

Subject: Time or Space?
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 1/6/2016 8:42:33 AM
To: "Larry" <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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St Francis



January 6, 2016

Time or Space?

*They shall bring gold
and frankincense,
and shall proclaim
the praise of the Lord.
Isaiah 60:1-6*

Jerusalem

The prophecy given through Isaiah cited above is one of the readings for the Feast of the Epiphany which we celebrate today. The content of the prophecy is about the city of Jerusalem. Much of it is about the nations coming to Jerusalem offering gifts and wealth to the city. Later we see what seems to be a fulfillment of this prophecy. There is one difference between the actual prophecy and its fulfillment. The kings and wealth come to Jesus soon after his birth not to the city of Jerusalem. This, of course, is the familiar story of the Magi visiting Jesus because they saw the rising of His star. There seems to be a shift going on between the time of Isaiah and the time of the birth of Jesus. What Isaiah says points to a place (Jerusalem). What happens later happens to a person (Jesus). That shift is very significant.

Time or Space?

We all have special places in our lives. Our home town, our schools, places where very significant events took place all bring us very fond memories. They are important to us. We also have special people in our lives. Some of them we see often, others we have not seen for years, and may never see again. They do, however, remain special people to us no matter where we are. Jesus is the One who is beyond any specific place, even sacred spaces. Jesus transcends all geographical boundaries. Wherever we go He is there. The mercy, power, love, grace, and provision that is His is also everywhere because He is everywhere. The discipline to which Epiphany calls us is to see Him everywhere. He is present even in the places we would not expect to find Him. We can look for Him and find Him even in the places we would be shocked to see Him. He is there before we get there. The flow of all history is not going ultimately to one place. It is going ultimately to one Person. We can engage with Him now wherever we are. We can ask Him to show us where He is wherever we go. Do you see Him right where you are right now?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, January 10, 2016 Worship at 10:00am followed by Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Pot Luck

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 Vestry Committee at 4:00pm

Sunday, January 17, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Our Missional Communities

The Parke outreach in January will be:

January 6, 2016 Color Me Friends at 6:30pm at St. Francis. Contact Carol Maher at carolsdream@gmail.com

January 13, 2016 Theology on Tap at 6:30pm at AJ's Brew House. Contact Richard Walker at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

January 13, 2016 Caregivers' Support Group at 7:00pm at the home of Hedy Walker. Contact Hedy at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Symphony will meet on January 24, 2016 at Symphony Manor at 9:00am.

Contact Bobbie Leviness at bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to go to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services

As We Pray:

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Double Ought Floors, John MacMillan, owner, that business would grow and be established in our community.

The Diocese of Virginia

Olivet, Franconia; St. Christopher's, Springfield; Christ Ascension, Richmond; Holy Comforter; Richmond; St. George's, Arlington; Trinity, Arlington

Metropolitan Richmond

For the elimination of discrimination in living patterns, public education employment, political jurisdiction. Transportation, and churches in Metropolitan Richmond

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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