

# Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School • 3152 Forest Lake Road,  
Pebble Beach • P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953  
831.624.1374 • email: citf@mbay.net • www.churchintheforest.org

Monday morning, November 20, 2017

Dear Friends,

John Donne, born in England in 1571, spent his youth in rebelliousness. Turning at last to God, Donne came to see himself as a prodigal saved only by grace.

In 1615 he became an ordained Anglican priest and poured his creative energies into sermons, rather than poems. During a near-fatal illness in the year 1623, however, Donne turned again to poetry. Each day, the bedridden clergyman heard from his window the church bells of London announcing that the Black Plague had taken more victims. Donne was convinced he, too, had the plague and would soon die (in his famous phrase, the person “for whom the bell tolls” was himself).

Here is an excerpt of his writings: “When your Son cried out ‘My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?’ You reached out your hand not to heal his sad soul, but to receive his holy soul. I see your hand upon me now, O Lord, and I ask not why it comes or what it intends. Curiosity of mind tempts me to know, but my true healing lies in silent and absolute obedience to your will, even before I know it.”

The fear that marked Donne’s darkest days helps us answer one of the toughest questions we can face, “In the midst of plague times, how can we give thanks?” With faith.

See you Sunday!

  
The Rev. Ken Feske

In this season of gratitude, please support the **Salvation Army** by ringing the bell at the Pebble Beach Post Office **beginning the day after Thanksgiving until December 23**. Shifts are from **10 AM–noon or noon–2 PM**. Judy Stayduhar will be taking sign-ups on Sundays during the coffee hour or you may call her at **905-2902** to schedule a time.

*Small Groups are gatherings where CitF members and new friends can explore questions of faith and deepen fellowship. These groups are open to visitors who wish to find out more and experience a meeting.*

- The *Small Group Bible Study* meets every **Sunday at 8:30 AM** in the Multi-purpose Room. This Sunday’s study: Psalm 23.  
**December 3** launches our new Advent study, “Preparing for Christmas: Daily Meditations for Advent,” by Richard Rohr. The entire congregation is encouraged to purchase this book and use it for daily devotions during Advent. The Advent Sermon Series, “Light in the Forest,” will be in dialogue with Father Rohr’s meditations. The book will be available for purchase at the church, or buy it at your favorite book seller.
- *The Small Group Study* led by the **Rev. Ken Feske** meets on the **third Tuesday of the month, 10:15-11:30 am**. The next location and topic to be announced.
- Are you interested in helping Pastor Joanne launch “*Soul Sisters Two*”? Our first *Soul Sisters* is fabulous but full. An organizing meeting for a new group was recently held. Please ask Pastor Joanne for more information.
- The *Men’s Small Group*, led by **Bob Axley** and **John Thorbeck**, will meet **Thursday, November 30, 10–11:30 AM**, in the Multipurpose Room.
- A *Small Group* for those who are grieving, led by the **Rev. Dr. Bill Rolland**, our minister emeritus and an expert in grief counseling, will meet **Thursday, November 30, 2–3:30 PM**, in the Multipurpose Room. Please call the office and let **Sherry** know of your attendance.

## Calendar

**Sunday November 26, 2017 — 25th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**8:30 AM** Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske  
Topic: Psalm 23  
**9:15 AM Chapel Concertino**  
**9:30 AM Morning Prayer**  
**Passages** Joshua 1:1-9; Psalm 23; Matthew 6: 25-34  
**Lector** Lettie Bennett **Crucifer** Leslie Mulford  
**Ushers** Bob Janzen and ???  
**Cookies** Arlen and Cindy Lackey  
**Flowers** Tom and Mary McCary  
**Altar Care** Martha Jordan and Sandy Rice  
**Sermon** The Rev. Ken Feske  
**Title** “Real Spirituality ~ A Sermon Series on Psalms”  
This Sunday: “Praying Through Fear”

**Music Box**

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

**David Dally, violin**  
**MPC String Quartet**

**Gretchen Taylor, violin**    **Wendy Street-Donagan, violin**  
**Rebecca Stone, viola**    **Vernon Brown, cello**

**Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ**

*CHAPEL CONCERTINO*

L'Inverno (Winter) from The Four Seasons.....Antonio Vivaldi (1685-1741)

- I. Allegro non molto
- II. Largo
- III. Allegro

Valse from Serenade for Strings Op. 48..... P. I. Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

La Primavera (Spring) from The Four Seasons .....A. Vivaldi

- I. Allegro

WINTER

- I. Shivering in the frozen snow and at the cruel blast of the biting wind.  
Stamping one's feet continuously and, because of the ceaseless cold,  
one's teeth chatter.
- II. Resting by the fire in peace and contentment  
while outside the rain pours down.
- III. Walking on the ice, cautiously at first for fear of falling.  
Then walking more boldly, slipping and falling down.  
Once again on the ice, walking with growing confidence until,  
finally, the ice cracks and breaks.  
Hearing, through the iron gate, the Sirocco, the Bora,  
and all the winds in conflict.  
This then is Winter, which, despite everything,  
also brings great pleasure.

—English translation of Vivaldi's sonnet by Simon Launchbury

*Melinda Coffey Armstead*



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