Promises: God’s and Ours

Baptism marks the beginning of the Christian life, a sign of our adoption into the promises of God. Martin Luther, the German reformer, said that baptism is a ceremony that takes only a few moments to do but your whole lifetime to finish. In fact, Luther said that whereas St. Paul says that in baptism the old Adam is drowned so that the new Adam might be born, “The old Adam is a mighty good swimmer.” Therefore, every morning I must wake up and receive afresh the grace of God that I began to receive in my baptism. Every morning I must wake up and say to God, ‘Continue putting the old me to death so that the new me might arise.’” In other words, our baptism, signifying our relationship to God in Christ is never a possession. It is always a gift—a gift of God’s grace. Our awareness of this divine gift gives birth to gratitude in our heart, graciousness in our actions, and generosity in our giving.

In baptism, God declares His promises to us. As a faithful response, in baptism we declare our promises to God----I promise to faithfully participate in the ministry of Christ with my (1) prayers (2) presence (3) gifts (4) service (5) witness. Our relationship with God is a covenant of promise.

This Sunday, as we remember the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17), I want to share with you an encouraging word entitled: Promises From the Font. Through these promises we discover what it means to be the body of Christ in this world and the blessing of being members of it.

I look forward to seeing you Sunday as we remember our baptism and give thanks to God.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com
January 12, 2020

Baptism of the Lord

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Color: White

Prelude....................... “Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came, BWV 684” ...................J.S. Bach

Welcome and Opening Prayer.......................................................Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess

*Hymn............................................. “Fairest Lord Jesus” .................................Number 189

*The Affirmation of Faith.............. “The Apostles’ Creed”........................................Number 881
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick*** and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic*** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father).......................................................Number 70
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

**Anthem (Chancel Choir)............. “Praise the Lord, O My Soul” .................Benjamin Harlan

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer........................................................Rev. Brett Maddocks

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, forever.

Choral Prayer Response (11:00 a.m.)...... “Dresden Amen” .........Johann Naumann

The Written Word.....................................................Matthew 3:13-17 (p. 3, NT in pew Bible)

The Spoken Word.............. “PROMISES FROM THE FONT” .............Rev. Robert Beckum

*Hymn............................................. “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” .................................Number 334

The Benediction.................................................................Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (11:00 a.m.)...... “Sevenfold Amen” ...............John Rutter

Postlude.............................. “O For a Thousand Tongues” ..............Improvisation

*Standing as able ** Music Box *** quick means “living”; catholic means “universal”

WELCOME VISITORS: We are glad to have you with us today! If you have any questions or need assistance with anything, please ask a church greeter or any member of the church staff. For more information about St. Luke, contact Brett Maddocks or any of the pastors at 706-327-4343 or bmaddocks@stlukeum.com. Thank you for blessing us with your presence.
WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER - January 15
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The serving line is open until 6:30 p.m. Please make or cancel reservations by using the form below, by e-mailing jwidener@stlukeum.com, or by calling 706-256-1017 before Monday noon.

Menu: Fried chicken, fried shrimp, green beans, cheese grits, salad, rolls and assorted desserts.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Adults ($7.00) __ Children ($3.00) __________ Daytime Phone: _____________________________

Email: _____________________________________________________________

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, January 12
8:30 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service (LD, MIN)
9:30 a.m. Meet and Greet (Parlor, Main)
9:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School/Youth Sunday School Assembly (The Corner, MIN)
10:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School (The Corner, MIN)/College Small Group (College House)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary, Main)/Broadcast over WLTC 103.7 Lite FM and at www.stlukeum.com beginning at 11:00 a.m.
12:20 p.m. Worship in Spanish (Chapel, Main)
1:40 p.m. Hispanic Sunday School Classes and Fellowship (Stockwell Hall, Main)
5:00 p.m. St. Luke Academy (Meeting Room, MIN)
11:30 p.m. Pre-recorded broadcast of The Nine Worship Service, WTVM Channel 9

Monday, January 13
9:00 a.m. SLS Geography Bee (LD, MIN)
12:00 p.m. SLPA Leadership Meeting (Meeting Room, MIN)
5:30 p.m. Basketball Game - SLS/Brookstone (Gym, MIN)

Tuesday, January 14
7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study (SD, MIN)
9:30 a.m. Women in the Word (Meeting Room, MIN)
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
10:30 a.m. New Beginnings Meeting (Room 110, Main)
11:30 a.m. RFTS Fundraiser Luncheon (LD, MIN)
4:00 p.m. SLS Finance Committee Meeting (Conference Room, Main)
6:30 p.m. Bible Study Fellowship (Ministry Center)
7:00 p.m. Hispanic Bible Study (Room 110, Main)

Wednesday, January 15
8:35 a.m. SLS Chapel 4th-8th Grades (Sanctuary, Main)
9:10 a.m. SLS K-3rd Chapel (Sanctuary, Main)
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
10:15 a.m. Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary, Main)
4:30 p.m. College House Wednesday Small Groups (College House)
5:00 p.m. Hand Bell Rehearsal (Hand Bell Room, Main)
5:30 p.m. WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER (Stockwell Hall, Main)
6:15 p.m. Cub Scouts (Stockwell Hall, Main)
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary, Main)
8:00 p.m. College House (College House)

Thursday, January 16
10:00 a.m. On-Site Respite (1021 Third Ave.)
12:00 p.m. Free College Lunch (College House)
1:00 p.m. SLS Staff Budget Meeting (Conference Room, Main)
3:30 p.m. SLS Intramural Games (Gym, MIN)
7:00 p.m. Hispanic Praise Team Rehearsal (Chapel, Main)

Main (Church Building/Sanctuary), MIN (Ministry Center). Contact the Ministry Center for information about renting or reserving rooms, 706-256-1017.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER - January 15
WORSHIP IN SPANISH: 12:20 p.m. worship in Chapel, Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess, Palabra Hablada: “Nuevo Comienzo, Bautismo por el Agua y el Espíritu.” Palabra Escrita: Mateo 3:13-17.


ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Clarence Butler by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Butler and Mr. and Mrs. Al Ramsay.

OPEN FLOWER DATES: Please contact Maggie Roberson at maggie@stlukeum.com to reserve available dates, January 26, February 16, March 1, 8, 22, and 29.


The S.A.W. (Servants At Work) Ministry is looking for twin and double beds, chests of drawers and household furniture you may want to donate. Generally, these items will be used in apartments and rental units for families who, many times, have been without beds, chairs and other household items. Please contact Lee Myers, Richard Jarboe or the church office at 706-327-4343 if you have items that may be of service to this ministry.

THE MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND assists six students from the Schwob School of Music with expenses related to their study of music. All of these students sing in our Chancel Choir at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and are a vital part of the Music Ministry. Please consider supporting the Music Scholarship Fund so that St. Luke can continue to assist these students with their music education. Donations can be placed in the offering and marked ‘Music Scholarship’.

The Music Ministry welcomes new vocal and instrumental members throughout the year. No auditions are required. Please contact Marc Boensel at the e-mail address above or at 706-256-2682.

Announcing the new Masterwork Chorale. The Masterwork Chorale will rehearse the Rutter “Requiem” that the Chancel Choir will present on Good Friday, and join the choir for this event. Rehearsals will take place after church on Sunday afternoons at 12:15 p.m. beginning on March 1. For more information, contact Marc Boensel.

Today’s Anthem: “Praise the Lord, O my soul. He gives us all good things. Praise the Lord, rejoice this day! Who forgives our sin? Who heals us from our sickness? Who redeems us from death? And crowns us with His love? Let all that is within me praise His name! Come to Him you who are weary, come to Him you who are burdened. In Him you’ll find rest for your soul.”


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HOW DO I JOIN THE CHURCH?

You may become a part of the St. Luke family of God in one of the following ways:

1. If you have never joined a church before, you may become a member by profession of faith in Jesus Christ and by being baptized. If you have already been baptized (as a child or as an adult) in a Christian Church, your baptism is recognized by St. Luke United Methodist Church. You will be asked to uphold St. Luke church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

2. If you are a member of another United Methodist Church or another Christian denomination, indicate to one of the pastors that this is your desire. St. Luke will then transfer your membership.

3. If you have any questions about faith in Christ, about United Methodism in general or St. Luke in particular, please ask one of the pastors!

Music Box

Dr. Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, mboensel@stlukeum.com

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JOIN US FOR A DAY TRIP TO LAGRANGE, GA TO VISIT THE BIBLICAL HISTORY CENTER
Tuesday, January 28, 2020
Meet at church at 8:30 a.m.
Leave at 9:00 a.m.
Cost: $40
Includes: Transportation, Entry to Gardens, Gallery and Lunch
For reservations contact Kym at 706-327-4343 or email kym@stlukeum.com
Space is limited to 55 people, Reservations due by January 21, 2020
Your Check reserves your spot!
ABiding Gifts

If you wish to honor or remember someone, please attach to your check the name of that person and the address to which you wish the acknowledgement sent and mail or bring to the church office. Contact maggie@stlukeum.com.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. Jean Amos by Mr. and Mrs. Ben McElreath, Mr. and Mrs. James McVay and Mr. and Mrs. Joel O. Wooten. In memory of Mr. Charles E. Hall, Sr. by Mrs. Sally Hall. In memory of Mrs. Susan Martin by Mr. Pete Robinson, Ms. Irene Lindeman, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brasher, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Kenimer, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Passailaigue, Jr. In memory of Mr. Gordon “Butch” Estes by Ms. Lynn Hunter Grierly and Dr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Page. In memory of Mrs. Sara Lou Yarbrough by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Amos. In memory of Mrs. Jane Loflin by Mr. and Mrs. Dick Childs. In memory of Clara Sue McVey, Religious Educators and dedicated SS teachers in the 1950’s and 1960’s by Mary Carlton Lull. In memory of Mr. Larry Neal by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Flowers.

Food Pantry: In memory of Mr. Larry Neal and Mr. David Cartledge by Mr. and Mrs. Joel O. Wooten. In memory of Mrs. Arlene Newton by Mr. and Mrs. William Montgomery. In honor of Mr. Jack Thomas by Mrs. Mary Bass. In memory of Mrs. Martha Cunningham by Mr. Billy Cunningham. In memory of Mrs. Susan Martin by Rev. and Mrs. Mike McAfee. In memory of Mrs. Jean Amos by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Chobotiuk.

Samaritan Fund: In memory of Mr. Gordon “Butch” Estes and Judge E. Mullins Whisnant by Mr. and Mrs. Joel O. Wooten. In honor of Mrs. Annette Pollock by Mr. and Mrs. Don Williams. In memory of Rev. Gaston Pollock by Mr. and Mrs. Duke Walsh. In honor of Bishop and Mrs. James King by Mrs. Linda Edwards Randall.

Naomi’s Village: In memory of Mrs. Martha Cunningham by Mr. and Mrs. Jay Sparks and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Amos. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Newman by Rev. and Mrs. Mike McAfee.

Music Fund: In honor of Dr. Marc Boensel and Mr. Ken Bailey by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Boers.

Music Scholarship Fund: In memory of Mr. David Cartledge, Mr. Larry Neal, Mrs. Jean Amos, Mrs. Martha Cunningham, Mr. Gordon “Butch” Estes and Mrs. Susan Martin by Dr. and Mrs. Brian McCluskey.

Bereavement Ministry: In honor of Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess, Rev. Dr. José Resto, and Dr. David Lewis by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

St. Luke School: In memory of Johnson Yarbrough by Mr. and Mrs. Dan Amos.

U.M.C.O.R.: In honor of Mrs. Alice Perrin, Mrs. Mary Bass, Mrs. Carol Boers, Mrs. Geraldine King, Mrs. Mary Lewis Walsh, and Mrs. Sybrina Wooten by Mr. and Mrs. Don Williams. In honor of Mrs. Mary Williams by Mr. and Mrs. Duke Walsh.

Fountain Area Restoration Fund: In memory of Mrs. Martha Cunningham by Allison Biggers Gardner.

Respite Scholarship Fund: In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Larry King by Miss Julie King.

Higher Education Scholarship Fund: In memory of Mr. John Cartledge by Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Ron West.

IGNITE RETREAT


St. Luke Preschool is excited to begin enrollment on January 13th for School Year 2020 - 2021. Our half-day program operates from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. each day, on a school calendar, August through May. We serve children ages 3 months to four years old. Should you need any information or if you would like to schedule a tour, please contact the Preschool at 706-327-4343.

Jonathan and Lisa Moore, Directors of Student Ministries, jmoore@stlukeum.com

FEBRUARY 14-17

We are all going to the mountains for skiing, tubing, Big Lee McBride, worship, and our annual winter retreat!!!

Sign-ups have begun.