

"I am the vine, you are the branches; abide in me and you will bear much fruit." John 15:5



Vine & Branches

News from St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, 720 N. King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

**April
2009**

The Right Reverend
Robert L. Fitzpatrick
V Bishop of Hawaii

The Reverend
Jodene S. Hawkins,
Rector

The Reverend Imelda S.
Padasdao, Priest Associate

The Reverend Saimone
Lino, Diocesan Missioner

The Reverend Dr.
Gerald G. Gifford,
Rector Emeritus

The Reverend
Peter S. M. Fan,
Cantonese Language Priest

Hsiao Ying "Ajaon" Chen
Music Director

Marie Wang
Organist

Katherine Crosier
Parish Administrator
Graphic Design

Arleen Young
Senior Warden

Mark Anderson
Junior Warden

Preston Lentz
Secretary / Clerk

Bill Eng, Treasurer

Roy Chee, Assistant
Treasurer

Sue Yap, Contributor

Website:
www.stelizabeth720.org

Email:
stelizabethhawaii@gmail.com



Message from Mother Jodene *Aloha beloved in Christ Jesus,*

Jerusalem. City of David. City of the King of Kings, Jesus our Risen Lord. Perhaps you know that my first call as an ordained person was to serve in Jerusalem as Chaplain at St. George's College. I served until the beginning of the Gulf War and later returned to lecture in courses in Christian Pilgrimage and in Spirituality. My study leave and vacation this year will be in Jerusalem. The day **after** Easter at St. Elizabeth's I will be on my way to walk in the footsteps of Jesus again and to turn the pages of the Bible to deepen my knowledge of scripture, my life of prayer and my service for God. You will be with me in heart and mind, soul and prayers—at the Garden of Gethsemane, the site where church tradition remembers the Upper Room, the Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, and Golgotha and the Empty Tomb.



The Wailing Wall

What do we 'see' as we think of Jerusalem today? The Wailing Wall with pilgrims tucking their prayers on bits of

paper into the stone cracks—trusting those prayers will go straight to heaven? Do we see the golden Dome of the Rock—built upon the ancient Holy of Holies? Do we see Jews wrapped in prayer shawls, swaying and chanting prayers at the temple wall? Do we hear haunting sounds of a minaret at dawn, calling faithful Muslims to prayer? Can we imagine a heavy wooden Cross, carried by Christian pilgrims on the Way of the Cross, the Via Dolorosa, as they pray the Way of the Cross in almost every language of every nation.

There is a Hawaiian word **piko**, meaning 'navel'—a center. Jerusalem has been called 'the navel of the world,' **piko**—spiritual navel and center of the world. Jesus walked there, taught there, took on the 'powers that be' there. He died on the old rugged cross and His gravestone was rolled away there. Travelers to Jerusalem who are believers, doubting Thomases, questioners, seekers, atheists, agnostics and non-believers frequently come to Jerusalem wanting to know 'Is this really history? Could the story of Jesus still be filmed in Jerusalem? Even the first disciples wanted a 'see, touch, hear and Prove it to me! experience of Jesus after Jesus died and rose again.

What is there today? There is much there. And yes, some of the story's evidence is shrouded in mystery. There is Church tradition. There is historical, geographical and archeological evidence. This is so Episcopalian! We are a people of faith grounded in 1) Scripture (The Story), 2) Tradition (information our spiritual ancestors in faith have passed on to us, and 3) Reason (Episcopalians welcome information, thinking, study and discussion—we don't check our brains in at the door of a church or in our study.)



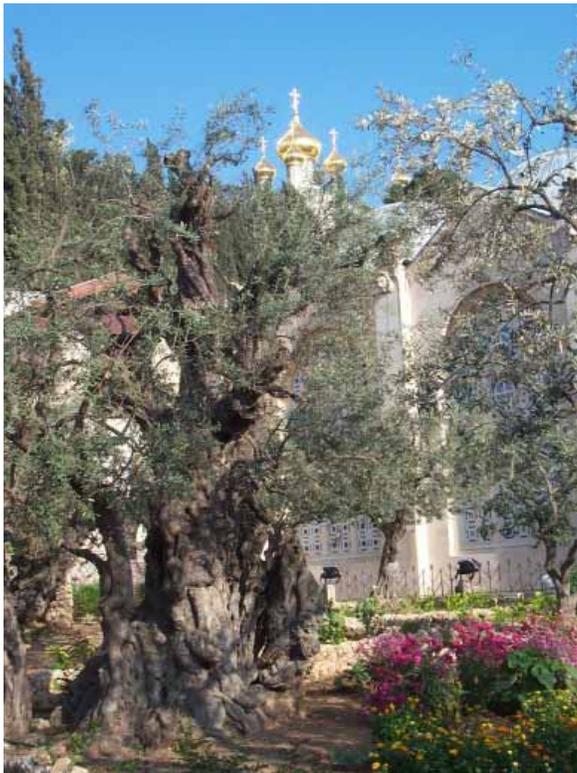
continued inside

Mother Jodene, cont.

We read in the Gospels that Jesus went **up** to Jerusalem. Jerusalem stands like a sentinel about 3000 ft. above sea level on ridge dividing the coastal plain and the Judean desert. Jerusalem lies **up** from the Jordan river, **up** from Jericho, **up** from the Kidron Valley. Today, at the edge of the Old City, ancient stone pavement where Roman soldiers of Jesus' day paraded and chariots rolled, is the very ground beneath ones feet. Today the paving stones are a walkway into the *souk* (marketplace/ alleyway), little changed. Israeli soldiers mingle with bargain hunters, tourists, and religious pilgrims. Women balance bulging baskets of olives, grapes, dates and figs upon their heads. The fragrance of cinnamon, cardamom, roasting almonds and mint mingle with the fragrance of flat bread rising out of burlap sacks born over donkeys' backs.

Jerusalem at work. Jerusalem going to prayer. Jerusalem living with a military presence occupying the city.

Two turtle doves perhaps can be bought today, but not for a sacrifice at a temple. The foundation stones of the temple still stand. The stone stairs where Mary and Joseph carried their baby into the temple can still be climbed. The view from the temple mount surveys the remnants of



the City of David, the Mt. of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane. Stone pavings laid by Herod the Great, still remains around the temple. Jesus likely striding over these stones—ready to throw over the tables of the moneychangers.

Bethany. The walking paths over the Mt. of Olives. All still there. Mary and Martha's house? The Upper Room? Lazarus' tomb?—Only church tradition and newer church buildings are memorial witness today. However,

Jesus' Palm Sunday route, though layered by the dusts of time over the Mt. of Olives is there, converging through stone gates into the thronging crowds of old Jerusalem.

Scripture, tradition and reason bear witness. And the people of God bear witness, too. Before 130 AD local people were telling Jesus' story and showing the Holy places to friends, family and visitors, including Jesus' birthplace in Bethlehem. Until about 66 AD followers of Jesus held worship and prayers at an old rock quarry. But, there was an emperor named Hadrian for whom the Jews and the followers of Jesus were a big problem. So to solidify his authority—he filled in the rock quarry site and the empty tomb site nearby with dirt and rubble, built his own temple, and another temple to the goddess Aphrodite. The site of the Old Rugged Cross was buried. The empty tomb covered with earth.

However, stories of truth are hard to kill. So when several emperors had died and the new emperor Constantine 'saw the light of Christ,' the old rugged Cross and Jesus' empty tomb became Constantine's quest. He ordered the two temples to be destroyed and the earth to be dug. Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea, an eyewitness, recorded this "At once, as layer after layer of the subsoil came into view, the venerable and most holy memorial of the Savior's resurrection, beyond all our hopes, came into view." Constantine built a church enclosing the remembered Golgotha, crack in the stone and all. The empty tomb was enclosed in the church. Countless Christians and tourists have come to this site since Constantine dedicated the church in 335 AD. The buildings of the church were ravaged many times by armies and others trying to



The Mount of Olives



Dome of the Rock.



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

Mother Jodene, cont.

destroy the story, but it was rebuilt and rebuilt. The steep stone steps to the top of Golgotha are worn concave by the footsteps of the faithful. Crosses are etched into the stone surrounding those stairs which pilgrims can trace like Braille with their fingers.

Candles still burn keeping vigil 24 hours a day around the tiny Chapel of the Angels that guards the entrance to the place where the stone was rolled away. If one is not the size of a young child, one must bend low, bow low, because the entrance to the empty tomb is designed to require everyone one—believer and non-believer alike—to humble themselves in memory of Christ humbling himself for us with his very life.

As you think of me in Jerusalem, Bible in hand, remember that Jerusalem never was and still is not a starry-eyed, Disneyland perfection, peaceful kind of place. It is old and it is real. But, Jesus loved Jerusalem. His Father's house was there—God's House of Prayer for all People.

So as I pray for you on my journey, pray, too as the Psalmist prays "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem, may they prosper, who love you." *Psalm 122*

Mother Jodene +



Gecko Reports

Joyce Wang was one of six Honolulu Symphony Associates Concerto Competition winners, and has been accepted at Oberlin Conservatory, Cleveland Institute of Music and Manhattan School of Music in New York City. Such fantastic choices! Congratulations.

Spring in the snow was the destination for **Patsy and Stuart Ching**, who visited with daughter/sister **Crystal** in Nevada.

The **Kleinschmidts** were busy spring break doing 'the college visitation' adventure with **Rebecca**.

Ajaon Chen, Joshua and Daniel traveled to Seattle for another swim meet for the boys. We hope they brought home ribbons and trophies as they often do!

Mission Possible is no longer meeting on Wednesday evenings at St. Elizabeth's. Our only food pantry is on Sunday mornings.

100th Anniversary of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, originally founded at St. Elizabeth's, will be held on April 25th. (Sorry, tickets have been sold out!) Congratulations!

Disciples Journey 2009 was attended by almost 200 Episcopalians from every island. Workshops, seminars, worship, singing, food and fellowship gave everyone new information and skills for growing our Episcopal churches. From St. E's attending were: **Arleen Young, Mother Jodene and Kit Hawkins, Lani Kaaihue, Charles Kokubun, Jerek Jong, Fr. Saimone, Fane Lino** and their children, **Joshua and Viliani**. Ask questions--they would be happy to share their experiences.



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Ron Morgan
Reprinted with permission



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
©Dennis Daniel
Reprinted with permission

Healthy Living Advice

from Mark Twain

"The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like, and do what you'd rather not."

Humor Pew

A Chinatown vegetable stand owner put up a sign: "Eggplant, 25¢ each – three for a dollar."

All day long, customers came in a bit upset: "Don't be ridiculous! I should get four for a dollar!"

The owner apologized and packaged up four eggplants for their dollar. The merchant next door who was watching all this finally asked the grocer, "Aren't you going to fix the mistake on your sign?"

"What mistake?" the vegetable stand owner asked. "Before I put up that sign, no one ever bought more than one eggplant."

A bank opened a new branch near a cemetery. In the window the president of the bank put this sign: "You can't take it with you when you go, but here's a chance for you to at least be near it."

A distraught senior phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the woman replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."



Happy Birthday

Concisa Bartoline
Fr. David Gierlach

Kenneth Nagamine

Santereen Kom

Juan Ramos

Alberta Eng

Ellen Tom

Belinda Chung

Craig Kokubun

Flora Wong

Gilbert Batangan

Joseph Tom

Lily Ho

Brillan Tulenkun

Michael Young

God's blessings on those with April birthdays.

Sharon Oshiro

Kalfred Yee

Walter Kau

Lauren Ho

Kit Hawkins

Puanani Woo

Young Organists Concert

The Third Annual Young Organists Concert will be held on **Saturday, April 25th, 7 pm** at the Lutheran Church of Honolulu, 1730 Punahou Street. Our own students, **Naomi and Joshua Yuen-Schat** (children of Ajaon Chen) will be performing in this free concert, in addition to **Christopher Lindsay** (harpist Melody Lindsay's brother). The program is a benefit for the Organ Scholarship Fund of the American Guild of Organists. Donations will be gratefully received.



Children enjoy brand new Sunday School Classrooms!



These two children are playing with puzzles in Ms. Jamie's room.

Thanks to all the volunteers who pitched in to make the classrooms so inviting.



Ms. Lisa-Anne Chan is explaining the 40 days of Lent on the church calendar.



Safety First! The children are following the safety flag while crossing the parking lot for Music Academy.

Children's Music Academy



In March, the Children's Music Academy sang "Jesus, I Love You," for the offertory.

Attendance March 2009

8:15 am Eucharist average	109
Cantonese language Eucharist	5
Ilokano - First Wednesday	12
Ilokano - First Sunday	58

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday, April 5

8:15 am

Procession with Palms in the Church
(no community Palm Sunday parade this year)

Easter Egg coloring after church in Shim Hall

Maundy Thursday, April 9

6:30 pm

Footwashing, stripping of the altar.
Holy Communion, Procession to the Altar of Repose

Good Friday, April 10

12:00 noon

Way of the Cross and communion from the reserved sacrament

6:00 pm

Shadows of the Cross. Kaumakapili Church Ecumenical Service

Easter Sunrise Service

April 12, 8:15 am

Fellowship Easter Potluck Brunch follows in Shim Hall
Holy Baptism: See Mother Jodene
Easter Egg Hunt for the children by the Cross on the lawn

Pidgin Psalms

Exciting Lent Learning Event

Rev. Canon Frank Chun and Dr. Joe Grimes (translators) had everyone engaged in learning, laughter, and discussion as the 23rd Psalm, Cursing Psalms and Psalm 22, the traditional Good Friday Psalm had new light shed upon their meaning through Pidgin, some folks' first language in Hawaii. Mahalo nui loa! There are already requests for a *hana hou!*



St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

720 N. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

A House of Prayer for all People

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
P A I D
Honolulu, HI
Permit No. 418

