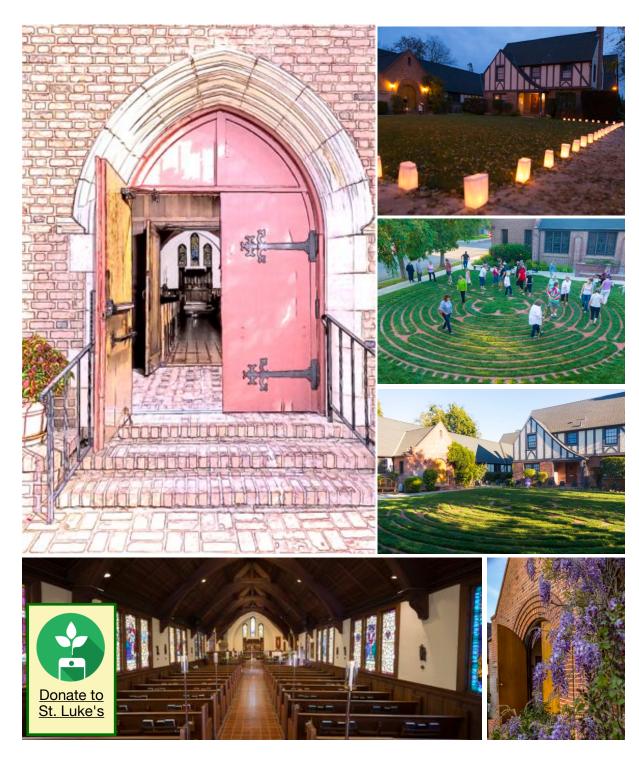
Digital Worship: Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost Sunday, November 8, 2020







Adapted from Daily Morning Prayer, Rite Two

Hymn #680

O God, Our Help In Ages Past

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Psalm 43:3

Collect of the Day

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Altar flowers this morning were provided by Tom Eaton

Amen.

Confession of Sin

Officiant and People together.

The Officiant says to the people
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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*.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen*.

Transition Collect

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Luke's Church. Be with us in this season of transition. Walk with us and guide us that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, and daring in our faith. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Help us accept change as a gift of your direction for our journey in this transition. Instill in us a vision for our parish; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The Lessons

A Reading from Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah

and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; * incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
 I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, * we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, * and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, * which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; * that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, * and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from

heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn #435

At The Name Of Jesus

The Gospel According to Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Here ends the reading.

The Sermon, The Rev. Carren Sheldon

The Nicene Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The People stand or kneel
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

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.

The Prayers of the People

Deacon or other leader

With all our heart and mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Hear our prayer."

Let us pray for God's people across the world. God of love Hear our prayer

Let us pray for the Earth that we may treat her gently God of love Hear our prayer Let us pray for our family, our friends, and our neighbors. God of love *Hear our prayer*

Let us pray for those who are sad, or scared, or suffering God of love Hear our prayer

Let us pray for those who have died. God of love Hear our prayer

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen*

Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

The Officiant then concludes with:

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

Hymn #490

I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light

Postlude: Alleluia!

Andrew Fletcher

Announcements

Safe Coffee Hour

This Sunday, 11/8, 11:45am-12:45pm, St. Luke's Labyrinth In an effort to address our mutual need for face to face greeting, while still adhering to safe social distance health guidelines you are invited to a Safe, Bring you own Coffee, Mask required, Socially distanced Coffee Hour. Please show up with your own coffee and snacks. There will be a 6-foot distancing measurement device available. Consider yourself invited, please spread the world to those who do not receive this email notice. Questions? Contact Bruce Watts.

Would You Like to Contribute to our Digital Sunday Services?

We would like to expand our digital Sunday services to include digital altar flowers and digital coffee hour. If you are able, we would love to see photos from your garden or a favorite recipe you'd be willing to let us post. Email contributions to Shannon at swingbug@mac.com. If you haven't had a chance to check out our digital services yet, please join us on Sunday morning at http://www.stlukeswoodland.org/celebrate/sermons/ Our services are archived on our website so you can tune in whenever you like.

Donating to St. Luke's

If you are looking for a way to pay your pledge while we are not able to gather, we suggest you use Tithely, available via our <u>website</u>. If you need help with Tithely, you can contact Karen Poquette at <u>kpandsp@pacbell.net</u>. You can also just mail a check to the office if you're more comfortable with that.



Weekly Church Events You Can Attend Digitally (all events currently offered on Zoom)

- Monday 5pm: Book Study
 Currently reading "The Wisdom Jesus" by Cynthia Bourgeault, and starting in September, "Joy Unspeakable" by Barbara A. Holmes.
 Please contact Mairic James to join: metamairic@gmail.com or (617) 435-6597
- Wednesday 7pm: Bible Study
 Beginning May 12th, A Journey with Matthew: The 50 Day Bible
 Challenge. Please contact Margaret Wisehart to join:
 margaretwisehart@yahoo.com
- Wednesday 3:30pm: Book Study
 Please contact Barbara Shreve to join: <u>barb.shreve@gmail.com</u>
- Thursday 6:30pm: Queer Alliance
 St. Luke's welcomes sisters, brothers and non-binary Queers in search of a faith community that supports everyone's unique path on the spiritual journey. Please join us for our weekly Zoom gatherings Thursdays at 6:30 PM by emailing Mairic at Metamairic@gmail.com.
- Saturday 4pm: Centering Prayer
 We'll gather, sit together in Centering Prayer for 20 minutes, watch a video, or hear a reflection and then discuss. Please contact Mairic James to join: metamairic@gmail.com or (617) 435-6597

Additional Groups

- Becoming the Beloved Community Racial Reconciliation, 4th Tuesdays at 6:15 pm
 - Contact LeAnn at leannherig@gmail.com
- Micah Forum, 2nd Tuesdays at 6:00 pm Contact LeAnn at leannherig@gmail.com

- Daughters of the King, Second Saturday at 9:30 am Contact Barbara Shreve at barb.shreve@gmail.com
- Resource Navigators, First Monday at 3:30 pm Contact Loran Vetter at lfvetter@sbcglobal.net

Do you participate in a regular online meeting at the church not listed here? Email Shannon for inclusion in the calendar at swingbug@mac.com