

March 2011

Now that the month of March is upon us we finally have come the end of the season after the Feast of the Epiphany and march (pardon the pun) right into Lent. Our congregational theme for Lent is Unity. I have chosen this theme for several reasons. First, our theme this year is unity around John's Gospel when Jesus prays for his disciples and those who will become disciples,

*Jesus said, "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*

- John 17:20-21

The true beauty of this passage is that Jesus is praying for you and me so that we may believe that he was sent for us as well as those in first century Christendom. Jesus is praying that we may be unified with him, just as he is with the Father in Heaven. Jesus prays for us to be one.

During Lent, our Lenten Meditation Guide, edited by Alfredo Castillo and written by members of our church, focuses on Unity through Christ. For Shrove Tuesday, we are joining together at Jim's Restaurant so that we can all eat pancakes which unites us with an old tradition of the church. Throughout Lent we have two education opportunities. The first will explore the many different religions of the world using a video-based discussion series published by [The Great Courses](#). This class will meet at the home of Layman and Karen Hendrex on Thursday nights beginning March 17 from 6:45 pm until 8:00 pm. [Email the church to register.](#)

The second offering will take place on Tuesday nights at BJ's Restaurant with the theme, *Where in the World is God*. We will discuss current events in the media and in our lives (incorporating scripture, tradition, and reason – the great three-legged stool of Anglicanism) to look for those places that we are unified with Christ and where The Lord just might be doing something new in our lives and in the world. This "class" begins on March 15 from 6:45 pm until 8:00 pm. [Email the church to register.](#)

There will be other opportunities that pop up during Lent so please keep an eye out in the church emails and bulletins.

May you have a holy and spiritually refreshing Lent that unites you with Christ and all of his disciples.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Jason T. Roberts