

SOUNDS

Of

Volume 40 No. 17

April 25, 2010

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Dominus regit me

- 1 *The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.*
- 2 *He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.*
- 3 *He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.*
- 4 *Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*
- 5 *You spread a table before me in the presence of those who
trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.*
- 6 *Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

Psalms 23 Page 612, BCP

FROM THE RECTOR

Nearly five decades ago I met the Archbishop of Canterbury, the first of five such prelates it has been my privilege to encounter. Arthur Michael Ramsey had come to Columbia to visit the House of Bishops, meeting there in 1962 as part of the sesquicentennial celebration of the parish my family has been a part of for many years. I should say I was presented to the Archbishop, rather than claiming to have met him, for the extent of our meeting was only a brief moment after an early midweek service of Holy Communion.

At that age, I had no clue as to what he represented. Bishops were frequently around that church, for its role then was one of prominence in the Episcopal Church. But even to my naïve eyes, the Archbishop was someone special. One could sense that in how everyone around him reacted to his presence. This communion service was on the regular weekday schedule of the parish, but it was his only public appearance (he was not there on a Sunday) and the church welcomed perhaps 300 people to a service which normally would have seen 15 worshippers. I was taken to the service not because I was going to receive communion: Those were the days when confirmation was a prerequisite to receiving communion, and I would not be confirmed until the following year. Rather, my mother drove me downtown for the same reason Jennifer and I took our sons to see President Reagan's final Veterans' Day speech as President in Arlington Cemetery, so that they could say they had seen that great man. How many parents have made similar trips over the centuries?

In any event, as the years went by and a bit of historical perspective came my way, I grew to treasure even this brief encounter and the memory of his conferring his blessing on me. Ramsey was a great archbishop, and a theologian matched on the throne of St Augustine of Canterbury in the past century only by William Temple. I have been able to relate this story directly to three of his successors, each of whom quickly understood its significance and meaning to me, and each responded with his own affectionate

recollections.

This memory came to mind the other day when I read a splendid memoir by his personal chaplain, the Rev'd Canon John G. B. Andrew, sometime Rector of St Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City. In this recollection, Canon Andrew quotes several of the Archbishop's theological writings. What follows is a rich extract from his 1945 publication, *The Resurrection of Christ*, characterized by Canon Andrew as "the theological *raison d'être*" of Ramsey's thought.

"We are tempted to believe that, although the Resurrection may be the climax of the Gospel, there is yet a Gospel that stands upon its own feet and may be understood and appreciated before we pass on to the Resurrection. The first disciples did not find it so. For them the Gospel without the Resurrection was not merely a Gospel without its final chapter; it was not at a Gospel at all. Jesus Christ had, it is true, taught and done great things: but he did not allow the disciples to rest in these things. He led them on to paradox, perplexity and darkness; and there left them. There too they would have remained, had he not been raised from death. But his Resurrection threw its own light upon the death and the ministry that went before; it illuminated the paradoxes and disclosed the unity of his words and deeds....

"It is a desperate procedure to try and build a Christian Gospel upon the words of Jesus in Galilee apart from the climax of Calvary, Easter, and Pentecost. If we do so we are professing to know Jesus better than the first disciples knew him; and the Marcan record shows us how complete was their perplexity before the Resurrection gave them the key. Every oral tradition about Jesus was handed down, every written record of him was made only by those who already acknowledged him as Lord, risen from the dead.

"It is therefore both historically and theologically necessary to 'begin with the Resurrection.' For from it, in direct order of historical fact, there came Christian preaching, Christian worship, Christian belief."

MUSIC AT EVENTIDE

Please join our Organist and Choirmaster, Gary Davison for his organ recital at Washington National Cathedral on Sunday, April 25th at 5:15. The program follows 4 o'clock evensong and you are able to sit in the Great Choir, if you enjoy being up close. There is no admission charge although a freewill offering is received for the maintenance of the cathedral's organ.

The program will include a suite from Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, the evocative *Master Tallis's Testament* by Herbert Howells, the Easter Chorale Preludes from Bach's *Orgelbüchlein*, and Mr Davison's settings of the hymn tunes 'Michael' and 'Laudes Domini.'

This year's recital series at WNC is featuring Washington area organists once a month and we are pleased to have Potomac Parish represented in that select group.

FACEBOOK MUSIC PAGE

Become a "fan" of our newly created *Friends of Potomac Parish Music* page on Facebook. Here you will find out what's coming up along with event details, photos, and notes on the music. Please help us get word out by encouraging your Facebook friends to become a fan.

OUTREACH CORNER

Drive Out Poverty! Join Five Talents for the 7th annual [X-OUT Poverty Golf Classic](#) on Thursday, June 10, at [Westfields Golf Club](#) in Clifton, Va. It features an 18-hole Captain's Choice and a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start. Individuals can play for \$300 by signing up before May 15 (Save \$50!). Golfers will receive a round of golf with cart, range balls, special gift package, breakfast, lunch and awards reception. For more info, contact Laura Verinder, at FiveTalentsEvents@FiveTalents.org or (703) 242-6016.

JOY AND CONCERN

Congratulations to grandparents Polly Sager and David Morse on the birth of Christopher David Mellqvist, born April 7 in Uppsala, Sweden to Clare and Per Mellqvist.

BELGIAN BEER TASTING AND DINNER,

MAY 15TH, 7:30PM

The Talk of the Town Dinners are back!

Jim Moore will offer 5 beers for tasting and Barbara Moore and Wayne & Carol Jarvis will serve a complementary dinner on Saturday, May 15th.m The cost will be \$35 per person, and the profits from the dinner will go to charity.

Where did we get such an idea for a beer party? Early Medieval churches supported their parish budgets through beer dinners and Women of St. Francis have revived this fundraising tradition. Reservations are limited. Call the Church office, 301-365-2055, to make your reservation.

COORDINATOR FOR THE WELCOME TABLE

The Welcome Table is a ministry of The Church of the Epiphany in downtown D.C. We provide a hot breakfast for 150-175 homeless and poor on Sunday mornings along with several other ministries.

We are hiring a Coordinator for the Welcome Table. The position requires previous experience working with the homeless and people at risk. Work hours are 6:00a-10:00a on Sundays and 2 hours during the week. Beginning pay is \$20 per hour. A complete list of responsibilities and qualifications is available by contacting the Rev. Randolph Charles at 202-347-2635 or rcharles@epiphanydc.org.

COMING UP AT SAINT FRANCIS CHURCH

For more information, please visit our website at www.stfrancispotomac.org

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Holy Eucharist
Sunday School and Adult Education Hour
11:15 am Morning Prayer
5:15 pm Music at Eventide: Organ Recital by
Mr. Gary Davison at the Washington National
Cathedral

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

5:30 pm Youth Choirs
7:00 pm Centering Prayer—Undercroft

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Rector's Bible Study
5:30 pm Jr. High Bible Study

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

5:00 pm *Sounds* Deadline for 5/9/10
5:30 pm Sr. High Bible Study
7:30 pm St Francis Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

7:00 am Men's Bible Study

SUNDAY, MAY 2

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Holy Eucharist
Sunday School and Adult Education Hour
11:15 am Holy Eucharist



The Scripture appointed for the Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

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