



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

### *Message from Margaret*

#### **Who is Jesus?**

As we approach Easter and the Resurrection, it is important to our faith and walk to try to understand who Jesus is. Often when we try to do this, we sacrifice one part of the Trinity, or make one part more than the other. The Trinitarian heritage includes the triune structure, and fundamental in this is the triune proper name of Christianity's particular God: "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." This is encompassed in the Hebrew name for God YHWH (or Yahweh). Our Trinitarian heritage includes dogma decreed at Nicea and Constantinople. And quite frankly, understanding it is difficult.

I can remember standing outside my ethics class room when I was in seminary and someone asked the ethics professor, "When did Jesus know he was the Christ?" The answer given was: at the crucifixion/resurrection. For we have that profound statement given by the centurion-"Truly, this man was the son of God." When God decided to enter into history with us, God chose to become human. This meant, while Jesus was God (see above for the name of God.), Jesus was truly human, having the same feelings, urges, etc. that we do. And what we must keep in mind is that identification of God by resurrection does not replace identification by the Exodus. (Robert W. Jenson, *The Triune Identity*). *In short, God encompasses.* The God of Exodus and the God of the newer Testament is the same God, which is both Father/Mother. There is no way, because of creation, to separate God's sexuality. Therefore, it is all about our relationship with God. It is this complete God who came to show us, through Jesus, the nature of God.

Someone asked me this week, "Was Jesus a Christian?" The answer is unequivocally- No. The definition of Christian is "A person professing belief in Jesus the Christ." Jesus as human, lived as a Jewish person-totally and wholly-though he is God. To put only human characteristics on to Jesus puts us in the place of participating in some of the heresies of the Church, most particularly [Monothelism](#). (Topic for another day). Being God, Jesus did not follow himself,

but as Bonhoeffer has said: “Jesus does not call us (sic) to a new religion, but to life.” Diana Butler Bass has said of us mortal Christians: “We behave in imitation of Jesus, practicing our faith with deliberation as we anticipate God’s reign of justice and love. We believe with our entire being, trusting, loving, and devoted to the God whom we have encountered through whom we have encountered through one another and the world. We are; we act; we know. Belonging, behaving, and believing-shifted back to their proper and ancient order. This is the shape of awakened Christianity, a faith that is a deeply spiritual religion. No longer merely religion, but *religio*. The great Reversal is the Great Returning of Christianity back toward what Jesus preached: a beloved and loving community, a way of life practiced in the world, a profound trust in God that eagerly anticipates God’s reign of mercy and justice.”

The Christian church was created by a mission that saw itself, and was carried out, as God’s own eschatological act to unite *humankind*. The risen Messiah is already now enthroned in God’s omnipotence.: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” The worldwide preaching of the gospel, the going of the disciples (the Christians) to “all nations” is an exercise in power. It can be such an exercise because the Lord is now present; “And ...I am with you to the close of the age.”

Have a Blessed Easter.

*Margaret+*

## HOLY WEEK AT ST. ANDREW’S



## MAUNDAY THURSDAY-7:00 P.M.

FOOTWASHING AND STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR  
HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SPECIAL MUSIC, 7:00 P.M.

## GOOD FRIDAY-NOON

THE PROCESSION WITH THE CROSS THIS YEAR WILL BEGIN IN THE PARKING LOT AT THE CLEMONS COMPANY, AT THE CORNER OF HARRISON AND 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 11:15 AND PROCEED TO THE CHURCH FOR THE SOLEMN COLLECTS AND EUCHARIST FROM THE RESERVED SACRAMENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT NOON. IF YOU WANT A SHORTER ROUTE, YOU CAN PARK AT THE BUCCANEER AND JOIN THE PROCESSION.

## THE EASTER VIGIL-6:30 P.M.

THE FIRST FIRE OF EASTER, HOLY BAPTISM, AND THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER. SPECIAL MUSIC WITH BRASS FOLLOWED BY A CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

## EASTER SUNDAY-10:00 A.M.

FESTAL HOLY EUCHARIST WITH SPECIAL MUSIC AND BRASS

IF YOU NEED A RIDE FOR ANY OF THE EVENTS, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH. WE HAVE PEOPLE READY AND WAITING TO OFFER RIDES.



*Bring your bells to ring during the Great Alleluias at the Easter Vigil!!!*

## COOK BOOKS



We still have centennial cookbooks for sale! Where else can you get a useful \$10 gift? Why not buy several and keep them on hand for those last minute occasions when you need a gift? Plus, the cookbooks reflect the wonderful heritage of our church. Remember, each adult member (male and female) is asked to buy at least two cookbooks to help raise money for the Living Stones campaign. By purchasing cookbooks, each of us takes an active role toward reaching the goals of making our church more accessible and of enhancing a sense of community at St. Andrew's. Visit the table in Byrne Hall and purchase yours today.

# ST. ANDREW'S BOOK CLUB

## 4<sup>TH</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 11:30, ANN BRUCE'S HOME

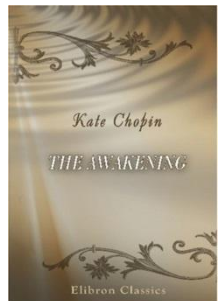
632 Coquinia Drive, Lynn Haven **Bring your lunch!**

### *The Awakening*

by [Kate Chopin](#)

*The Awakening* explores one woman's desire to find and live fully within her true self. Her devotion to that purpose causes friction with her friends and family, and also conflicts with the dominant values of her time.

Edna Pontellier's story takes place in 1890s Louisiana, within the upper-class Creole society. Edna, her husband Léonce, and their two children are vacationing for the summer on Grand Isle, an island just off the Louisiana shore near New Orleans. They are staying at a *pension*, a sort of boarding house where each family has their own cottage but eats together in a main dining hall.

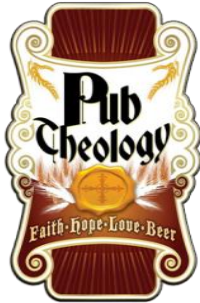


This story of a woman's struggle with oppressive social structures received much public contempt at its first release; put aside because of initial controversy, the novel gained popularity in the 1960s, some six decades after its first publication, and has since remained a favorite of many readers. Chopin's depiction of a married woman, bound to her family and with no way to assert a fulfilling life of her own, has become a foundation for feminism and a classic account of gender crises in the late Victorian era.

Chopin's novel arrived at a pivotal juncture in time: The roots of feminism had been established in the 1890s but the future of women's economic, political, and personal independence was far from determined. Just so Edna's life, which indicates the real possibility of a new independence but does not promise that such independence will be easily won or maintained.

*The American Cancer Society*  
*Greater Panama City Relay for Life*  
*May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> at Tommy Oliver Stadium*  
*Our own Ann Bruce, a member of St. Andrew's*  
*Assembly of God Team" will be walking and*  
*would appreciate your support!*

*Pub Theology*  
*Tomorrow*  
*Night*  
*6 p.m.*  
*"The Place"*  
*on Harrison*



*Bring a*  
*Bible-no*  
*experience*  
*necessary!*

*Please keep the following in your prayers : Louis, Ann, Maggie, Anne, Jerry, Jeremy, Patricia, Joe, David, Michele, Evan, Lauren, Wyn, Laurie, Bob, Sean, Jeanne, Irv, Bob, Peggy, Mary Jane, Pat, Matthew, Shawn, Charlie, Evan, Colleen, Jerry, Maggie, Kris, Mary, Kitty ,Patricia, Holly, Tiffany, Charlie, Lindsey, John, Bubba*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad; Jeff, Bowe, James, Andrew, Kenneth, Evan, Ryan, Joe, Nate, Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jason*