again, it doesn't change reality.

**Hopeful Dreams:** Hopeful dreams are lofty goals we set out to achieve. The problem is that these are restricted by our limitations. We could fantasize about becoming the next big NBA star, but that wouldn't change the fact that our vertical leap is measured in millimeters! We can dream all we want, but it's just not going to happen. Our earnest belief in our dreams does not guarantee they'll ever become reality. Thankfully, God offers us something greater than any of these.

**Biblical Hope:** Biblical hope is the confident expectation that God will fulfill his promises to those who trust in Him. The apostle Peter wrote, "In (God's) great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for us."

*People are dying for hope. Fortunately, Jesus died to give us hope—the kind "that can never perish, spoil or fade." It's available to everyone; we need to spread the Good News!*





The Final Word

**Leadership: 2 Chronicles 32:20 – “Then King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz cried out in prayer to God in heaven.”**

The great occupational hazard of leaders is the trap of believing their own press clippings. When leaders begin to believe that they need no guidance or second opinions, they become vulnerable to arrogance and ego. In this instance, Hezekiah shows sensible leadership in calling upon both a spiritual adviser (Isaiah) and the God of heaven. Whatever leadership responsibilities you may have, you will benefit from regular prayer as well as from the help of wise and sirtual counselors. NLT-GEZ

**Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2020, at 2:00 A.M.**



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**Clergy:** The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

