

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LENT

The word “Lent” comes from the Old English word for “lengthen,” referring to the lengthening of the days during this time of year in the Northern Hemisphere. It is, therefore, a season that looks forward and points towards the arrival of more light, and a new season.

Lent as a spiritual season is meant to do the same. The Church offers this season as a time to take inventory-- of our relationship with God and with other people -- as we prepare for the great Christian feast, and season, of Easter.

The Lenten season lasts for 40 days, not counting the Sundays that fall within it. It draws upon the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness and, to a lesser extent, the 40 years the children of Israel wandered in the desert, and the 40 days and nights Noah and his family spent on the Ark.

The tradition of giving up something developed as a way to remember Christ’s sacrifice for us when we miss the thing we have given up. However, others take on some added discipline, perhaps something that we have felt we need (or have been called) to do.

CONFESION

Anglicans approach private confession in a classic middle way framed by the old adage, “All may; none must; some should.” Lent is a particularly appropriate time to consider private confession as part of one’s Lenten discipline and examination of life. If you would like to schedule an appointment for Confession, please contact any of the clergy. You can read over the rite for private confession in *The Book of Common Prayer*, beginning at p. 447.

LITURGICAL CHANGES IN LENT

On the First Sunday in Lent we will follow age-old Anglican tradition and pray the Great Litany, the first Christian worship service that was translated into English. Throughout the season we omit the ancient praise-shout “Alleluia” as a sign of solemn remembrance. Our liturgical color will change to purple, the traditional color of penitence, waiting, and expectation. We will make more space for silence in all of our liturgies, more of a time apart from our busy and often noisy lives.

LENTEN RESOURCES

“Lenten Resolves”: This pamphlet is available in the narthex of either Zabriskie or Immanuel Chapels for individual, private use, as a place to make notes and plan for observing this holy season mindfully and with intention.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES AT IMMANUEL

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I, Zabriskie Chapel

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II, Immanuel Chapel

With Godly Play for 3-7 year olds

Tuesdays: 10:00 am, Morning Prayer, Zabriskie Chapel

Wednesdays: 6:30 pm: Holy Eucharist Rite II, Zabriskie Chapel

Fridays: 8:30 pm: Compline, by Zoom



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LENT

AT IMMANUEL



February 26: The Rev. Dr. Rode Molla

The Rev. Rode Molla, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor, Berryman Family Chair for Children's Spirituality and Nurture at Virginia Theological Seminary. Dr. Molla's research and writing interests employ an interdisciplinary approach at the intersection of lived religion; the spirituality of children and families; postcolonial studies; political, intercultural, and postcolonial pastoral and practical theological methods, and critique of neoliberalism. Her most recent book is *Postcolonial Political Theology of Care and Praxis in Ethiopia's Era of Identity Politics: Reframing Hegemonic and Fragmented Identities*.



March 5: The Very Rev. Ian Markham, Ph.D.

The Very Rev. Ian Markham, Ph.D., has served as Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary since 2007. Before being called to VTS, he served as Dean and Professor of Theology and Ethics at Hartford Seminary in Connecticut and as visiting professor of globalization, ethics, and Islam at Leeds Metropolitan University in the United Kingdom. He also served on the faculty of Liverpool Hope University and the University of Exeter. A trained Christian Ethicist and Biblical Scholar, Markham is a prolific author and editor of numerous books, including *The New Apologetics: At the Intersection of Secularism, Science, and Spirituality*.

Walking the Walk: A Lenten Series

"Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us..." ~ Ephesians 5:2

It's clear, from both Scripture and Church tradition, that living the Christian life involves far more than gathering for worship on Sundays – vital as that is. Drawing on our historic partnership with the Virginia Theological Seminary, we will welcome five* members of the faculty who will talk about living the faith and walking the walk in many different parts of our lives. Each speaker will leave room for questions and discussion after his or her presentation.

(*At the printing of this brochure, the speaker for March 12 was still pending confirmation).



March 19: The Rev. Dr. Ruthanna Hooke

The Rev. Ruthanna Hooke, Ph.D., is the Associate Dean of Students and Associate Professor of Homiletics. She has been a member of the VTS faculty since 2003. Her areas of interest and research include comparative religion, the Divine-human relationship in preaching, embodied preaching, the performing arts, the Linklater Voice Method, and the philosophies of Kierkegaard, Barth, Levinas, Irigaray, and Derrida. Prior to coming to VTS, she served parishes in the Diocese of Connecticut and is currently Priest Associate at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill. A respected speaker and workshop and retreat leader, she is the author of the book, *Transforming Preaching*.



March 26: The Rev. Dr. Melody Knowles

The Rev. Melody Knowles, Ph.D., is the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Old Testament. She teaches courses on the religion of Israel, the Psalms, Hebrew, and the Bible in film. Prior to joining the VTS faculty in 2013, Dr. Knowles was a member of the faculty at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago from 1999-2013, serving as Associate Professor of Hebrew Scriptures. Her published works include *Centrality Practiced: Jerusalem in the Religious Practice of Yehud and the Diaspora in the Persian Period*.