

## Ramblings from the Rev.....

Submitted by, Rev. Samantha Crossley

We're publishing the newsletter late this month. That's on me. Karen was, as is her custom, on the ball and ready to go - I just didn't quite get it together in time. It seems the chaos of the world has clogged my synapses. The political world has certainly ramped up into high gear. The economy, the environment, COVID, civil unrest, black lives matter, police lives matter, women's rights, religious freedom.... The news is an uncapped fire hydrant of issues and opinions spraying all over everything. Each week I make an announcement at church about the importance of voting.

"But," I mused, as I sat down to write for the umpteenth time, "Voting isn't biblical."

I've always found that particular criticism interesting - not about voting in particular, but about anything from catholicism to dance halls to contemplative prayer - "It's not biblical", typically said with the implication that "it", whatever "it" may be, should not exist, or at the very least should not take precedence over other, more biblical sorts of things. "That church isn't biblical." "That sermon isn't biblical", "That opinion isn't biblical". Voting isn't biblical. It's simply not in the Bible at all - either testament - pro or con - not even once. Jesus had nothing whatever to say about voting. So if it isn't biblical, and Jesus didn't say it, and Jesus didn't demonstrate it, how do I justify using the pulpit or this forum to exhort you to vote?

Voting isn't biblical. Slavery is biblical. Stoning people is biblical. Rape is biblical. War is biblical - none of them condoned in all situations, but biblical.

In her book *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*, Rachel Held Evans wrote:

If you are looking for verses with which to support slavery, you will find them. If you are looking for verses with which to abolish slavery, you will find them. If you are looking for verses with which to oppress women, you will find them. If you are looking for verses with which to liberate or honor women, you will find them. If you are looking for reasons to wage war, you will find them. If you are looking for reasons to promote peace, you will find them. If you are looking for an outdated, irrelevant ancient text, you will find it. If you are looking for truth, believe me, you will find it.

I think what we are looking for, what we are meant to be looking for, is not chapter and verse, but Christ. Christ before us, Christ beneath us, Christ beside us. Christ in our neighbor, Christ in our words, Christ in our hearts. Christ did not vote. Christ did speak truth to power, no matter the cost, again and again and again. Christ did open his saving embrace to all the world, with no exceptions. Christ did proclaim from the mountain his blessing on those who hunger and thirst for justice, on the sorrowful, on the compassionate, on the peacemakers. Christ did defend the diseased, the poor, the hungry, the powerless; the downtrodden - gave them the voice they did not have.

In Minnesota, anyone can vote by mail starting September 18th or at the polls on November 3rd. If you live in a nursing home, assisted living facility, residential treatment center, group home, battered women's shelter or are hospitalized or unable to go to the polling place due to incapacitating health reasons or a disability, and prefer not to mail in a ballot, you can designate someone to pick up a ballot and return it for you. You will still to be registered and will need an absentee ballot application. You can access an absentee ballot application on-line here: [https:// Page 2 of 3 www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/](https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/). This will allow you to apply on-line or download an application. Need more information, or don't have access to a computer? The Greater Minnesota Elections Phone number is 9-877-600-VOTE (8683). Outside MN, check with your Secretary of State website for your voting options.

Voting is a way to speak truth to power. Voting is a proclamation. Voting is a voice. Pray, think, learn, contemplate and pray again. Ask yourself where to find Christ in all of this, how to be the voice of Christ in the world. Then vote.



- 9/4 ~ Ragna Godtland
- 9/6 ~ Parker Wright (son of Alan & Kate,  
grandson of Andy & Georgeann)
- 9/8 ~ David McKee
- 9/13 ~ Karen Tveit
- 9/18 ~ Carol Stillar
- 9/19 ~ Brittany Klatt (Corrin)
- 9/21 ~ Erin Franklin (Granddaughter Byrne  
& Carol Johnson)
- 9/22 ~ Lynn Naeckel
- 9/22 ~ Carole Johnson
- 9/25 ~ Andrew Strand (son of Erik &  
Jeannie, grandson of Wilbur & MaryAnn )
- 9/29 ~ John Shewchuk
- 9/30 ~ Dixie Juel (Day)
- 9/30 ~ Bob Stone

- 9/4 ~ Jon Rueter
- 9/18 ~ Linda Krieger ( Tveit)
- 9/26 ~ Andrew Noland
- 9/30 ~ Grace O'Kane (Heather's daughter  
granddaughter Andy & Georgeann  
Wright)



- 9/3 ~ Lee & Carol Grim
- 9/4 ~ Byrne & Carole Johnson
- 9/16 ~ Alan & Kate Wright
- 9/21 ~ Doug & Celia Tanem

*During our Shelter in Place Order  
Watch Holy Trinity Services Livestream  
Service bulletin is on our website: [www.ifhtec.org](http://www.ifhtec.org)  
On Facebook: Sundays @ 10:00 am*


# September'20 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<b>6</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim	
<b>13</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim	
<b>20</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim	
<b>27</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen	Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen	Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim	



# September 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 Altar Guild
						Donna & Karen
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	 HAPPY LABOR DAY	Team 6:00				Donna & Karen
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<i>Ruby's Pantry 4:30 - 6:30</i>	Vestry 5:00 pm				Georgeann
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Newsletter Deadline (Georgeann)				Georgeann
27	28	29	30			
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						