



St. David's

Episcopal Church and School

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*"While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."
Matthew 26:26*

October 2021

Dear Friend in Christ,

What a year of surprises and challenges we've had. This time last year, we were worshipping only on-line. Through God's grace we began meeting in person in April 2021 and on September 12 we held two worship services inside on Sunday morning! Seeing you all in person is balm for my soul. Our preschool has reopened, Sunday School outdoors is about to begin, and our youth ministry has new leadership and energy. We are truly blessed.

I'm grateful for the technology that has made connection possible. But I have missed you all, as you have missed one another, missed breaking bread, sharing the wine, being together in covenant community.

We have learned so much about what really makes us 'church' in this pandemic time. We have, like the communion bread, been broken open. We've found more resilience, agility and compassion than we imagined we had. Our ministries have continued - quilts made, prayers offered, our Men's fellowship growing, our outreach ministries feeding people who are hungry. We've also opened our eyes even more clearly to the needs of our brothers and sisters and siblings around us, and recommitted to continuing our baptismal covenant work of striving for justice and peace.

As we regather, I feel a sense of hope and enthusiasm that God is at work at St. David's, using everything we have learned to lead us into new, vibrant transformative ministry. **Like the communion bread, we have been broken open in grace and compassion to minister to a world so in need of love!**

In this exciting time to be church, St. David's needs your support to continue and grow our ministries of joyful worship, engaging outreach, lifelong learning and celebration of our covenant community. As we rebuild, our fixed costs remain. Please pledge. If you are already pledging, please increase your pledge. Your commitment is vital to us, especially now.

Over the next four weeks during worship, you will hear Ministry Moments about ministries that thrive at St. David's through our '**Broken Open**' story series. Your story is a vital part of the St. David's story. Join me as we, broken open, transform the world through Christ's love.

Blessings,

Rev. Mary Kay Brown