

# MARQUAND READER

Volume 11, Issue 4: Week of September 15, 2013  
The newsletter of Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School

## THIS WEEK IN MARQUAND

*Services begin at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome!*

Monday:	Taste and See
Tuesday:	A service of the Word. Preacher: Graduating student, Alanna Copenhaver
Wednesday:	Sung Morning Prayer – setting by John Tirro, M.Div., '09
Thursday:	A service of the Word: Dr. Robert Wilson Preaching
Friday:	A Service of Holy Communion. Preacher: Graduating Student, Tom Drobená Presider: Bishop Wilma Kucharek

### A week of Good Eating

“Between the onion and the parsley, therefore, I shall give the summation of my case for paying attention. [One’s] real work is to look at the things of the world and to love them for what they are. That is, after all, what God does, and [we were] not made in God’s image for nothing...” Robert Farrar Capon

This week’s services are based around the theme of food. Not just food as metaphor, but the joy of actual taste, food to remind us that both life and faith are physical, not esoteric, and the celebration – whether we have much or little – of the taste and smell and social context of good eating.

Good eating is not the same as fine dining. We live in a society that subtly encourages us to be both overfed and undernourished. Eating well doesn’t require us to eat expensively or luxuriously. It does invite us to slow down enough to taste simple daily food - a single slice of good bread, a freshly picked tomato. It leads us to make connections between our eating habits and the economics and ethics of where our food is grown. It leads us to cook and eat with our friends, sharing what we have to feed both body and soul. And all of these experiences bring richness to the moment when we share bread and wine and juice round a communion table.



### Monday: Taste and See

Today in Chapel we will explore the idea of the body, and the body of Christ. There is a physicality to faith that has always been central to orthodox Christianity, yet there has also been a recurrent tendency in Western culture to separate the body and the soul. How is faith embodied? How do mind, body, soul and spirit integrate? Today’s service calls us to focus all our senses more attentively: to taste, and not merely to eat; to see, and not merely to look.

Jon Seals continues painting in Chapel today. Three defenceless figures are emerging in his ongoing work, their exposedness opening them both to receiving and giving. The figures are lifted above the ground, suggesting that vulnerability leads us to transformation. Not only the painting itself, but the act of painting in worship is symbolic of this openness. The artist (who usually works in the safe seclusion of a studio) is visible and exposed as he works in public; this gives an implicit invitation to all

of us to be similarly open as we perform our worship. Worship, then, is a work-in-progress, a process not a product.

## **Tuesday: Table Manners: A service of the Word**

Tuesday, a service of the word with graduating student, Alanna Copenhaver, MDiv '14, preaching.

## **Wednesday: Sung Morning Prayer**

This week we will sing our “Tirro” setting again, composed and compiled by the Rev’d. John Tirro, (alumnus of Yale College, YDS, and the ISM), He currently serves as Pastor of Congregational Life and Campus Ministry at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Knoxville, Tennessee, and as chaplain of Tyson House, a joint Lutheran-Episcopal campus ministry at the University of Tennessee. Before entering YDS he was a successful songwriter in Nashville, and he brought that musical expertise to this joyful, contemporary setting of Morning Prayer, which he composed during his time at YDS.

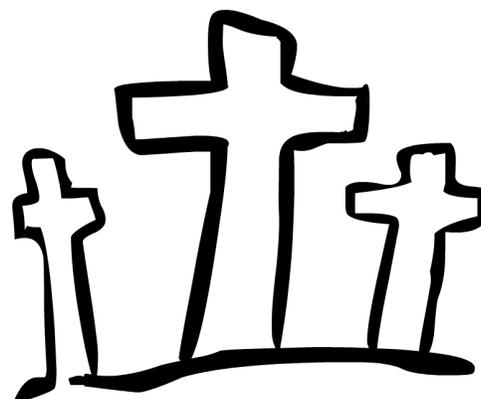
## **Thursday:**

**Dr. Robert Wilson**, the Hooper Professor of Religious Studies and Professor of Old Testament will be preaching on Jeremiah and the prophetic voice. Professor Wilson is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a denomination that has communion at every worship gathering. So, although this is not a communion service, it will make use of food to reflect on the idea of communion as a “table of promise” – thus revisiting the theme of the week.

## **Friday: A Service of Holy Communion**

“**Glory in the Cross**”. The cross of Jesus Christ has always been scandalous and difficult to face. The Apostle Paul called it a “stumbling block” for many, and even the disciples fled from it. Furthermore, the cross has been misused in ways throughout history to justify human suffering and oppression, or to paint a picture of a bloodthirsty Father God whose anger at sin can only be appeased by the abuse and sacrifice of his only Son. And yet, through contemplation of the cross, many people have found new life for themselves and the world. Martin Luther, the 16th century monk-turned-reformer, found in Christ’s cross the symbol of God’s deep love and grace for humanity. In the cross, God is revealed in a radically new light, for God is shown to identify with the weak and oppressed in the world. As James Cone

writes in *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, “the cross places God in the midst of a crucified people, in the midst of people who are hung, shot, burned, and tortured” (p. 26). The revelation of a crucified God gives Christians strength to speak truth to power. As Luther wrote in the Heidelberg Disputations, “a theologian of the cross calls the thing what it actually is.” In worship, we listen for this truth and grace of the cross anew. We sing praises to God, hear Scripture, join together in prayer, share a holy meal, and are sent to speak truth in the face of sin and oppression.



This service has been planned in collaboration with the Lutheran Student Organization. Thomas Drobenka, MDiv '14, preaches today, and Rev. Wilma Kucharek, Bishop of the Slovak-Zion Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), presides. Bishop Kucharek is Bishop of the Slovak Zion Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The Slovak Zion Synod was founded in 1919 by Slovak Immigrants, and joined the United Lutheran Church in America, remaining as a separate synod in that denomination. It is the only non-geographic synod with a purpose that has shifted away from descendance, to mission and outreach. In years past, we have proclaimed the love of Christ to our brothers and sisters overseas in Slovakia and Eastern and Central Europe during the oppressive period of communism, and today we are inspired by our past to fulfill God's work with our hands in the future wherever and whenever needed.

## A Word About Hospitality in Chapel

Please remember that many people must arrive late to chapel. To cause the least distraction to the worship environment, we ask that those of you who arrive with time to spare sit where you are comfortable but also consider sitting near the fronts of sections and also moving to the center of rows, so latecomers may take their places more easily. In addition, we ask that you not put your bags in adjacent chairs and instead leave them outside the chapel on the shelves in the narthex and outside the refectory.



We also request that no video or photographs be taken during chapel without the prior permission of the Dean of Chapel. Finally, as chapel is a place of community contemplation and focus, your electronic devices should be silenced and not used during services.

## Chapel Ministers

Our Chapel Ministers, Randall Spaulding, Joe Brewer, Porsha Williams and Katie McNeal, are working hard behind the scenes with the Chapel staff (Maggi, Christa and Brett) to draw together the voices of the community in worship. What does a Chapel minister do?

- Plans services, or is the team rep to collaborate with student groups, musicians and preachers to produce services.
- Learns liturgical skills: how to choose, write and perform in a variety of traditions, and how to draw the community into worship.
- Co-ordinates lists of volunteers, writes and assembles the Marquand reader, keeps Facebook up to date, gathers feedback from around the Quad.
- Meets with the whole team every week to pray, process what we have learned, plan for the future, and bring feedback from the community.
- Attends Marquand every day to set up, usher, give out bulletins, and often to step in at the last moment if someone offering a reading or prayer can't make it. Afterwards, tidies up, recycles paper, washes the dishes, and puts the Chapel and sacristy back in order.
- Carries out the invisible, background part of a service - the logistics and planning that people usually don't see. When a service seems effortless and natural, it's nearly always the case that the logistics have been planned and rehearsed relentlessly.
- Spends time in theological reflection with the Dean of Chapel. Liturgy and worship speaks theologically, not just through hymns and sermons, but through the shape and form of the service, the space we inhabit, the use of silence, the flow of music, and much more. Chapel ministers have the chance during the year to reflect theologically on how liturgy "speaks".

Do you have a suggestion, an encouragement for the team, or an impression of what you would like to see repeated, or something we haven't done yet you'd like to see? Let the team know! Randall, Joe, Porsha, Katie, Maggi, Christa and Brett are always happy to hear from you.

Are you interested in being a Chapel minister? Talk to our current team to find out what it's like. Recruitment takes place in April each year for the following academic year.

### *The Marquand Chapel Team, 2013-14*

Maggi Dawn	<i>Dean of Chapel</i>	Katie McNeal, Porsha Williams,	
Brett Terry	<i>Interim Director of Chapel Music</i>	Joe Brewer, Randall Spaulding	<i>Chapel Ministers</i>
Christa Swenson	<i>Liturgical Coordinator</i>	Knox Sutterfield	<i>Chapel Choir Director</i>
Mark Miller	<i>Marquand Gospel &amp; Inspirational</i>	Tripp Kennedy, Wesley Hall,	
	<i>Ensemble Director</i>	Patrick Kreeger	<i>Organ Scholars</i>