Encouragement Changes Everything

In the Book of Acts we meet one of the Bible’s most interesting and appealing characters. His name is Joseph, a very common Jewish name at the time of Jesus. He is generous, outgoing, inviting, and courageous. He is described by those who know him best as a “good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.” His real legacy, however, was in the impact he had on the lives of others. He was first and foremost an encourager of people. In fact, friends and family nicknamed him Barnabas—the son of encouragement. In Jesus’ day and every generation since we need people like Barnabas, encouragers. A timely word of encouragement changes everything.

Walt Whitman struggled for years to get anyone interested in his poetry. In the midst of his discouragement Whitman received a life-changing letter from an admirer of his work. The note read: “Dear Sir, I am not blind to the worth of the wonderful gift of Leaves of Grass. I find it the most extraordinary piece of wit and wisdom that America has yet contributed. I greet you at the beginning of what will undoubtedly be a great career.” It was signed by Ralph Waldo Emerson. Whitman enjoyed a long career and is now considered one of the giants of American literature. But when times were tough, he needed a word of encouragement to keep going. In these COVID days there are many who need encouragement to keep going!

When we’re on the brink of failure and ready to quit, the right word can keep us moving forward. When we are too tired and discouraged to keep going, an act of compassion can give us new strength. There’s no doubt about it: encouragement enables us to persevere like nothing else. Share some encouragement with those you meet this week.

St. Luke has many who could be nicknamed “Barnabas.” I hope, whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey, you will find St. Luke to be the “encouragement place for the living of these days.”

Not yet ready for in-person worship? Please join our St. Luke family of faith for worship each Sunday at:

9:00 a.m. Live Streaming of “The Nine” www.saintluekecolumbus.org
10:00 a.m. Broadcast of the Traditional Service on WTVM Channel 9
11:00 a.m. Streaming of traditional service www.saintluekecolumbus.org
11:30 p.m. Re-broadcast of the 9:00 a.m. contemporary service on WTVM Channel 9

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com
ORDER OF WORSHIP

The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at www.saintlukecolumbus.org and broadcast on WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

August 30, 2020 13th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude (Ken Bailey)........... “Give me that old time religion, Medley” ..................K Bailey

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

Hymn ................................ “God of Grace and God of Glory” .............................Dr. Marc Boensel

Psalm 146:1-10

The Affirmation of Faith........ “The Apostles’ Creed”
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 (Chancel Choir)............ “If We Will Seek the Lord” .........................Don Besig

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer ..........................................................Rev. Beckum
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. Amen.

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

Hymn........................................ “I Am Thine, O Lord” ............................Dr. Boensel

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

The Written Word.....................................................................................Exodus 3:1-15

The Spoken Word...................................... “HOLY GROUND” ..............................Rev. Beckum

The Invitation to Discipleship - Prayer of the Congregation
Lord, whose love through humble service, bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross forsaken, offered mercy’s perfect deed: we your servants bring the worship not of voice alone but heart, consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live. Amen

Hymn............................ “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” ...........Dr. Boensel

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

Postlude (Ken Bailey)........ “Lost, Whose Love Through Humble Service” ........Improvisation
** Music Box *** quick means “living”; catholic means “universal”
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

I AM THINE, O LORD

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain:
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou has died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to thy precious bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in thine. Refrain

O the pure delight of a single hour that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God, I commune as friend with friend!

Refrain

There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee. Refrain

LORD, WHOSE LOVE THROUGH HUMBLE SERVICE

Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
who, upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy’s perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
   stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
   that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.
Music Box

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

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume September 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Rehearsal will be limited to 30 minutes, socially distanced and masked at all times. Temperature checks will be taken between 6:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m. at the 3rd Avenue entrance to the Music Suite.

Handbell Choir rehearsals resume September 9 at 5:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Rehearsal will be limited to 30 minutes, socially distanced and masked at all times. Temperature checks will be taken between 5:30 p.m. and 5:40 p.m. at the 3rd Avenue entrance to the Music Suite.

Please consider a gift to the Music Ministry. You may mark your donation to the Music Fund, Music Scholarship Fund, Orchestra Fund, or Organ Fund.

Today’s anthem: “If we will seek the Lord, we will surely find him. If we will follow him, he will show us the way. If we will take his hand, he will walk beside us, guiding each step we take from day to day. If we will ask the Lord, he will surely answer. If we will talk with him, he will hear our prayer. If we will turn to him, he will lead us onward, teaching us how to live, to love and share. God gives so much to us, both you and me, all we can hear and touch and see. What can we give to him, what can we do? All he asks of us is our faith, and trust, and the will to carry through. Come now and serve the Lord, join with one another. Reach out and share his love everywhere you go. If we believe in him, he will make us stronger, our lives will all be blessed, our faith will grow!”

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (THE NINE): 9:00 a.m., Ministry Center, The Rev. Brett Maddocks, preaching.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God by the Discovery Class.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: September 13, October 4, 11, 25, November 22, 29. To place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone contact Maggie Roberson at 706-327-4343 or maggie@stlukeum.com.

OUR KNOWN SICK: East Medical (Snellville, GA): Bill Montgomery, 208-A

IN MEMORIAM
Mrs. Kathryn Plant Phillips
August 22, 2020
Mr. George Mortimer Adams, Jr.
August 23, 2020

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To the family of Mrs. Ann Whitehurst, a retired St. Luke employee, on her passing on August 21, 2020, Columbus, GA. To Mr. and Mrs. Sam (Kappa) Robinson in the death of her brother, Mr. Bill Moorer, on August 25, 2020, Atlanta, GA.

CRADLE ROLL: Mr. and Mrs. William (Rawson) Warden IV announce the birth of a son, Hart McGreevy Warden, on June 8, 2020, in Alexandria, VA. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Pete (Angie) Hart. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in his honor.

WELCOME MEMBER: Mrs. Susan Wilheit comes by transfer of membership from another United Methodist Church

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
Calling all Corner Kidz! Join us this Sunday at 1 PM for a special Back to School Zoom as we welcome everyone back and all new Kindergartners to the Corner Kidz family! There will be trivia, games and prizes! The link is in the email from Ms. Hailey. Didn’t get it? Drop her a note at haileychs@yahoo.com. Hope to “see” you there! You don’t want to miss it!!

Tithes and Offerings
Offering plates/boxes are placed at entrances and exits at all of our in-person worship services. Of course, you can continue to support St. Luke Church with your tithes and offerings by mail, bank draft, or 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.

CHURCH MAILING ADDRESS
Please do not use the physical address of the church for mailing. The church mailing address is P.O. Box 867, Columbus, GA 31902. The Post Office will no longer deliver items that are addressed to our physical address. Thank you!
As always, thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry of St. Luke Church.

Ministerio Hispano “La Cosecha”
30 de Agosto 2020
Palabra Escrita: Romanos 12: 9-21
Palabra Hablada: “La Regla para una vida en victoria”
Bienvenidos hermanos y hermanas de “La Cosecha” Saint Luke, Iglesia Metodista Unida, a la reapertura de nuestro servicio dominical este Domingo 30 de Agosto a las 12:30 P.M.

Damos gracias a Dios por permitirnos regresar al santuario y poder adorar a nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Estamos sumamente alegres de compartir como iglesia este próximo domingo.

El Señor nos da un una lista de las cosas que debemos de hacer y no hacer, para que como cristianos podamos disfrutar la vida y tener una buena relación con Dios y con el prójimo. Tenemos que obedecer a Dios y sus reglas para obtener la victoria espiritual y una victoria humana también. Confiamos en la Palabra de Dios y sus recomendaciones y alcanzaremos una gran bendición. Que Dios nos continúe bendiciendo nuestras vidas y nuestras familias.

Te esperamos, Amén
Rev. Dr. José Resto/ Pastor
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 acknowledgment sent and mail or bring to the church office. Contact maggie@stlukeum.com.

Respite Care: In memory of Mr. Tommy Mayton by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brandon. In memory of Mrs. Betsey Hewitt by Ms. Ailene Mooney.

Christie Garden Fund: In memory of Mrs. Gladys Pitts and Mr. Jim Sigmund by Dr. and Mrs. Champ Baker.

S.A.W. Ministry: In honor of Mr. Lee Myers and Mr. Rich Newton by Mrs. Nancy Powell.

Food Pantry: In memory of Ms. Samantha Worthington by Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Strickland. In memory of Mr. Dick Jones by Mrs. Beverly Gross.

STOP
BEFORE ENTRY PLEASE
FOLLOW THESE PROCEDURES

1. SANITIZE YOUR HANDS USING THE PROVIDED SANITIZING SOLUTION.
2. PUT ON A PROVIDED FACE MASK (IF YOU ARE ALREADY WEARING A PERSONAL FACE MASK THAT WILL SUFFICE).
3. HAVE YOUR TEMPERATURE TAKEN BY THE RECEPTIONIST WITH A “TOUCHLESS” THERMOMETER.
   • A TEMPERATURE OF 100.3 OR LOWER IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE BUILDING.
4. MAINTAIN A PHYSICAL DISTANCE OF AT LEAST 6 FEET OF ALL PERSONS NOT LIVING IN YOUR IMMEDIATE HOUSEHOLD.

OUR CLERGY STAFF
Rev. Robert Beckum - Senior Minister
Rev. Brett Maddocks - Associate Pastor
Rev. Dick Reese - Minister of Pastoral Care
Rev. Dr. José Resto - Hispanic Ministries
Bishop James King - Bishop in Residence

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

CROSSWALK
“Life is a cross walk” Luke 9:23

5:00 PM — 6:30 PM
Meet in Large Dining Room
Move to the gym for small groups

6:30 PM — 8:00 PM
Meet in Large Dining Room