



## Weekly Announcements

### February 24, 2021



Dear friends,

There is a heaping dose of irony this Lent in that the book I chose for our online Wednesday night conversations about faith is one about the dark - *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, by Barbara Brown Taylor.

You see, the word "Lent" predates the current Christian definition of the period from Ash Wednesday to Easter, coming to us from the Old English and Old High German, referring originally to springtime and the lengthening of days - when there was more light.

We typically define dark as bad, and light as good. Light versus dark is as old as time, and this dualistic way of thinking about our bodies and souls has led to schizophrenic ways of understanding our relationship with God, and to some church-defined heresies.

I intentionally chose this book because many of us have a rather negative view of Lent because of our church experience. From giving up chocolate, alcohol, Netflix, or any other addiction in between, we may berate ourselves to such a degree that we cannot lift our eyes to see the God who comes for us with the promise of new life and resurrection. Lent may be a downer. It's a tricky balance, this time between a necessary self-introspection, and living into the freedom and new life that comes from such self-examination and hard, interior work.

I invite you to a Holy Lent (I didn't really get to do this because of a power outage) with an invitation to join me and others in walking around in the dark over the next few weeks. You don't need to have read the book to join us! Come as you are!

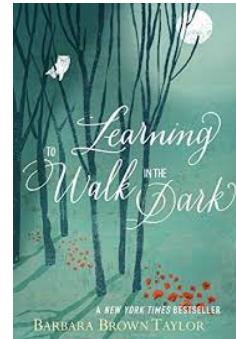
I have included a portion of Taylor's introduction below for such an invitation.

Faithfully yours,

Tim Heflin+  
Rector

**Lent - Online  
Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM  
February 24 and March 03, 10, & 17**

**Learning to Walk in the Dark**  
Barbara Brown Taylor



Join Fr. Tim & others via this ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85218338648?pwd=VUF5Ny9kbGZUTW11WTZMYVZkZDhPZz09>

Or call:  
1.312.626.6799  
and enter  
Meeting ID: 852 1833 8648  
Passcode: 1620



### Excerpt From *Learning to Walk in the Dark*

*Maybe you are a young person in deep need of faith right now, but the kind you inherited from your parents is not cutting it. You want something with a sharper edge, a keener sense of purpose. You want something that asks more of you than to sit and listen quietly while someone else tells you how to live. You know it's out there, but where? It may be time for a walk in the dark.*

*If you are in the middle of your life, maybe some of your dreams of God have died hard under the weight of your experience. You have knocked on doors that have not opened. You have asked for bread and been given a stone. The job that once defined you has lost its meaning; the relationships that once sustained you have changed or come to their natural end. Where will the wisdom come from? Not from a weekend workshop. It may be time for a walk in the dark.*

If you are my age, you are losing a lot more things than you once did - not just your keys and your vision, but also your landmarks and your sense of self. You are going to a lot more funerals now than before. When you read your class notes in the alumni news, they are shorter and nearer the top every time. You know full well where all this is heading, but you also know that you are not ready yet. So how are you supposed to get ready? What is the work you have left to do before you enter the Great Beyond? Clearly, it is time for a walk in the dark.

Barbara Brown Taylor

## Altar Flowers

A sign-up board to donate altar flowers in memory of others, or in thanksgiving for others, is in the Narthex for your convenience; you may also call or [email Rita in the church office to sign up](#). The requested donation for a Sunday is \$75.00.

Some of you have questions about memorials given for the burning of the sanctuary candle, above the tabernacle or aumbry. The burning of the sanctuary lamp in any church has historically been reserved to indicate and honor the presence of Christ, in the forms of consecrated bread and wine, rather than memorials in the name of others. In keeping with this tradition, we encourage you to consider honoring someone by donating to the Flower Guild! You can help make a beautiful space all the more spectacular as we offer something for the worship of God.



**February 28th  
2nd Sunday of Lent  
In-person Eucharist  
@ 10:30AM**

Nursery is provided!



Readings for the Eucharist  
can be found [by clicking here](#).



**February 28th  
2nd Sunday of Lent  
Online Evening Prayer  
@ 5:00 PM**

The order of service & readings  
can be found [by clicking here on our church website](#).

Led by Fr. Tim & Fred Alexius via this ZOOM link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86348984077?pwd=Zmg5RjVMVUt6Q3dhaU0zbUxMZ1p0Zz09>

Or call:  
1.312.626.6799  
and enter  
Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077  
Passcode: 1620

## Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

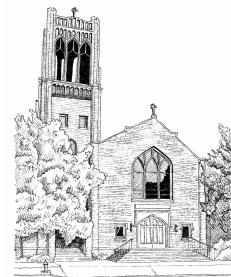
James Sinclair, Charlie Charrier, Janelle Hart, Alice Malone, Teddy Malone, Johnnie Hart, Jerry Neal, Emily, Taylor Thompson, Todd Fuller, Jane Y. Harris, Chase Barnfield, Jess Cook, Kip Hogue, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Janet Ahrens, Carl Ahrens, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Edna Schoolcraft, Karen Donahue, Jimmy Hurt, Charlotte Thrift, Mesta Bain, Margaret Broussard, Allie Bunyog, Karen Holt, Dean M. Tyree, Linda & John Bazer, Ron Kingston, Cecile Brunson, Felicia, Bill and Rita Clancey, Barry Mercer, Annie, Jackie Jeanne, Jaclyn Cutrone, Dietrich DeBoer, Beverly Butler, Bruce Gremillion, Murel Trimble, Charlie, Emily, Betty Anne Close, Janet Fuqua, Bill Leibke, Sarah, Jackie Moody, Henry Wells, Sarah, Amy Banks, Wayne and Barbara Moorehead, Pat Carter, Dr. Jack Jackson, Richard Norem, Kevin Hooter, Warren Paul, Timothy Futrell, Cindy Smith, Jane Tyson, Laura Waring, Gerard, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

Steven Rougeau, Steven Brevelle, Franklin Watson, Kyle Jordan, Gill Tatman-Tyree, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Steven P. Lemoine, Captain Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

**For those celebrating birthdays this month (day):**

*Carl Close (01), Sara Fuhrer (01), Brik Hazel (02), Morgan Brewer, (04), Emerson Milliner (05),  
Bruce Jordan (06), Chad Norton (06), Brooks Anderson (07), Pat Carter (10), Lawrence Searcy (12),  
Emma McCartney (15), Rita Clancey (19), Tommy Brasher (22), Henry Blake (23), Zoran Allen (24),  
Brady Brown (24), Bernard Parker (25), Lee Couvillon (26), Melanie Jurgensen (26),  
and Kyle McCall (28).*



[Visit our Website](#)

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