October Newsletter





Above: Pastor Meilner (Immanuel), Pastor Moore (St Martin's), Pastor Ryan Eden (Redeemer), Vacancy Pastor Morck (Redeemer), Rev. William FleschPastor Eden was installed September 15, 2019 to Redeemer.

The Office of the Holy Ministry has been instituted by Christ Himself as a gift to His Church (*John 20:19–23; Ephesians 4:11–16*). Through the Christian congregation, as the holder of all churchly authority, God calls qualified men to fill this divinely established office. Installation marks the beginning of a pastor's work in a particular place. The installation service reminds everyone that each person has a vital role to play as the church moves forward for the glory of Christ.





Passion Flower

The flower decorating the tables at the installation reception was a Passion Flower. It grows on a vine that clings by tendrils to almost any support. It can grow 5 to 20ft per year once established. This grows in the back of Redeemer cared for by Marvin Wolfmeyer who winters the plant.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, Spanish Christian missionaries adopted the unique physical structures

of this plant, particularly the numbers of its various flower parts, as symbols of the last days of Jesus and especially his crucifixion:

- * The pointed tips of the leaves were taken to represent the Holy Lance.
- * The tendrils represent the whips used in the flagellation of Christ.
- * The ten petals and sepals represent the ten faithful apostles (less St. Peter the denier and Judas Iscariot the betrayer).
- * The flower's radial filaments, which can number more than a hundred and vary from flower to flower, represent the crown of thorns.
- * The chalice-shaped ovary with its receptacle represents a hammer or the Holy Grail
- * The 3 stigmata represent the 3 nails and the 5 anthers below them the 5 wounds (four by the nails and one by the lance).
- * The blue and white colors of many species' flowers represent Heaven and Purity.

The flower has been given names related to this symbolism throughout Europe since that time. In Spain, it is known as *espina de Cristo* ("Christ's thorn"). German names include *Christus-Krone* ("Christ's crown"), *Christus-Strauss* ("Christ's bouquet"), *Dorn-Krone* ("crown of thorns"), *Jesus-Leiden* ("Jesus' passion"), *Marter* ("passion") or *Muttergottes-Stern* ("Mother of God's star").

