

Announcements

28 June 2026

Welcome! This morning, the Rev. LaRae Rutenbar preaches and presides. Our musician is Sal Page.

Spotlight on Hymnody: The hymn text “The church’s one foundation” was apparently born of a pastoral need. In the nineteenth century, a curate in Windsor, England, was concerned that his congregation did not understand basic Christian doctrine—so we wrote twelve hymns entitled *Lyra Fidelium* (“songs of faith”), based on the Apostles’ Creed. This hymn was originally published with a title, unlike most Anglican hymns. That title? “The Holy Catholic Church: the Communion of Saints. He Is the Head of the Body, the Church.” As to the church being torn apart by schisms, this was the curate’s reaction to the Colenso Controversy, which resulted in the founding of what we know today as the Lambeth Conference (when the Archbishop of Canterbury—who lives in Lambeth Palace, in London—invites bishops of the worldwide Anglican Communion to gather). For more on that controversy, see the reverse side of this sheet.

Who Knew? An excellent place to “surf” for information about the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion is found on the official web sites—episcopalchurch.org and anglicancommunion.org will give you more than you ever wanted to know! (And, remember, that’s the actual Anglican Communion, not the *Global* Anglican Communion.)

On Our Web Site (episcopalboyne.org), you can donate using your credit or debit card, PayPal, Venmo, or ACH transaction. You can even set these payments up to be made monthly. Yes, you can continue to write out a check and drop it in the offering plate—but you may find the online method easier. This is entirely free, although you do have to specify whether you wish to cover fees and if you wish to give an optional “tip” to the software vendor.

Thanks, in Part, to a Diocesan Grant, we are now on track to celebrate the Holy Eucharist every Sunday between now and the end of the year—with perhaps one exception (due to lack of availability of clergy).

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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrington Bates, *Priest-in-Charge*

Colenso Controversy: What’s That?

What today we call the Anglican Communion was not an official or formal entity until the first Lambeth Conference of 1867. The Archbishop of Canterbury at the time invited the bishops of the overseas provinces of the Church of England to his home in London, called Lambeth Palace. These included Canadians, Hong Kongers, and Australians (it was “the Church of England in Australia and Tasmania” until 1962!). He also invited the “daughter churches” of the C. of E.—those separate and autonomous churches that had, for one reason or another, split from the mother church. These include the Scottish Episcopal Church and our Episcopal Church here in the United States. To be a member of the Anglican Communion was to be “in communion with” the Archbishop of Canterbury, which means American clergy would be recognized as such in the Church of England.

John William Colenso (1814 – 1883) was a British cleric and mathematician, defender of the Zulu people, and a scholar of both the Bible and the Zulu language. Colenso’s early theological thinking was heavily influenced by the English theologian Frederick Denison Maurice (who is also a particular favorite of Father Barrie’s). Maurice was a “unitarian,” someone who believed salvation was universal, available to everyone.

A white Englishman born in Cornwall, Colenso served as the first Bishop of Natal, in South Africa. In that capacity, he published a treatise entitled *Remarks on the Proper Treatment of Polygamy* in 1855. You see, the Zulu—particularly their nobility—were polygamous. Plus, the prevailing view of the Church of England was that only monogamous Christians would escape eternal punishment, so the means of converting tribal people had a man divorce all but one of his wives. In a deeply patriarchal society, this left many women and their children homeless, penniless, and unprotected. His approach was, therefore, both pastoral and compassionate: baptize the entire household, insisting that subsequently only monogamous marriages would be permitted.

Isn’t it interesting to learn that, amidst our current disputes in Anglicanism, the very idea of the Anglican Communion was born in controversy?



Caricature of
Bishop Colenso
by Carlo
Pellegrini, 1874