

WELCOME TO
ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PARISH IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

10:30 A.M.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are welcome!

Whether you are a guest or a long-time member, we are blessed by your presence today.

Children are most welcome and always celebrated as a part of our church community. Nursery care is available during worship for children 0 - 4 years old in "The Children's Space," first floor, Parish Hall building. Children's Church is offered for children 4 years old - elementary. We gather in the rear of the church and process to the Parish Hall for a lesson and activity, returning to worship at the Peace. Our trained staff and volunteers lead both of these ministries. The Parish Hall is also home to nursing and changing facilities and a comfortable, quiet space (St. Agnes room). Please ask an usher or greeter if you need assistance finding any of these locations.

Restrooms are in the hallway on the Church Street side of the building - exit through the Baptistry, turn left at the end of the ramp and then left at the sidewalk that runs alongside the church.

If you are visiting today, please complete a Guest Card (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate.

May the God who brought you here today bless you throughout the coming week.

The Rt. Rev. William O. Gregg, Ph.D., *Interim Rector*

VI Bishop of Eastern Oregon, res.

Assistant Bishop of North Carolina, ret.

The Rev. Bonnie Duckworth, *Deacon & Coordinator for Older Adult Ministry*

Stephen Williams, *Director of Music Ministry*

Caroline Stephenson, *Parish and Family Ministry Coordinator*

Jessica Moorman, *Parish Administrator*

Lynn Frick, *Director, The Children's Space*

Come and See
the difference Christ makes



THE WORD OF GOD

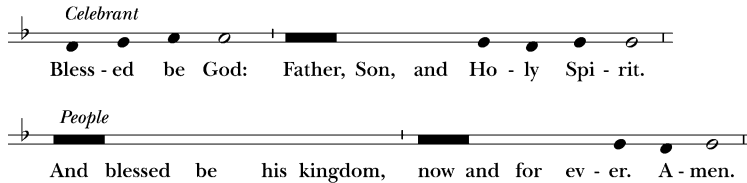
VOLUNTARY

All glory be to God on high

Aivars Kalējs

HYMN IN PROCESSION #473 Lift high the cross

Hymnal 1982



Book of Common Prayer, 355

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

GLORIA S-280

Sung by all.

Hymnal 1982

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Please be seated.

Ezekiel 33:7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 149

chant, Henry Smart

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; *

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people *

and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *

let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat *

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations *

and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains *

and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *

this is glory for all his faithful people.

Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

Please stand, as able. Sung by all.

#674 Forgive our sins as we forgive

Hymnal 1982

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Please be seated.

The Rt. Rev. William O. Gregg, Ph.D.

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand, as able.

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please remain standing or kneel.

Deacon: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Intercessor: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for our global companion, the Bishop James Hannington Memorial Cathedral in Mumias, Kenya, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially +Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; +Sean, our Presiding Bishop; +Samuel, our Diocesan; Jennifer, our Assistant Bishop; +Joseph, Bishop of the Diocese of Mumias, Kenya; +William, our Interim Rector; and Bonnie, our Deacon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Ethel, Martha, Harper, Lisa, Jane, and Yo; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[Silence, after which the Celebrant adds a concluding collect.]

A PRAYER FOR THE CALLING OF OUR NEXT RECTOR

Gracious and loving God, who calls faithful leaders and has blessed St. Luke's with gifts of love, compassion, diversity, fellowship, inspiring liturgy, and historic spaces within which to worship: Send your Holy Spirit to guide us in our discernment as we seek the one you are calling to be our next rector. Continue to form us through intentional worship, empower our efforts in becoming your beloved community, and keep your abundant grace always before us. In the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

BCP 820

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Please kneel, as able.

BCP 359

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence.*

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION *Please remain kneeling.*

THE PEACE *Please stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS *Prayed by all.*

Those celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary in the previous or coming week are invited to come forward for a prayer. It is customary, but not at all required, to put an offering in the silver vessel when coming forward. Some choose to put an amount symbolic of the number of years being celebrated.

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Guest Information cards (found in the pew racks)
may be placed in the offering plate or given to the clergy after church today.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Gifts to support the ministries of St. Luke's may be placed in the Offering Plate or given online at
www.SLS.church/give*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God Calls Us All

Mark Burrows

*One day God called Jeremiah when he was just a kid. But Jeremiah
felt unworthy: he nearly ran and hid. 'Til God said, "Do not be afraid,
for I will be with you. I'll help you know what words to say, I'll show you
what to do." He was called, just the way he was, he was called.*

*Mary and her sister Martha were at their house one day, when Jesus
came and Mary listened to what he had to say. But Martha cooked and
ran about, she thought her way was best, 'til Jesus calmly called to
her to sit and learn and rest. They were called, just the way they were,
they were called. At one time or another, God calls us all!*

(from the musical "Called" by Mark Burrows)

St. Luke's Choristers

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn #380, verse 3 *Please stand, as able. Sung by all.*

Hymnal 1982

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

Please remain standing.

BCP 367

SURSUM CORDA S-120

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Please remain standing or kneel.

The Celebrant continues: We give thanks to you, O God ...

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues... all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM S-155*Sung by all.**Hymnal 1982*

All baptized persons are most welcome to receive Communion with us, regardless of the tradition in which you were baptized. If you do not wish to receive Communion or if you are not baptized, you are invited to come to the Altar for a blessing. To indicate that you want a blessing, place your arms across your heart.

COMMUNION HYMN #577 God is love, and where true love is
 Anthem A Chorister's Prayer

Hymnal 1982
 Bruce Neswick

*Bless, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple;
 grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our
 hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show
 forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER Please stand or kneel.

BCP 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

THE BLESSING
HYMN IN PROCESSION *Sung by all.*

#347 Go forth for God, go to the world in peace

*Hymnal 1982***THE DISMISSAL**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Venus Toccata

Carol Williams

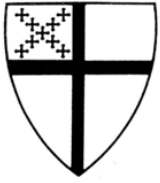
Servers	<i>Today</i>	<i>Next Sunday</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	Andy and Susanna Lund, Pennie Martin, Bob Setzer, Erik Lipscomb	Will Goodnight, Stewart Ash, Tyler Speir, Sandy Goodman
<i>Greeter</i>	Andy and Susanna Lund	Will Goodnight
<i>Emergency Response</i>	Pennie Martin	Stewart Ash
<i>Lectors</i>	Ruby Corriher, Dick Martin	Kathy Carter, Jane White
<i>Chalicians</i>	Penny Roemer, Ray Swann	Pati Carter, Bain Jones
<i>Intercessor</i>	Mary Ann McCubbin	Penny Roemer
<i>Verger</i>	Ray Swann	Davis Cooke
<i>Acolytes</i>	Nicholas Eppenhimer, Ruby Corriher, Emma Stephenson, Ingrid Jacobson	Ray Swann, Pierce Ellis, Sawyer Jacobson, Duncan Griffith
<i>Choir</i>	St. Luke's Choir, St. Luke's Choristers	St. Luke's Choir
<i>Nursery</i>	Katie Leckonby, Tory Curran	Katie Leckonby, Cris Leckonby
<i>Children's Church</i>	Caroline Stephenson, Andrew Jacobson	Caroline Stephenson, Danielle Corriher
<i>Wednesday Server</i>	Reg Boland	Ray Swann
<i>Vestry Deposit</i>	Kathy Carter, Sarah Wooten	Ray Swann, John Cowan
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Pati Carter, Terry Courtemanche, Trudy Thompson	Pennie Martin, Anne Scott Clement, Lisa Godbey

Eucharistic Candles given by: Pennie and Dick Martin in memory of Mr. and Mrs. James G. Beaver, Rev. and Mrs. Richard S. Martin

Office Candles given by: Jamie and Susan King in memory of McRay and Sue Robinson, Julia Greene King

Sanctuary Lamp given by: Marilyn King in memory of William Sturges Bryan, Sue Sample Bryan, James Blount Bryan, Dr. Rowland R. King, H. Blount and Annette S. Bryan, Norman L. and Marie W. Bailiff

Altar Flowers given by: Susan & Bill Kluttz in memory of Sara Whittle Kluttz, William Clarence Kluttz, Susie Hester Wear, John Edmund Wear



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Established 1753

A Parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

131 West Council Street Salisbury, NC 28144

Phone: 704-633-3221 / www.SLS.church / @stlukessalisbury



PARISH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

2026: Kathy Carter, Tyler Ellis (Jr. Warden), Andrew Jacobson, Jane White (Sr. Warden)

2027: Penny Roemer, Ray Swann, Brian Whitson, Sarah Wooten

2028: David Cline, John Cowan, Mary Ann McCubbin, Luanne Short

Parish Officers: Davis Cooke (Secretary); Will Goodnight (Treasurer); Chip Short (Chancellor)

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