

From: Chris Webber chriswebber47@gmail.com
Subject: Did You Her That?
Date: June 3, 2020 at 1:56 PM
To:



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Make Us Channels of Your Peace

St. Francis Episcopal Church



June 3, 2020

Did You Hear That?

The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth . . .

Psalm 29:9

Do You Hear What I Hear?

It may seem strange during the first week of June to remember the Christmas carol "Do You Hear What I Hear?". It may seem even more strange to have that Christmas carol come to mind during a time when the word is caught in the hold of a pandemic, over 100,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. While the nation is seeing protests turn violent in our streets due to racist and ideological undercurrents causing great stress. Yet that Christmas carol was

ecological undercurrents causing great stress. Yet that Christmas carol was written in direct response to another time of great tension and crisis in our nation: The Cuban missile crisis. Just as the lyrics to this carol raised a question during the Cuban missile crisis so that exact question is before us today. Do you hear what I hear? Do you hear the voice of God in the middle of this crisis?

Hearing The Voice

The primary way of hearing the voice of God is listening for it. If you listen for the voices that agree with your voice you will hear those voices. If you listen for the voices that "egg you on" then you will be "egged on." If you listen for the voice of the Spirit of God then you will hear it. God wants us to hear that voice more than we do. There are two aspects (among others) of recognizing the voice of the Lord. We see them in the verse from Psalm 29 cited above:

1. "The voice of the Lord causes the deer . . ." we will be drawn to worship. A deer is often a symbol of a worshiper in Scripture.
2. ". . ." to give birth. New things will come from the voice of the Lord. The Lord creates by speaking (check Genesis Chapter 1). As you hear the voice of the Lord new capacities, innovations, and dreams will come to you.

What do you hear from the Spirit of God right now in the midst of this national crisis?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, June 7, 2020 - Worship via *zoom* 10:00 AM

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 - Vestry Meeting 4:00 PM

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Dollar General that employees and customers would be safe for the duration of this pandemic.

The Diocese of Virginia

For the people of St. John's, McClean; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; All Souls, Atlee that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Communion

For the people of the Diocese of Nevada (The Episcopal Church) The Rt. Rev. Dan Edwards; Alabama (The Episcopal Church) The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher



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