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ST. LUKE CHURCH UPDATE

On Monday, the U. S. Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams, said this week will be very bad as concerns the spread and intensity of COVID-19. Remember to join me and other United Methodists across our nation in praying for our nation and our world every day at 12:19. There is more power and comfort in prayer than we can imagine. In addition to prayer, closure and social distancing will continue to be essential weapons in the war against this virus. St. Luke Church, St. Luke School, St. Early Learning Center, St. Luke Preschool and St. Luke Respite Care, will remain closed for the immediate future. The situation changes day by day, and we will use every means at our disposal to keep in touch. In these weeks please continue to join your church family for worship in a virtual format.

WORSHIP SUNDAY, MARCH 29

This Sunday you may join online worship at 9:00 a.m. (from the Ministry Center) or 11:00 (from the St. Luke sanctuary) by going to www.saintlukecolumbus.org. Click the green banner at the top of the page "Watch Us Live." Scroll down to the bright blue USTREAM banner and select either the 9:00 or 11:00 service. You may also watch the service at 10:00 a.m. on WTVM. You may also listen to the 11:00 service on WLTC Radio 103.7. The 9:00 service will continue to be rebroadcast on WVMT at 11:30 p.m. on Sunday night.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastors will continue to be available for pastoral care. While visitation in hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities and homes are being strictly limited, we want to remain in contact with anyone in need of pastoral care. Much care can be expressed by phone. You can help your pastors by reaching out to other members of our congregation and letting the church office know anything of which we should be aware.

CHURCH STAFF

While we cannot welcome members and guests in the church office or facilities, we will have a strategic communications center at the church office. Please stay in touch with and through the church office (706-327-4343 and by email). Several of our church program directors are setting up virtual groups for people to stay connected, and Rev. Brett Maddocks will be happy to assist you in setting up your group for virtual meetings/classes.

A PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Loving Jesus, no one understands suffering like you do. Thank you Lord for enduring the agony of the cross and the devastation of separation from your Father, so that we can embrace sacred assurances in the midst of this pandemic and grasp divine hope in the midst of our heartaches. Open our eyes to others around us who desperately need our presence and your promises in their time of suffering. Give us a deep desire to serve them selflessly. We ask this in your powerful, abiding and comforting name. AMEN

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor

rbeckum@stlukeum.com

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at www.stlukeum.com and broadcast at WLTC 103.7 Lite FM
Rebroadcast on WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

March 29, 2020

5th Sunday in Lent

Prelude..... “I Sing The Mighty Power of God” Improvisation

Welcome and Opening Prayer.....Rev. Robert Beckum

Hymn..... “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

The Affirmation of Faith..... “The Apostles’ Creed”Rev. Brett Maddocks

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.**

Anthem “On Eagle’s Wings”Michael Joncas
(Marc Boensel, bass-baritone and Kenneth Bailey, pianist)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer.....Rev. Dr. Adriane Burgess

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.

The Children’s Sermon.....Mrs. Mary Pat Beckum

Hymn..... “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Prayer OffertoryKenneth Bailey

Prayers for The People.....Rev. Beckum

The Written Word.....John 11:1-45

The Spoken Word..... “**LORD OF THE TOMB**”Rev. Beckum

Hymn..... “God of Grace and God of Glory”

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Postlude..... “Toccat for organ, Op. 104”by Joseph Jonge

*** *quick* means “living”; *catholic* means “universal”



OUR PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office, 706-327-4343 • Preschool, 706-327-4343

St. Luke School, 706-256-1301 • Early Learning Center, 706-322-2703

Ministry Center, 706-256-1017 • Respite Care Ministry, 706-256-3117

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord linger near
When my light is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall,
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home

God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour

Lo! the hosts of evil 'round us scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days, for the living of these days

Cure Thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Serving Thee Whom we adore, serving Thee Whom we adore

Music Box

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

The Music Scholarship Fund assists eight students from Columbus State University 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.

The Chancel Choir and **Handbell Choir** are both continuing to meet online for conversation and fellowship each week during their sabbaticals. We look forward to meeting together in person again soon, once it is safe to do so. If you want to join the conversations, please email Marc Boensel at the address above.

OUR KNOWN SICK: Regional Rehab (Phenix City): Richard Jones, 200. **Navicent Medical Center** (Macon, GA): Heather McAfee, 507, **Tift Hospital** (Tifton, GA): Mickey McAfee.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To Mrs. Holly Walker in the death of her father, Mr. Bruce Berreth, on March 18, 2020, in Columbus, GA. Holly is an employee of St. Luke School.

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.

STAYING UPDATED: Please remember to call the church office and let us know when you have a change of address, phone, or email, etc. We also love to hear about births, marriages, etc. Thank you for your help in keeping our records up to date!

De su Pastor, Dr. Resto

Bendiciones a los hermanos (as) del Ministerio Hispano "La cosecha"
Nuestra reflexión para este 28 Domingo, 2020 del Libro de **Romanos 8:6-11**.

Y su título "Viviendo en el Espíritu",

El Apóstol Pablo señala que los que viven según la carne no pueden agradar a Dios.

También señala que aquellos que viven según la carne, el Espíritu de Dios no están en ellos.

Pero si vivimos según el Espíritu, el Espíritu de Dios mora en nosotros, y el espíritu de Cristo

también. Como cristiano estamos llamados a caminar en el Espíritu para agradar aquel que nos llamó

de las tinieblas a la Luz verdadera.

Haciendo y satisfaciendo los deseos de la carne cada vez no aleja más de Dios.

Pablo nos invita a que caminemos en el Espíritu en el cual hay salvación y gran bendición, los que están en Cristo a la verdad nuestro cuerpo está muerto.

Vivamos en el Espíritu, agrandado a Dios, vive dando lo mejor para la causa del "Reino" no desmalleemos porque vivir en el Espíritu nos llevara al cielo.

WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY THROUGH THE SCREEN

We are learning a new vocabulary: Social Distancing, Mitigation, Suppression, Zoom, Teams, Bandwidth. We are also re-learning old vocabulary: Community, Worship, Life-Together. One question that continues to rise in my mind is how can we continue to be the church when the church doors are closed?

First, we need to remember that Christian community is different from other types of community. Our community is not based upon a football team, civic club, band, etc. Our community's foundation is Jesus Christ and as such Christian community is eternal. I want to highly recommend Dietrich Bonhoeffer's great book, [Life Together](#), for you to read during this time. Bonhoeffer reminds us that our world circumstances do not dictate whether Jesus is Lord or not and it doesn't dictate whether we are community or not.

Because St. Luke is a community whose foundation is the Lord Jesus Christ, we will continue to be a community living life together. I am continuing to work with our small groups, Sunday school classes, youth ministry, children's ministry, etc. to find the best ways for our community to be in community during this time. Some are using Zoom (a cloud-based teleconferencing program) others are keeping in touch through calling each other and email. If you and your group need assistance in finding the best option for you, please let me know. I am also staying in touch with point persons from each group to keep up with pastoral care concerns. Please email me if you have any concerns that the pastors need to know about.

We are also learning what worship means as a community of faith during this time. I'll admit that it is a strange thing to preach to an empty room. But it was also uplifting to know that there were so many joining in. I truly did *feel* the connection this past Sunday.

I was reading a blog this week that gave some helpful guidelines on how to worship online.¹ **First, worship, don't just watch.** We are gathering to worship and not watch a show. You may not be in the physical church building, but you are entering the throne room of God. **Second, Focus.** Fully engage with the service. Don't multi-task. Make it a point to go to church at home. **Third, Sing.** We will do a better job at putting the words on the screen for you. Singing is an important part of worship. Again, don't just watch. Participate in worship. **Fourth, be social...if you can.** We are streaming on Facebook live which allows you to have a sense of being social. Say hi to people as you see them join the stream. However, don't let this time of being social take your attention away from point one. **Fifth, get the kids involved.** Model for them what church looks like from your home. **Lastly, invite, invite, invite.** Invite your friends and family to join you at church this Sunday from their homes. This is what we do when we come together each week. Let us continue to do so.

During these days ahead, it is more important than ever to remember the words of the letter of Hebrews. ²³ Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:23-25)

May it be so.

The Lord still reigns,

Brett

bmaddocks@stlukeum.com

¹ <https://medium.com/@realcaseytaylor/how-to-worship-online-5e01b0614b79>

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 Mr. Fred Mitchell by Ms. Betsy Windsor, Mr. Wright Waddell, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Griffin, Drs. Mike and Tina Cox and Team, and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Harper. In memory of Mr. Fred Mitchell and Mr. Steve Ellis by Mr. and Mrs. Mote Andrews.



THE CORNER

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

The Corner Crosswalk TV is up and awesome! We had over 160 views this week for our Channel Launch! Each week we Zoom from 5-5:30 p.m. for our Pre-Service Party! We hop off of Zoom and Watch Corner Crosswalk TV on our YouTube Apps on our phones, Devices or Smart TV's! Then at 6:15 p.m. we Zoom in our individual small groups! Small Groups are led by: JMO, Lisa, JJ, Christian, Hailey, Ashley, Joseph, and several other amazing adults! If we missed you last week please text one of us or email me and we will get you in a group ASAP. Like and Subscribe to our YouTube today and be a part of OUR GROWING STUDENT MINISTRY!!!

THE CORNER CROSSWALK TV!

Tithes and Offerings

Our physical doors may be closed for the time being but the mission of St. Luke Church continues. You can continue to support St. Luke Church with your tithes and offerings by going to the St. Luke website, <https://saintlukecolumbus.org/give/>, and clicking on "SecureGive" and then clicking on the "Church" button. If you need help with this option, please contact Renee Wilkinson at renee@stlukeum.com or Brett Maddocks at bmaddocks@stlukeum.com.

You can also mail in your offering to our physical address, P.O. Box 867 Columbus, GA 31902.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry of St. Luke Church.

Call to Daily Prayer

at 12:19 p.m.

St. Luke Church will be joining other churches in the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church in a time a daily prayer for our communities, churches, country, and the world.

You are invited to join this daily prayer time at 12:19 p.m. every day. This time is purposeful in helping us remember for what we are specifically praying. Remember the words of Scripture from Philipians 4:

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philipians 4:4-7)

Let us be faithful to our call to pray in these days. We will be posting prayer points for the day on Facebook each day in preparation for the 12:19 prayer time.
