

# THE CALL

The Reverend Adam S. Linton, Rector

MAY 2006

## Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

2374 Grant Avenue, Ogden, Utah 84401

### Rector's Reflections

*“Remember the Signs”  
Sermon at the Great Vigil of Easter  
Saturday, 15 April 2006  
by Rev. Adam Linton*

If someone were to ask me, “What is it that you folks believe?” I might be inclined to invite that person to this service, and say, “Attend well to what is said, sung, and done here. And perhaps even more than being attentive, as the Spirit leads and enables you, launch out into the waters of this act of worship. Now, I wouldn't suggest that you lay on either yourselves or God a pre-set list of expectations. Rather, in the openness of your original curiosity and wonder – be present to the Lord's bidding.”

This is, for us, too, the night unlike all other nights. The features of this liturgy seem to propel us back into antiquity. Either that, or they bring antiquity forward into our midst. Maybe it's both, somehow.

Of course, this is not meant to be an exercise in spiritual exoticism. It *is* meant to be an encounter – a renewing participation – in who and what we are in Jesus Christ. For all the interesting, perhaps unusual, elements of what we do here in the service tonight, they really are, at the core, quite basic things:

in darkness, the kindling of light;

the hearing of stories –  
the stories that reveal who we are, told and re-told  
among us from generation to generation for  
thousands of years;

the welcome of new members –  
initiated through the waters of Baptism, and the  
renewal of Baptismal Covenant for all who have  
already been so welcomed;

the proclamation of Life;

then... more light – more song – more celebration;

to come to the Breaking of Bread, and Sharing of Cup, as we – glory be – and surely by grace – participate in that Life, Crucified and Risen Again.

And, in all this, we find ourselves united with unexpected company for whom we've been waiting all along:

patriarchs, matriarchs, prophets, the wise;

apostles, martyrs – and all the saints across the sweep of centuries;

in short, the whole company of holy fools formed by what we call on earth the Divine Wisdom (and for that matter, what in Narnia might be known as the “Deeper Magic”!).

Through this Wisdom, perfectly manifested in Christ, God calls us, too into the Story in which God is reclaiming and renewing all of creation.

To be sure, as we continue the Journey, it won't often look or feel as it does on this night. Our path will take us through the mundane – all the “stuff,” for the most part seemingly unremarkable, and some of it distinctly uncomfortable. Through all of it, we're meant to discover the meaning of what we now hear, say, and do. The days to come that will be much less bright than this night are a part of the pilgrimage, too. Often unrecognized, our Crucified and Risen Lord will be there for us, then, as well as here.

Now we can't pre-empt Christ's purpose by our own forgetfulness. But, as we remember and recognize, we will find ourselves available for greater service.

One of my favorite volumes in C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia is *The Silver Chair*. Near its beginning, as Jill is being sent on her journey, Aslan gives her certain signs by which she will know how to fulfill her appointed quest. Aslan then tells her:

“First, remember, remember, remember the signs.

Say them to yourself when you wake in the morning and when you lie down at night, and when you wake in the middle of the night. And whatever strange things may happen to you, let nothing turn your mind from following the signs. And secondly, I give you a warning. Here on the mountain I have spoken to you clearly: I will not often do so down in Narnia. Here on the mountain, the air is clear and your mind is clear; as you drop down into Narnia the air will thicken. Take great care that it does not confuse your mind. And the signs which you have learned here will not look at all as you expect them to look, when you meet them there. That is why it is so important that you know them by heart and pay no attention to appearances. Remember the signs and believe the signs.”\*

Indeed, throughout the course of this pilgrimage of ours, may we remember the signs!

Meanwhile our Lord provides for us food enough. The Banquet is prepared; enter into Joy! The Table is fully laden with the Self-Gift of the One Who Is – the One Who Is For Us. Why should anyone go hungry away?

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

\* Lewis, C.S. *The Silver Chair*, Chapter 2, “Jill Is Given a Task,” pages 25-26. [London: Geoffrey Bles, 1963.] Published in the United States, New York: HarperCollins.

#### **Rector’s Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday, 9:30am - 4:30pm  
Friday is Fr. Adam’s usual day off. Always feel free to contact him in the event of a hospitalization or a pastoral emergency at the office (392-8168) or at home (605-1883).

#### **Parish Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday 8:00am - noon, 1:00pm to 4:00pm  
Fridays the office will close at 3:00pm.

**Phone:** 392-8168

**Fax:** 627-7026

**Email:** goodshepherd -ut@qwest.net

**Website:** www.goodshepherdogden.org

## *The Attic Book Sale* *Sunday, May 7*

**Browse for delightful new summer reading. Included in the sale will be a giant selection of Literary Fiction in need of a new bookshelf. Please bring your donations to the church by Saturday, May 6. Thanks.**

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held June 12-16, 2006 from 9:00am to 12 noon. We will be doing an expanded version of “Celebrate the Psalms!” In order to run a successful program, we will need many adult and older youth volunteers. Some volunteers would need to commit to only 1 hour during the week to run a Creation Station. These stations involve: creative writing, music, community service, art and reading, to name a few. We also need a volunteer for all five days to help with the drama portion of the program. There is also a need for group leaders for the pre-k/k, 1-3 and 4-6 direct teaching portions. Group leaders would need to commit to attending the whole week for all three hours each day. **High school students**, if you have community service hours to fill, then this is the place for you!! Please let Letitia know what you will be able to do to help VBS be a huge success.

## Book Review

The Attic has a new book selection, *Sounds of the Eternal, A Celtic Psalter, Morning and Night Prayer*. It is a beautiful little book with brief morning and evening prayers for every day of the week. The prayers are simple and eloquent, being grounded in the goodness of creation and of the human body. The spiritual and the physical come together to celebrate wisdom, strength, creation, eternity and beauty with the help of both Hebrew and Celtic illustrations. The author is J. Philips Newell, a former warden of Iona Abbey in the West of Scotland. Come and check out this “gem.”

– Deacon Nancy

## Interfaith Works

Good Shepherd will host Inter faith Works on Wednesday, May 10. The meeting is from 11:30am to 1:00pm, and all are welcome. Robb Hall of Youth Impact will be presenting. Come join a diverse faith group and share lunch with us.

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## ECW Bazaar Date is Set

This year's annual ECW Bazaar has been scheduled for **Saturday, November 4**. Once again we will hold a raffle, provide the Tea Room, and have a great selection of hand made items. Please start working on your specialty items. We need you all to make this a successful event.

We are also looking for vendors that would be interested in renting table space. If you are interested in a table or know of someone that would be, please contact Linda Garner at 399-0428.

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## Diocesan Affirmation Offering

### Reformulating the English Reformation

Professor Norm Jones, presenting  
May 13, 2006, Diocesan Center, 9:00am - Noon

This workshop will focus on three great moments of tension within the Anglican tradition: the "Puritan crisis" of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the "Wesleyan alternative" of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and the Anglo-Catholic debates of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Rooted in disagreements over scriptural authority and historical events, these contentions over the "purity" of Anglican worship deeply divided congregations and national churches. Understanding these historical tensions will help us to understand some of the divisions within the contemporary Anglican Communion.

There is a \$5.00 registration fee. Space will be limited, so please call Julia Packard at (801) 322-4131 as soon as possible to register.

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## Acolyte Schedule for May

### May 7

**8:00** David Seiter  
**10:30** **Server:** Hope Linton  
**Crucifer:** Robert Fairchild  
**Clergy Cross:** Natalie Fairchild  
**Torches:** Melissa Fairchild, Madeline Gale  
Shyanne Thornsbery, Brianna Thornsbery  
**Director Assistant:** Emily Lloyd

### May 14

**8:00** Letitia Teneau-Sword  
**10:30** **Server:** Sarah Guyon  
**Crucifer:** Alex Bray  
**Clergy Cross:** McKenzie Bray

**Torches:** Zachary Bray, Shayn Moss  
Tiffany Arnett, Andrea Arnett  
**Director Assistant:** Amy Kees

### May 21

**8:00** David Seiter  
**10:30** **Server:** Hope Linton  
**Crucifer:** Patrick Campbell  
**Clergy Cross:** Natalie Fairchild  
**Torches:** Melissa Fairchild, Madeline Gale  
Shyanne Thornsbery, Brianna Thornsbery  
**Director Assistant:** Emily Lloyd

### May 28

**8:00** Letitia Teneau-Sword  
**10:30** **Server:** Ethan Roberts  
**Crucifer:** Taryn Kelly  
**Clergy Cross:** Alaina Kelly  
**Torches:** Katie Paine, Madison Paine  
Nolan Peters, Conor Lay  
**Director Assistant:** Amy Kees

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## May Birthdays...

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP)*

1. Carlisle LeBarron, SueAnn Thomas
3. Bob Hall
4. Nancy Arnett
6. Dyrk Farr
13. Steve Greenleaf
14. Jack Olearain
15. Shirley Campbell
16. Jody Coy, Claudia Seiter
17. Adam Johnston, Chip Wilde
25. Julius Lloyd
26. Conor Cross
28. Tim Wilde
30. Courtney Thornsbery

## May Anniversaries...

*Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. Amen (BCP)*

4. Bob & Lucy Bevan
9. Dan & JoEllen Parrish
20. Jim & Glenna Hard
22. Rick & Carolyn Anderson
25. Jim & Roxanne Pierce
27. Alex & Madeline McDonald