

# THE ANGELUS

A Publication of the Church of Our Saviour

## A Special Update from Bishop Wright

May 7, 2020

Beloved in Christ,

I hope this finds you trusting God. In March I directed that all meetings, pastoral care, and worship of the diocese be moved online until at least May 24th in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. After much consultation with our Presiding Bishop and a team of health care professionals

from our diocese, I am now directing that all meetings, worship, and pastoral care remain online or by other remote means until further notice, effective today.

In addition, Mikell Leaders, in consultation and agreement with the Bishop and Bishop's staff, have decided that the safest and best course of action is to cancel all summer programs at Camp Mikell for summer 2020. Please read the additional statement from Camp Mikell's leadership [here](#).

Like you, this prolonged absence from one another in worship and the disruption of much of our good work causes me feelings of loss and grief. Still, our loss and grief in this regard is a small price to pay to keep one another healthy and safe. More than that, increasingly and marvelously, individuals and congregations in the diocese are "...hewing out of this mountain of despair a stone of hope." To them I say, thank you and well done.

As the weeks unfold, know that my team and I will continue to consult with a wide circle of advisers and health care professionals to determine when it is reasonably safe to begin to worship in person. We will

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### DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the *Angelus*, focusing on Ordinary Time, will be published on July 20. Deadline for articles is Wednesday, June 24.

continue to provide updates through our twice monthly zoom calls with clergy and wardens and more widely as circumstances evolve.

While I realize that phrases like “until further notice” can and will trigger intense feelings of uncertainty and disorientation in some, my prayer is that this time of uncertainty will produce new certainty about the gift of faith that we enjoy. “Do not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

With all Christian affection,  
The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright

## Message from Our Senior Warden

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On behalf of the Church of Our Saviour, please join me in thanking Father Chris for his leadership in keeping our congregation together while we cannot physically be together in our special church. Through this unique time, he has led us spiritually utilizing technology to bring us Mass every Sunday and continuing Morning Prayer during the week on Facebook Live. Also, thanks to his efforts, we were able to continue our tradition of Maundy Thursday Vigil. We have even grown our online offerings with evening Compline, praying the rosary on Friday afternoons, and introducing Wednesday night Bible study. He has joined us from the Lady Chapel, his office in the rectory, the Nave, and even his backyard.

I know this past Easter will be one I will not forget as I participated in that unique Mass from home, with my family, led by Father Chris in his home, with his family. Here I would like to also send a special thank you to Jenn Gander for all of her behind-the-scenes assistance during those at-home services.



While no one could ever have expected to participate in Mass at home with COOS streaming online, the flexibility and ability of our parish to take advantage of what technology has to offer our church has been invigorating. This time last year we were reviewing the results of the CAT survey and learning just how “set in our ways” our parish was (yet with a big desire to grow and expand our presence in our community). These last several weeks have shown just what the Church of Our Saviour is capable of and how open we truly are to do the things necessary to make sure we are achieving the goals we have as a parish.



Beyond the efforts to bring our Mass to everyone online every week, Father Chris has supported new mission work begun by parishioners to make and provide masks to those who need them. He has worked with the vestry to ensure every member of our parish receives a phone call or email to check in with them. He aids those who may not be able to leave their homes to go to stores and he continues to support those who need additional support during these challenging times.

Thank you Father Chris for helping us navigate these unusual times and finding solutions that allows the Church of Our Saviour to continue to fulfill our mission “to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Jesus Christ...as we pray and worship, proclaim the Gospel, and promote justice, peace, and love.”

— Jennifer McGlynn

# Sermon

BY FATHER CHRISTOPHER MILLER /  
TRANSCRIBED BY CATHY McAFEE

May 17, 2020

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.” In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

I have a lot of thoughts on my mind today about this sermon. I've had a great deal of difficulty writing a sermon this week. Church, if I'm being honest, has been hard to do lately. It's hard to get up in the morning to preach to an empty room (no offense, Josh). It's hard to stand here and look out at a tripod and a phone, to be hooked up to microphones without seeing faces, without being able to look out and see reactions, or nods, or just to see other people looking at me, makes church hard to do. It's hard to see empty pews. I miss...you. I miss seeing your faces. I miss giving you hugs. I miss hearing your laughs and hearing your stories, asking how your day has been, asking how your week has been. I miss you. And so, it's hard for me to get up in the mornings and not see you all. It's hard to get up in the mornings, especially on Sundays, and come here. It was a little bit easier when I was at home because there was my family, which gave me a distraction. But coming here into this space where we are used to gathering together is harder. So, when we encounter Jesus's words today, saying to us “I will not leave you orphaned, I'm coming to you” — I can't help but sort of smirk a little bit, like well what are you talking about, Lord? Here we are in an empty church feeling a bit orphaned right now. What are we to do with this reading in light of this situation that we find ourselves living in more and more each day? It feels like we have been orphaned. It feels like we have been abandoned. But here today a sort of bookends — these words from Jesus, words that say to us “I will not leave you orphaned,” “I am coming to you” are bookended between words just a little bit earlier that say “if you love me, you will keep my commandments.” And then, a few moments later towards the end of this pericope, “they who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me.”

“And those who love me will be loved by my Father and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” This call by our Lord to us — this promise to us from our Lord, that I will not orphan you, that I'm coming to you, is bookended by the call to obedience, trust and faithfulness. Obedience is hard to do when we don't love someone. Obedience, as the Bishop has said before, is the new four-letter word in our vocabulary. Now we're real good about being obedient when it comes to doing things that we want to do, that we like to do. But when it comes to doing things that we don't want to do, obedience is a lot harder for us. But what we find ourselves in, in this moment, is the call to be obedient. I did not want to wake up today, I wanted to stay in the bed. But I, like you all, have a duty to do, to come together week after week to worship God in Christ corporately, or not corporately in the same sense that we usually are, but we're doing the best that we have and with what we can do.

And so, on the days that we don't want to wake up, we HAVE to get up. We have to wake up, get dressed, find ourselves doing what God is calling us to do. To be faithful, to trust, to put our hope and confidence in the promises that Christ makes to us. Because what we hear today is a promise that God will never leave us nor forsake us. For those who are obedient and faithful to Christ, we hear these words that Christ is sending an advocate who we know to be the Holy Spirit. I know as Episcopalians we don't really like to talk about the Holy Spirit too much because we don't want to sound too “Pentecostal.” Well, I am a Pentecostal. I came from a Pentecostal church, so the Holy Spirit is a really important fabric of my faith. Really it should be the fabric of all of our faiths. Because the Holy Spirit is the one who leads us unto all Truth. The Holy Spirit is the one who shows us whether or not what we're hearing is of God or what we're hearing is of the Devil. It is the Holy Spirit who shows us how to interpret scripture, as we talked about last week. It is the Holy Spirit who shows us that we know that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

The Holy Spirit is the one who never leaves us or forsakes us because the Holy Spirit is who's residing in our hearts now. And it is the Holy Spirit who really compels us to wake up on the days when we don't want to get up. It's the Holy Spirit who compels us to say, "Lord I don't want to do this right how, but not MY will, but YOUR will be done." It is the Spirit who leads us and takes us to places that we don't necessarily want to go, but we know that we have to go. It's the Holy Spirit who makes us brave and courageous, and tells us to do what is needed and required of us.

We find ourselves in a time of uncertainty and being in a time of uncertainty, the reading today seems to imply that we are going to be called out into places of uncertainty, to step out and walk by faith and not by sight and rest in the assurance of the promises of God. Some days the honest reality of it is all we can do is just get dressed and read the words of the prayers that we say. But we have to bookend this with the

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commandment that we hear today — "if you love me, you will keep my commandments." And so, we are asked the honest question before we are given this concept of the advocate, the Holy Spirit, the question of whether or not we truly love God in Christ. Do we love God in Christ enough to trust him when things don't make sense, to put our whole faith and confidence in him when things around us don't make sense? When we can't gather in a church. When we have to wear face masks and gloves when we go out. When we are forced to be in a situation like this where I have to preach to empty pews, to a phone on a tripod. Yes, I love Jesus enough to get up and do the things that are required of me because that's what love is about. Love is not this sentimental feeling where we sit around in circles and sing Kumbayah. Love is about sacrifice. Love is a choice we have to make every single day. Love is a choice that we have to get up and say, "alright God, not my will but your will be done." That's what love is about. But it ultimately is the Holy Spirit that gives us the ability to say those words. And so, we are given many promises today. We are given the promise that we will have the Holy Spirit in us and with us, so long as we are faithful and obedient to what God is calling us to do in Christ Jesus.

Scripture shows us that when we are given the Holy Spirit we are given seven gifts — wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and the fear of God. These gifts that are given to us, traditionally, our understanding is through the sacrament or the sacramental right of Confirmation. But it's not enough to just have that sacramental right. Because scripture also reminds us that there is fruit of the Holy Spirit living within us. There are ways that we know that the Holy Spirit is living and moving and breathing within us. Scripture shows us that there are the fruits of the spirit if we are living lives of love — again, not a sentimental love — but a sacrificial love. Of a joy, of a peace that surpasses all understanding. Of patience. Patience of having to deal with this situation that we find ourselves in. Kindness, even when people slander us and are rude to us and say things that are hurtful to us, we show kindness back because kindness is to heap coals upon their heads. Goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. These are the fruits of the spirit. These are the things that will be evident and manifested in our lives if we are being obedient to the commandments of Christ. If we are following the commands that Christ has showed us. If we are walking in the way of the cross. We can know that we are in Christ. We can know that we have the Holy Spirit working within us if we see these gifts and fruits evident in our life. So often our Lord says to us, you will know people, you will know them by their fruits. So, we will know if people are or are not of Christ by the fruit of the spirit that is within them. All of this is encompassed in our reading today, our Gospel today. And that's why we know if we are in Christ, that we will not be orphaned because we have the wisdom of God within us, leading us. We have the understanding of God. We have the counsel. We have the Holy Spirit nudging us, guiding us, and leading us

along the paths. We have the courage, the fortitude to say hard things, to be faithful to God in Christ. We have the knowledge of God through holy scripture. Our piety reflects a life of devotion and faithfulness to God. And fear of the Lord, not a fearful scared sort of fear, but an awe, of respect and honor and reverence to God. Understanding that God is holy and that we, too, are called to holiness. Beloved, these words we hear today are a great, great promise. They're a great promise to us, to the faithful, to those who keep the commandments of Christ. Who are diligent in seeking Christ above all and through all.

So, on the days like today when I really didn't want to get up, I didn't really want to be here — we have a promise to hold onto on those days that are hard for us. We have promises to hold onto, that while weeping and sorrow is in our midst now, joy will come in the morning. And so, I know it might be hard to be home all the time. I know that it might be hard to not be in community in this place that we call home. But all of that doesn't neglect the fact that we must continue to seek the promises and hold onto the promises of God in Christ because they are there. There we have life. The promises. It is there that we have hope. It is there that we have the courage to get up, to seek the face of God. Because that is the only sure and confident thing in our life. And so, my beloved, press on to God. Cry out to the Holy Spirit to be filled with the Holy Spirit so you may know, without a shadow of a doubt, that you have not been orphaned, that you have not been abandoned by God. Cry out to the Holy Spirit. Ask to be covered in the Holy Spirit so you can know and have the confidence and the courage to get up, to keep walking, to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength because that is what we are called to do. On the good days and the bad. Amen.

## Ordinary Time

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This issue is being published just before Pentecost (also called Whitsunday) which is held this year on May 31. Pentecost marks the end of Easter and afterwards begins the “long green season” as our former priest, Father Bolton, calls it.

This long green season is “Ordinary Time,” not because it is ordinary or commonplace in any way, but from the word “ordinal” which means “counted time.” Examples of ordinal numbers are “first,” “second,” etc. So this season is the season of numbered Sundays.

The Sundays in the season are numbered several ways. One way is to count them as the Church of England does, as Sundays after Trinity. Hence the first Sunday after Trinity, the second Sunday, etc. (Trinity Sunday is itself the first Sunday after Pentecost). In the Episcopal Church, however, we count Sundays as “after Pentecost.” Thus, the first Sunday after Pentecost, the second Sunday....

Just to confuse matters (what, you thought an institution that is 2,000 years old does things the same way all the time?) another way is to number the Sundays by their “propers,” that is material in the liturgy that is different each Sunday and thus is “proper” to that day. Proper 1 is always the Sunday closest to May 11, but sometimes, as this year, May 11 is still part of the Easter Season, so we will be starting with “Proper 6” on June 14, the Sunday after Trinity Sunday. The *Book of Common Prayer* lists which Proper Sunday goes with which calendar date.

During this time of year, the liturgical color is green, for growth. The focus of the gospel readings is Jesus' teachings and ministry. We read the parables and we explore what it means to live and grow our faith.

In the Episcopal Church Ordinary Time stretches all the way to the season of Advent, but other churches do something different. The Church of England often calls the Sundays between All Saints and Advent, Kingdomtide. The United Methodist Church also often calls the last half of Ordinary Time,

Kingdomtide. Finally, the Roman Catholic Church has two seasons of Ordinary Time – one lasts from Epiphany to Lent, and the other begins after Pentecost and ends with Advent.

Special days during the first part of Ordinary Time (June and July) include the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin (June 1); Trinity Sunday, celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost (this year, June 7); First Book of Common Prayer, 1549 (June 10); Corpus Christi (June 11); and our Parish Anniversary, which we hope to be celebrating on July 26.

Saints' days include Saint Barnabas (June 11), Saint John the Baptist (June 24), Saint Peter and Saint Paul (June 29), Saint Mary Magdalene (July 22), and Saint James (July 25).

Secular holidays during this time include Father's Day (June 21) and Independence Day (July 4).

## Special Days this Season

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Following are collects (prayers) traditionally said on these days.

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### THE FEAST OF PENTECOST (WHITSUNDAY) – SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

O God, who on this day didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

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### VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN – JUNE 1, 2020

Father in heaven, by whose grace the virgin mother of thy incarnate Son was blessed in bearing him, but still more blessed in keeping thy word: Grant us who honor the exaltation of her lowliness to follow the example of her devotion to thy will; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### TRINITY SUNDAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2020

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of thy Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### FIRST BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER – JUNE 10, 2020

The Book of Common Prayer was first used on Pentecost, June 9, 1549.

Almighty and everliving God, whose servant Thomas Cranmer, with others, restored the language of the people in the prayers of your Church: Make us always thankful for this heritage; and help us so to pray in the Spirit and with the understanding, that we may worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### **FEAST OF SAINT BARNABAS THE APOSTLE – JUNE 11, 2020**

Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of thy faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of thy Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### **CORPUS CHRISTI (THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST) – THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020**

O GOD, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy Passion: grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption. Who with God the Father liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

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### **THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST – JUNE 24, 2020**

Almighty God, by whose providence thy servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Savior by preaching repentance: Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and, after his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### **SAINT PETER & SAINT PAUL, APOSTLES – JUNE 29, 2020**

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom: Grant that thy Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by thy Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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### **SAINT MARY MAGDALENE – JULY 22, 2020**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by thy grace we may be healed of all our infirmities and know thee in the power of his endless life; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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### **SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE – JULY 25, 2020**

O gracious God, we remember before thee this day thy servant and apostle James, first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the Name of Jesus Christ; and we pray that thou wilt pour out upon the leaders of thy Church that spirit of self-denying service by which alone they may have true authority among thy people; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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# Sleepers Wake

BY ORETA HINAMON CAMPBELL

One of my favorite hymns is the one we know as “Sleepers, Wake.” You can listen to this hymn at [www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=11&v=sntJWiFoyZ8&feature=emb\\_logo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=11&v=sntJWiFoyZ8&feature=emb_logo).

## A Hymn for Our Time

We sing this hymn often, especially during the Advent season, but it was not originally written as an Advent hymn. Instead it was written to bring comfort during a time of plague.

We find this hymn in *The Hymnal 1982*, as Hymn #61 and in a simpler form, Hymn #62. Looking at the bottom of the page for information on Hymn #61, we find that it was written by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608) and translated by Carl P. Daw, Jr. So far, so good. But looking to the right, to see information about the tune, we find that the tune is called “Wachet Auf,” melody by Hans Sachs (1494-1576), adapted by Phillip Nicolai, arranged and harmonized by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). That seems a bit more complicated than usual.

Philipp Nicolai was born in 1556 in a town in Hesse, which would later become part of Germany. His father was a Lutheran pastor, and in time, Nicolai became one also. Sometimes pastors have an uneventful and rather humdrum life – but not Nicolai. When he wasn’t fleeing the Spanish Army, he was arguing with Catholics and Calvinists, preaching to Countess Argaretha of Waldeck and her son, Count Wilhelm von Ernst, and then getting involved in controversy again and being forbidden to preach. He was eventually reinstated.

In 1596 Nicolai became a pastor in Unna, a town in Westphalia, which is now in Germany. In 1597 and 1598, plague infected the town, eventually killing 1300 people, almost half of the town’s population. Nicolai’s parsonage overlooked the cemetery and of course as the pastor, he had to perform the funerals, sometimes as many as 30 a day.

As many people do, to make sense of difficult times, he wrote. Social media not having been invented, he wrote a collection of meditations, called *Freudenspiegel (Mirror of Joy)*, which was published in 1599. In his words, “Then day by day I wrote out my meditations, found myself, thank God! wonderfully well, comforted in heart, joyful in spirit, and truly content; gave to my manuscript the name and title of a ‘Mirror of Joy’ and composed this to leave behind me (if God should call me from this world) as the token of my peaceful, joyful, Christian departure, or (if God should spare me to health) to comfort other sufferers whom He should also visit with the pestilence.”

Included in his book were two hymns, “*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*” (Hymn 496, “How Bright Appears the Morning Star”) and the one we are concerned with, “*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*,” or “Sleepers, wake.”

Nicolai titled his hymn “Of the Voice at Midnight, and the Wise Virgins who meet their Heavenly Bridegroom.” The text is primarily based on Matthew 25:1–13, the story of the Ten Virgins. The hymn is full of Biblical imagery, alluding to not only the Ten Virgins parable, but also the Wedding of the Lamb (Revelations 19: 6-9), the twelve great gates (Revelation 21:2), and “eye hath not seen, nor ear heard” (1 Corinthians 2:9).

The hymn also includes a reverse acrostic, using the initials of his pupil, the Graf zu Waldeck, at the beginning of each stanza. The Graf, Count Wilhelm von Ernst, died at age 15 of the plague.

John Julian, in an article found in Hymnary.org states “the opening lines; ‘Wachet auf! ruft uns die Stimme Der Wachter sehr hoch auf der Zinne’ are borrowed from one of the *Wächter-Lieder* (Watchmen songs), a form of lyric popular in the Middle Ages, introduced by Wolfram von Eschenbach.” However, the watchmen in these songs are the watchmen from Ezekiel 3:17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me.” Nicolai writes instead of the Watchmen from Isaiah 52.8 “Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion,” a much more hopeful text.

The text and melody have been translated over and over. (I will not bore you with lists of translations – if you really want to know, the article from Hymnary.org has a list.) And the tune has been used in numerous musical works, most notably Bach’s cantata, “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140”, and Mendelssohn’s oratorio, “St. Paul.” In addition, Dieterich Buxtehude based two cantatas, BuxWV 100 and BuxWV 101, on this hymn.

In the Lutheran church, Philipp Nicolai is commemorated, along with fellow hymn writers Johann Heermann and Paul Gerhardt on October 26.

By now, some of you are wondering “What about this Hans Sachs person, mentioned in the first paragraph as having written the tune?” Good point. First, allow me to mention that I am not a professional musician, nor a music historian. When I started to research this hymn and hymn tune, the name Hans Sachs was conspicuously absent in most of the sources I could find. I did find a mention in the Wikipedia article on “Wachet auf...” (referenced below in the Sources portion of this article) which says that portions of the melody are similar to both *In dulci jubilo* (In sweet rejoicing) and to *Silberweise* (Silver Air) by Hans Sachs. Wikipedia is good because it lists sources. The sources for this article are:

- ▶ Amati-Camperi, Alexandra (March 2015). “Program Notes.” San Francisco Bach Choir. Retrieved 29 August 2015.
- ▶ Glover, Raymond F, ed. (1990). *The Hymnal 1982 Companion, Volume 1*. Church Publishing. pp. 117–118. ISBN 9780898691436.

This presents a problem because the link to the Program Notes goes nowhere (or at least it went nowhere on April 24 when I was researching the article.) I have emailed the San Francisco Bach Choir and will add their response when I get one, but most organizations are working at a reduced rate during this crisis, so I may not receive a response before this article goes to press.

The second book, the *1982 Hymnal Companion* is out of print. A copy costs from \$400-\$700. So far I have not found a copy online to read, nobody I have contacted has a copy, and interlibrary loan is not working during our shelter-in-place period. Dowman Wilson, our church registrar, does own a copy of the *1940 Hymnal Companion* and since the hymn is in the *1940 Hymnal*, he graciously consulted it for me. This source attributes the text and tune to Phillip Nicolai only. When I gain access to a copy of the *1982 Hymnal Companion* I may revise my conclusions, but until then, I will go with the information I can find.

So, here are my thoughts. Hans Sachs (1494-1576) was a German Meistersinger. The Meistersingers were a guild of composers and lyricists. Sachs was enormously prolific, writing more than 6,000 songs,

*In the Lutheran church, Philipp Nicolai is commemorated, along with fellow hymn writers Johann Heermann and Paul Gerhardt on October 26.*

plays, poems, fables and religious tracts. When Richard Wagner wrote his opera, “Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg,” the Meistersinger of the title is Hans Sachs.

Did Hans Sachs write the melody and Nicolai adapt it? I am not a music historian, so I cannot offer an authoritative opinion on the matter. Also, before making up my mind, I should read the reasoning in the 1982 *Hymnal Companion*, first. That is only good scholarship. However, and this should come as no surprise to anyone who knows me, I do have an opinion. Thanks to the Internet we can listen to the Sach’s piece “Silberweise” available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAEmcpASB6E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAEmcpASB6E). Frankly, except for one small identical phrase, repeated twice, I don’t see the resemblance. Nicolai and Sachs use an identical phrase, but they don’t develop it into a similar melody.

Furthermore, Julian says in his article in Hymnary.org. “The melody appeared first along with the hymn, and is also apparently by Nicolai, though portions of it (e.g., 1. 1 by the Gregorian Fifth Tone) may have been suggested by earlier tunes.” Ahah! Gregorian fifth tone or mode! Gregorian modes are ways of organizing pitches – like musical scales (if you want a better explanation, you will have to consult with a music theorist.) In the choir we sing various chants and some of them, like this one at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPUEDbFamXs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPUEDbFamXs), do seem to resemble portions of Nicolai’s melody.

Thus, my decidedly non-authoritative opinion is that both composers were familiar with Mode V and therefore there is some similarity in their compositions. I invite you to listen to the music clips included in this article and make up your own mind.

*[Editors note. Shortly before this article went to press, John Sabine, a former choir director and organist at Church of Our Saviour, graciously emailed me a copy of the pertinent page from his copy of the Hymnal 1982 Companion. The author of the notes on this hymn mentions the similarity of the opening phrase to the fifth Gregorian psalm tone. But he also says “Although written by Nicolai, it may have been based on the ‘Silberweisse’ of Hans Sach, the great poet of Nuremberg.” Then he gives us a picture of the actual musical score, where he has marked the phrase that the two melodies have in common. The eight-note phrase is used twice in this piece. The other 88 notes (not including grace notes and repeats) are different from Nicolai’s melody. So I stand by my conclusions above. I believe that both composers were familiar with Gregorian chant and because they were drawing on the same sources, there is a similar phrase in their music.]*

*... Phillip Nicolai  
lived through a  
plague far worse  
than the one we  
are living through.  
People he knew  
became ill or died,  
and yet he found  
comfort, joy and  
inspiration in  
his beliefs. ...*

I have had a wonderful time researching and writing this article. I have enjoyed trying to track down sources and use my library search skills in an internet-only world. It has been fun to solve this puzzle and to find out new things. What’s more, in the course of researching, I have found public domain editions of basic, authoritative texts on church music and downloaded them, so now my library is richer. I hope that you have enjoyed reading my article as well. For those of you musical people out there who want to critique my reasoning, please write or email and let me know what you think.

I will leave you with this thought. Phillip Nicolai lived through a plague far worse than the one we are living through. People he knew became ill or died, and yet he found comfort, joy and inspiration in his beliefs. He wrote this hymn hoping that others would find similar comfort. I do, and I hope that you will too.

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# Stewardship

BY BRIAN MULLANEY

This newsletter will be published at the end of Eastertide and the beginning of Pentecost. It will be published in the continuing time of the COVID-19 pandemic – “an increasingly challenging time,” in the words of Queen Elizabeth II. “A time of disruption in the life of our country: a disruption that has brought grief to some, financial difficulties to many, and enormous changes to the daily lives of us all.”

The Gospel proclamations on the Fifth and Sixth Sundays of Easter have been from John and have especially offered comfort, as we adjust to the disruption and changes brought about by the pandemic. These words are from John 14:1-6: “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.’”

Later, in John 20:25, the Apostle Thomas earns the moniker “doubting” for refusing to believe that the resurrected Jesus had appeared to the ten other apostles, until he could see and feel His wounds.

“Not so!” proclaims the Reverend Canon Carl Turner. “He is the honest and faithful Thomas who wants to believe, the Thomas who wanted to see the real Jesus – the Jesus who had promised him so much.”

“Thomas wanted to see the one who was the way the truth and the life. He wanted to see the real Jesus and that meant he needed to see the wounds of love that were still fresh. He needed to see that the promises of Jesus were true in spite of the wounds and, more importantly, because of them. It is because of the freshness of those wounds that Thomas was able to express his faith – not his doubt – ‘My Lord and my God!’ (20:28)”

In our faith, modeled in this image of St. Thomas, I find great solace and comfort for this time of uncertainty: Humanity has been redeemed. The risen Christ passed through the walls of the upper room at Easter. The Holy Ghost, like a flame, passed through those same walls at Pentecost.

Although at present we’re unable to see each other (save through technologies) and to join together in common worship and be bound by the sacraments of the church, we cannot let these things overwhelm us. With the love of Christ and through the love of one another, we will pass through this time.

And, in the meantime, we will continue to adapt; after all, adaptation has ensured the church has thrived for the past two millennia. Mass on Sundays, Morning Prayer, and Compline are regularly available on a live stream over Facebook; Bible study, Vestry, and committee meetings are continuing to use Zoom. While this is not the same as being present in person, it will not be forever. And, in the interim, it is our responsibility as faithful stewards to work to ensure the continuity of this community.

As I wrote to you in March, managing in a pandemic is (thankfully) new to us. Wherever possible, we are minimizing costs: for printing, for utilities, and for janitorial supplies and cleaning. However, obligations for major expenses, including our diocesan assessment and debt service, continue. And most importantly, the Vestry has committed to minimizing any financial disruption in the lives of the staff that faithfully serve us and to continuing to pay them. To do this, I ask you to continue to give.

Queen Elizabeth concluded her speech: “We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again.” I look forward, with the faith of Thomas, to that day and continue to pray for the spread of the Kingdom of God and for the parish Church of Our Saviour. I bid your prayers for the same.

*Contributions may be mailed or left in the secured mailbox at 985 Los Angeles Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306; or you can give electronically at [onrealm.org/coosatl/give](https://onrealm.org/coosatl/give). As is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, if you need any assistance, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Father Chris and let him know.*

“out of the  
abundance  
of the heart”

MATTHEW 12:34

# Looking Back at

## Our Easter Season

steps taken included sanitizing pews and church vessels between services by vestry members and volunteers.

The following week the Bishop gave churches the discretion to close or remain open. Father Chris felt that this was “not a time for the Church to ‘close’ but instead to be a place of certainty in these anxious and troubling times.” However, all activities with the exception of the services, went on hiatus. Due to the physical size of our nave and the usual number of our attendees, it was felt that the recommended physical distancing could be achieved, so we had our usual two Sunday services on March 15, and again disinfected the pews between the services. As the majority of the choir felt uncomfortable singing in the enclosed space of the choir loft, the non-staff members joined the congregation in the pews.

On March 17, Father Chris sent out an update letting the congregation know that the bishop had issued a new directive which said, “after much consultation and prayer, and in light of the most recent update from the CDC, I have decided to direct every congregation to move all worship and meetings online effective immediately and until further notice.”

Our first live-streamed service was held Sunday, March 22, at 10:00am from the Lady Chapel. Father Chris then celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation from his home chapel on Wednesday, March 25 and our second live-streamed Mass from the Lady Chapel was on March 29.

On April 2, three days before Palm Sunday, the Bishop directed that all parishes within the Diocese of Atlanta comply with Governor Kemp’s statewide shelter-in-place order, including “no longer assembling to record or live stream worship from a church sanctuary or campus. All worship should now be offered by individuals from home.”

In the email, when Father Chris let us know that our services would have to be moved off-campus, he asked us to “cut branches or other greens, and hang them from your front doors in solidarity with Christians across the Nation and the world who celebrate, welcome, and adore Christ our King and Our Lord. I invite you to take a picture of your greens and share them on our Facebook page.” Thank you to everyone who posted their pictures, as it was lovely to see the homes of various parishioners. Beginning on Palm Sunday, and continuing until Sunday, April 26, Father was live-streaming Sunday Mass from the rectory. (The palms he blessed on Palm Sunday are being held for parishioners to collect when we start holding on-site services again.)

During the latter part of February, as it became apparent that the coronavirus was not confined to China, public gatherings began shutting down. On Friday, March 6, Father Chris sent out a pastoral response concerning the virus, letting us know that communion on the following Sunday would be in one kind (bread only) and asking us to practice social distancing. On that Sunday, March 8, additional



For our Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Day services Sam Polk, our choir director, provided links to YouTube videos of appropriate service music, and Rob Clark provided a musical playlist so that we weren't without music for these very special services.

Even though the Holy Week services took place at the rectory, they were no less special than in previous years. And the fact that Father Chris set up a live stream after the Maundy Thursday service that lasted until midnight allowed many of us, and probably more than usual, to participate in the Vigil Watch.

Beginning shortly after our first live-streamed service, from the rectory, Father Chris started live streaming Morning Prayer at 8:30am, Compline at 8:30pm, and the Rosary at 1:30pm on Fridays. Since that time, he has fine-tuned the schedules for the various services and added a Wednesday evening Bible Study. Additionally, he has moved the Bible Study and Friday Rosary to the Zoom platform so that these two are interactive events. In total there are now 14 chances each week to be in communion with our fellow parishioners.

Beginning on Sunday, May 3, Father Chris, through his increased experience with technology, was able to begin live streaming the Sunday Masses from the nave. For the time being Father Chris will be continuing to live stream the Sunday services from the nave and the weekday services from the rectory. Please continue to read the weekly e-blasts and check the parish's Facebook page for updates as to the state of our services and where to go to participate – your house or the church itself.

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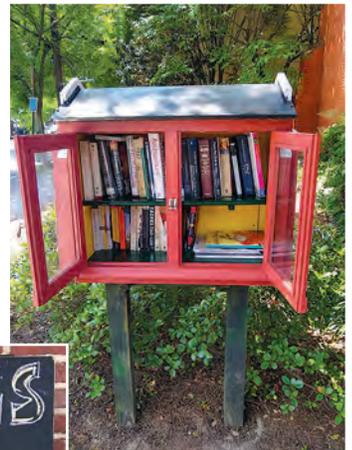
## QUESTION FOR THE DAY

Since late April we have been randomly posting a "Question for the Day" on our Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who has been posting their answers. It has definitely been fun getting to know a little bit more about each other, and also very interesting to see which questions get the most replies. Food and entertainment queries seem to be the winners. Also, a few people have been posting images in response to the questions, which is a great way to answer and, since we don't have anything happening on campus to photograph, these images are very much appreciated.

The most answered question so far was "What is your all-time "go to" movie? And why?" The best part about these answers is that it allows each of us a chance to check out someone else's favorite movie. Who knows, you might find a new favorite! (See the list on the next page.)

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Top: Mary Hallenberg's answer to "Have you been reading anything interesting lately?" was this lovely picture of our Little Library and a note that she wasn't reading anything at the moment, but that people must be as she "filled the Church of Our Saviour's Little Library up a couple weeks ago and saw it was emptied by the very next day." Middle: Eric Strange's answer to "How many times a day are you (thoroughly) washing your hands now and what would you say your average was back in January?" Right: Mary Hallenberg's answer to "What's the best part of your day and why?" was this picture of her and Guthrie taking a walk in Virginia-Highland.



- ▶ Alphas Christopher Spears – *Clueless*: cute, innocent, fun love story.
- ▶ Annie Bullock – *The Haunting* (1963)
- ▶ Eric Strange – The greatest modern American film, *Con-Air*.
- ▶ Gerri Lamb Roberson – *Crazy Stupid Love* was surprisingly good. Anything by Merchant Ivory, anything with Julie Andrews. *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* was great too... There's sooooo many – *The Lion King*. Gene Wilder was always a fave, especially with Bernadette Peters and Madelynn Kahn.
- ▶ Hugh Brownlee – The original *Mary Poppins*. I love Julie Andrews, the music, the costumes, the story, and I guess I'm just nostalgic about it. I still have it on video cassette and I have to stop and watch it when I see it is on TV.
- ▶ Jane McAfee Scott – *Young Frankenstein*. I love that movie because it is so silly and fun. Madeline Kahn, Teri Gar, and Gene Wilder are three of my favorites.
- ▶ Jennifer McGlynn – *A League of Their Own*. It's an all around great movie.
- ▶ Jill DeGroot Bowman – *Cold Comfort Farm*. Everyone ends up so perfectly happy in the end.
- ▶ John Montreville Denton – *The American President*
- ▶ John Morrell – *Casablanca*. Hands down.
- ▶ Lucy & John Byce – *Secondhand Lions*. It teaches one how to be a man
- ▶ William Gatlin – *Casablanca*

## LIVE STREAMING SERVICES & ZOOM OPPORTUNITIES

Don't forget that Father Chris has made sure that even though we aren't able to meet in person we can still attend services. Sundays he live streams Low Mass at 10am on our parish's Facebook page. Morning Prayer at 8:30am is offered Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday through Saturday, and Compline, at 8:30pm, is offered Monday through Thursday, and Saturday and Sunday, also via live streaming on Facebook. You can tune in by visiting our [Facebook page](#). You DO NOT NEED a Facebook Account to join in the live-stream Mass or watch the videos of previous services.

On Wednesday he offers Bible Study from 7:30-8:20pm and on Fridays he says the Rosary at 1:30pm. These are both offered via Zoom so everyone attending has the opportunity to interact with Father Chris and the other attendees. For the meeting details for Bible Study and the Rosary, go to our website, [oursaviouratlanta.org](http://oursaviouratlanta.org), and find the details on the [News](#) page.

## REACHING OUT AND KEEPING OUR SENSE OF COMMUNITY INTACT

We want to make sure we don't lose our sense of community as we go through this time of social distancing, so if you are in need of some assistance, whether that is someone to talk to, or an errand run, please reach out to Father Chris at [rector@coosatl.org](mailto:rector@coosatl.org) or 678.538.5549, or any vestry member. If you are on Facebook, consider posting an answer to one of the questions for the day. (Your answer might be featured in an upcoming *Angelus*.)

The Vestry is still trying to call parishioners or make sure that someone they have talked to, has talked to you. Keep in mind that if a call from a friend gives you a pick-me-up for the day, you can give someone else that same unexpected happiness by calling them! And if you are not one who is up-to-date with the latest technology, hand-written notes and cards are another tried-and-true method for keeping in touch.

We want to hear from you to make sure you are doing okay. Give us a call, send us an email or note, or send your carrier pigeon our way (if you still have one)!

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## OUR SAVIOUR MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES DURING COVID-19

Do you want to help out in the fight against the Pandemic? Do you know how to sew or are you willing to learn? Are you willing to donate money or materials to help cover production costs?

With shortages of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), people across Atlanta and the U.S. are teaming up to do their part sewing medical face masks. This is a wonderful way to make a difference and make a direct impact by ensuring critical healthcare workers have access to important, needed PPE.

If you are interested in learning more or contributing to this new and unique ministry at the Church of Our Saviour, here are a few ways you can get involved: a) You can sew! b) You can donate money to help cover the cost of materials. c) You can donate 100% cotton sheets (Dali is willing to pick up supplies). Click [here](#) to find other ways you can get involved and help. If you have questions contact Dali Cintra Bartharès by phone (404-545-7394) or email (dali.cintra@gmail.com).

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## PRAYER FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY – THURSDAY, JULY 4

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## READINGS FOR PENTECOST (JUNE 1–JULY 26)

### JUNE 1 (VISITATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY)

1 Samuel 2:1-10  
Romans 12:9-16b  
Luke 1:39-57  
Psalm 113

### JUNE 7 (TRINITY SUNDAY)

Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20  
Psalm 8

### JUNE 14 (PROPER 6)

Exodus 19:2-8a  
Psalm 100  
Romans 5:1-8  
Matthew 9:35-10:23

### JUNE 21 (PROPER 7)

Jeremiah 20:7-13  
Psalm 69: 8-20  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 10:24-39

### JUNE 24

#### (ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST)

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Acts 13:14b-26  
Luke 1:57-80  
Psalm 85

### JUNE 28 (PROPER 8)

Jeremiah 28:5-9  
Psalm 89:1-4,15-18  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

### JULY 4 (INDEPENDENCE DAY)

Deuteronomy 10:17-21  
Hebrews 11:8-16  
Matthew 5:43-48  
Psalm 145

### JULY 5 (PROPER 9)

Zechariah 9:9-12  
Psalm 145:8-15  
Romans 7:15-25a  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### JULY 12 (PROPER 10)

Isaiah 55:10-13  
Psalm 65:1-14  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### JULY 19 (PROPER 11)

Isaiah 44:6-8  
Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

### JULY 22

#### (ST. MARY MAGDALENE)

Judith 9:1,11-14  
2 Corinthians 5:14-18  
John 20:11-18  
Psalm 42:1-7

### JULY 26

1 Kings 3:5-12  
Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

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## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Birthdays in June</i>	4 Grant Glassbrook
5 Bert Smith	Chris Jagers
9 Gabriel Miller	6 Rob Clark
Martin Sullivan, Jr.	8 Eve Rosenzweig
14 Alphas Spears	10 Dowman Wilson
Mark Bailey	16 Joshua Hilton
17 Geraldine (Gerri) Roberson	17 Vivian Rose McMahon
19 Briget McGlynn	21 Mary George
20 Sean McGlynn	30 William Gatlin
22 Father Christopher Miller	Brian Mullaney
27 Nigel Flynn	31 Jennifer McGlynn

### *Anniversaries in June*

23 Bobby & Virginia Sharitz

### *Birthdays in July*

1 Caitlin Lemmond  
David Stabler

### *Anniversaries in July*

2 Roger & Kathy Davis  
18 Louis & Ginger Norvell  
19 Dan Grossman &  
Chris Schmaltz



24 Michael Lilly &  
Saralyn Foster  
31 Ephraim & Jane McLean

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## CLERGY, STAFF & VESTRY

The Reverend Christopher Miller, *Rector*

### *Staff*

Sam Polk, *Organist and Choir Master*

Cathy McAfee, *Parish Administrator*

Brian Mullaney, *Treasurer*

Ellen Hopkins, *Bookkeeper*

Mary Burgess, *Nursery Attendant*

Stefka Babadalieva, *Nursery Attendant*

Dowman Wilson, *Parish Registrar & Vestry Secretary*

Mary Sommers, *Communications*

### *Vestry*

Jennifer McGlynn, *Senior Warden*

Ken Molinelli, *Junior Warden*

Suellen Henderson, *Strategic Vision/Growth*

John Miller, *Worship/Liturgy*

Meg Pagán, *Pastoral Care*

678-538-5549, [rector@coosatl.org](mailto:rector@coosatl.org)

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404-872-4169, [admin@coosatl.org](mailto:admin@coosatl.org)

[treasurer@coosatl.org](mailto:treasurer@coosatl.org)

404-874-4262

Roger Press, *Stewardship*

Mary Sommers, *Hospitality*

Alphas Spears, *Christian Formation*

Dowman Wilson, *Mission & Outreach*

# THE ANGELUS

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## Pentecost 2020

The Church of Our Saviour  
985 Los Angeles Ave NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306

Address Service Requested

Dated Material – Please Do Not Delay

## To the Holy Spirit

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BY CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

O God the Holy Ghost  
Who art light unto thine elect  
Evermore enlighten us.  
Thou who art fire of love  
Evermore enkindle us.  
Thou who art Lord and Giver of Life,  
Evermore live in us.  
Thou who bestowest sevenfold grace,  
Evermore replenish us.  
  
As the wind is thy symbol,  
So forward our goings.  
As the dove,  
so launch us heavenwards.  
As water,  
so purify our spirits.  
As a cloud,  
so abate our temptations.  
As dew,  
so revive our languor.  
As fire,  
so purge our dross.