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Volume 56

An Anchor for the Soul

We live in a troubled, unhappy, dangerous, and frightening time, and we desperately need some true, rocklike idea to which we can anchor our lives. In the words of Leslie Weatherhead, "We must either stop thinking or we must stop and think." Many try the first alternative, filling every moment with the pursuit of pleasure, hobbies, self-fulfillment, even anger and violence. Many try to think their way through only to be met with continual disappointment. Nature says little to a frightened spirit, science can frighten still more, and history shows little if any evidence of a Divine Controller in the events of our day. In 2020, life looks more like a confused tangle than a divine pattern.

We are not, however, the first followers of Christ to live in chaotic, bewildering and dangerous days. The writer of The Letter To The Hebrews lived in such a time in the first century of the Christian era. The days were dangerous, filled with chaotic change and disciples were under great stress in their daily lives. "The Preacher" (as the writer of Hebrews is known) reminded his congregation, "We have this hope (in the promises of God) as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul..." Hebrews 6:19. We will be reflecting on this anchor for our souls in our time this Sunday. I hope you will join the St. Luke family of faith in person or virtually this week.

Robert Beckum

Please familiarize yourself with our safety procedures before making a decision about participating in this or any future in person services at St. Luke.

St. Luke Safety Standards for All Services

1. **Social distancing**---seated six feet apart except for immediate family members living in the same household. Additionally, please refrain from physical contact such as handshaking, hugging, etc. Ushers/greeters will help you find safe seating. Remember, social distancing should be observed not only in the worship space but also in hallways, common areas and restrooms.
2. **Hand sanitizer** stations will be placed at each entrance and exit. We request that you use these stations upon entering and leaving any of our worship services.
3. **Temperature checks** with touchless thermometers. 100.3 is the maximum CDC recommendation for entrance into gatherings lasting fifteen minutes or more.
4. **Face masks**---We ask that you bring your own mask from home, but there will be masks available as you enter for worship. Masks are an incredibly important expression of our love and concern for the health of our fellow worshippers.
5. **Facilities will be sanitized** (anti-viral cleaning) immediately following each gathering.

Remember, not everyone should come back for in-person gatherings at this time. Don't take unnecessary risks with your health. Our goal is to reopen A.S.A.P. (As Safely As Possible).

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at www.saintlukecolumbus.org and broadcast at WLTC 103.7 Lite FM • Broadcast on WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

September 13, 2020
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Verses from the Te Deum”Anonymous

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

Hymn..... “How Firm A Foundation”Dr. Marc Boensel

Romans 8:24-25; 31-39

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*)..... “On Eagle’s Wings”Michael Joncas

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..... “O How I Love Jesus”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.....Hebrews 6:13-20

The Spoken Word..... “AN ANCHOR FOR THE SOUL”Rev. Beckum

Invitation to Discipleship - Prayer of Congregation

**You gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior.
All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.
And so, in gratitude for all your gifts,
we offer you ourselves, and all that we have,
in union with Christ’s offering for us.
By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Hymn..... “My Hope is Built”Dr. Boensel

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (*11:00 a.m.*)..... “Danish Amen”anon.

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”Improvisation

** Music Box

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

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy trouble to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not, desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

O HOW I LOVE JESUS

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear, the sweetest name on earth.

Refrain

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

It tells me of a Savior's love, who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood, the sinner's perfect plea. *Refrain*

It tells of one whose loving heart can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part that none can bear below. *Refrain*

MY HOPE IS BUILT

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Music Box

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

Chancel Choir rehearsals are at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings 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 are at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday evenings 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: "And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of his hand. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust." The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. For to his angels he's given his command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone."

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 and in memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey and in honor of Mrs. Susan Graham by the Women in the Word Bible Study group.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: October 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.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To Mrs. Sarah Knight Higgins and family in the death of her husband, Mr. Tyler Higgins, September 4, 2020, Columbus, GA.

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*

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!
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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

mhubbard@stlukeum.com www.cornerkidz.com

Meet and Greet TODAY! Be sure to swing by the church today between 4 and 5 PM and meet your new Children's Ministry Director. Ms. Michelle will be waiting with welcome bags under the church portico. Please drive thru, introduce yourself and say hello!

Save the date! Popsicles on the Playground for all new Kindergartners on Sunday, September 20th. Please come prepared to stay and play from 4-5 PM.

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.

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

Ministerio Hispano "La Cosecha"

Palabra Escrita: I Tesalonicenses 4:13-18

Palabra Hablada: "El regreso del Señor"

En este pasaje el Señor nos deja un mensaje de esperanza para todos aquellos que hemos perdido a un ser querido, en Cristo Jesús. El duelo por la muerte de familiares y amigos cristianos nos da el beneficio, para poder llorar por nuestra propia pérdida, a pesar de que puede ser su ganancia. El cristianismo no lo quiera, y la gracia no elimina, nuestros afectos naturales. Sin embargo, no deben ser desproporcionadas con nuestros dolores; esto es demasiado parecido a los que no tienen esperanza de una vida mejor. La muerte es una cosa desconocida, y sabemos muy poco sobre el estado después de la muerte; sin embargo, las doctrinas de la resurrección y la segunda venida de Cristo, son un remedio contra el miedo a la muerte, y la tristeza excesiva por la muerte de nuestros amigos cristianos; y de estas doctrinas que tenemos plena seguridad.

Será un poco de felicidad que todos los santos han de cumplir, y permanecer juntos para siempre; pero la felicidad principal de los cielos es para estar con el Señor, al verlo, vivir con él y disfrutar de él para siempre. Debemos apoyarnos unos a otros en tiempos de tristeza. Y esto se puede hacer por las muchas lecciones que aprender de la resurrección de los muertos, y la segunda venida de Cristo. ¡Qué! consolar a un hombre diciéndole que va a comparecer ante el tribunal de Dios! ¿Quién puede sentir consuelo en esas palabras? Ese hombre solo con su espíritu el Espíritu de Dios da testimonio de que sus pecados son borrados, y los pensamientos de cuyo corazón se purifican por el Espíritu Santo, para que pueda amar a Dios, y dignamente magnificar su nombre. No estamos en un estado de seguridad a menos que sea así con nosotros, o estamos deseando ser así.

Amen,

Rev. Dr. Jose D. 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.

Higher Education Scholarship Fund: In memory of Mr. John Cartledge and Mrs. Kathryn Phillips by Mrs. Carolyn Cartledge.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by the NOW Class, the HPRC family, the Fellowship/Jesus is Lord Class, Dr. and Mrs. Tommy Lawhorne, Mrs. Annette Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Summerlin, Dr. and Mrs. Hollis Daniel Sigman, Mr. and Mrs. Al Ramsay, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Knight III, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Lewis, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Cecil F. Whitaker, Jr., Ms. Katherine Waddell, Ms. Mary Driver, Mr. and Mrs. Dean King, Jr., Ms. Betty Woodruff, Mr. Eugene H. Polleys, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Perrin C. Trotter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Y. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sheffield, Mr. and Mrs. Hooper A. Turner, Jr. and family, Mr. Leroy Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Moon, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Boers, Mr. and Mrs. Norris Randall, and Mrs. Helen Burgin. In memory of Mrs. Betsey Hewitt by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Frickel. In memory of Mr. George Adams by Mike and Cynthia Davis and Mr. and Mrs. J. Edgar Chancellor III. In memory of Mrs. Kathryn Plant Phillips by Mr. and Mrs. Don Jones.

Food Pantry: In memory of Mr. George Adams by the Fellowship/Jesus is Lord Class. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey and Mr. George Adams by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Hall.

Samaritan Fund: In honor of Mrs. Annette Pollock by Mr. and Mrs. Rick Anthony. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Mary Hudson.

Naomi's Village: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Judy Terry, Mrs. Sylvia Powell, and the New Journey Class.

Music Fund: In memory of Mr. Karl Roberts by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Montgomery.

Meals on Wheels Fund: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mr. Frank Romeo, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Mote Andrews.

General Fund: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Goldman.

Bereavement Ministry: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Melinda Hunter.

Respite Care: In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Ms. Ena Hunt.



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.
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THE CORNER

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



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
