MINISTRY IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

2020 has been a year of unprecedented change and adaptability. The year has been filled with fear, disappointment, weariness, and amazing creativity. In the face of so many cancellations and limitations, we have seen Sunday School Classes adapt and stay connected through ZOOM. We have seen greater participation in our ministry of intercessory prayer by adapting to virtual connections. We have experienced a great community response to our adaptations in TV and online worship services.

Our clergy and program staff meets weekly by ZOOM and other church committees have continued their work in the same manner. Virtual connections are no substitute for actual community, but it does allow us to continue ministry in the age of COVID.

In August, the South Georgia Annual Conference met virtually for the first time ever. It was an amazingly smooth and effective process with the participation of more than 750 delegates.

All of the above leads to the announcement that our Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 4, at 5:00 p.m. It will be a cluster (seven other churches with St. Luke) conducted on ZOOM. We will send the ZOOM link out to all who wish to join in the Charge Conference. This is yet another first ever adaptation, but it is ministry reality in the age of COVID.

I’m thankful for your patience, your positivity, your adaptability and flexibility, your faithfulness, and most importantly your prayers in these days.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor
rbeckum@stlukeum.com

St. Luke Safety Standards for All In-Person Services/Gatherings
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.
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 27, 2020                17th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude (Ken Bailey)............ Arrival of the Queen of Sheba “Solomon” ............G.F. Handel

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

Hymn.................................. “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” .............Dr. Marc Boensel

Psalm 146

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)............. “We Are Called” ........................................David Haas

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................................... “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” ..................Dr. Boensel

Prayer for Illumination

O God, fill us with your Spirit and humble our hearts so that we can hear your Word for our lives today. Amen.

The Written Word..................................................................................Matthew 21:23-32

The Spoken Word........ “Over Promising and Under Delivering” ..............Rev. Beckum

Invitation to Christian Discipleship and Congregational Prayer

Gracious God, we thank you for being ever present with us. We know that, because of your love, we are never alone. Your mercies to us have been faithful and rich. Pour out your Spirit upon us that we might do your will in this world. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen

Hymn........................................ “Trust and Obey” ........................................Dr. Boensel

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

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

Postlude (Ken Bailey)........... “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”....................Improvisation

** Music Box
*** quick means “living”; catholic means “universal”
COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING
Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodic sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I’m come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS’ NAME
All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball,
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.
To him al majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call;
extol the Stem of Jesse’s Rod, and crown him Lord of all.
Extol the Stem of Jesse’s Rod, and crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

TRUST AND OBEY
When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain: Trust and obey, for there’s no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil He doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blessed if we trust and obey. Refrain

But we never can prove the delights of his love until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy He bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. Refrain

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
or we’ll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. Refrain
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. Rehearsals 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. Rehearsals 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: “Come, live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God. We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God. Come, open your heart, show your mercy to all those who fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so hatred and violence will be no more. Sing, sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign and we’ll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.”

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 loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bill (Alice) Williams on their anniversary by their daughter Judy Thomas.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: 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 Mr. and Mrs. Doyle (Nancy) Register in the death of her brother, Mr. Jens Sturup, on September 19, 2020, Pensacola, FL.

IN MEMORIAM
Mr. Roy L. Spurlin, Sr.
September 6, 2020

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Mike (Lesley) Benson on the birth of a daughter, Josephine Grace Benson, on September 18, 2020, in Harrison, TN. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ken (Glenda) Crew. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in her honor.

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION OPTIONS
On October 4 we will observe World Wide Communion Sunday. If you do not attend one of our in-person services we would like to offer the following options for you to participate in communion on this day.
• Come by the church during the week of September 28-October 2 (9:00-5:00) to pick up pre-packaged communion elements. You can then take communion as you watch the broadcast.
• Drive-thru at the church from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, October 4. You will be given communion at your car. Enter the church parking lot from 2nd Avenue.

Remember Me
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.

Save the Date! We’re hosting a Chalk the Sidewalk event for all new 1st and 2nd graders on Sunday, October 4th, from 4-5 p.m. Hope you will plan to join us!

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”

St. Luke, UMC, Columbus, Ga

Palabra Escrita: Filipenses 2:1-18
Palabra Hablada: “Deberes de los que están en Cristo”

Como cristianos debemos ser diligentes en el uso de todos los medios que conducen a nuestra salvación, perseverando en ella hasta el final. Con mucho cuidado, no sea que, con todas nuestras ventajas, deberíamos haberlo alcanzado. Calcule su salvación, pues Dios es quien obra en vosotros. Esto nos anima a hacer todo lo posible, porque nuestro trabajo no será en vano: aún tenemos que depender de la gracia de Dios. La obra de la gracia de Dios en nosotros, es para acelerar y comprometer nuestros esfuerzos. De Dios de buena voluntad para con nosotros, es la causa de su buena obra en nosotros. Cumplan con su deber sin murmuraciones. Sencillamente, hagamos lo que Dios nos dice, sin ningún pero y todo para la gloria de Dios. Los hijos de Dios deben diferir de los hijos de los hombres. La doctrina y el ejemplo de los creyentes serán consistentes iluminar a otros, y dirigir su camino hacia Cristo y la santidad, como el faro advierte marineros para evitar las rocas, y dirige su rumbo hacia el puerto. El evangelio es la palabra de vida, se nos da a conocer la vida eterna a través de Jesucristo. Correr, denota seriedad y vigor, presionando hacia adelante continua; trabajando, denota la constancia, y cerca de la aplicación. Es la voluntad de Dios que los creyentes deben ser mucho en regocijo; y aquellos que son tan felices como para tener buenos ministros, tienen mucha razón para regocijarnos con ellos. Recordemos que Dios siempre nos da lo mejor siempre y que en no cambio y variación de sombra.

Amén,

Rev. Dr. José D. Resto/ Pastor

Save the Date!

We're hosting a Chalk the Sidewalk event for all new 1st and 2nd graders on Sunday, October 4th, from 4-5 p.m. Hope you will plan to join us!
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.

**Memorial Maintenance Fund:** In memory of Mr. George Adams by the Greater Columbus Home Builders Association. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey and Mr. George Adams by Mr. and Mrs. John Walden and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Coolik. In memory of Mrs. Betsey Hewitt and Mr. George Adams by Mrs. Carolyn Mitchell. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by a friend, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gravlee, the Women in the Word Bible Study, William, Bobby, David and Carol Chester, Mr. and Mrs. Roderick C. Hunter, Mrs. Joan Dickson, the Tuesday Afternoon Women’s Bible Study, Mr. and Mrs. Thad Estes, Mr. and Mrs. Madden Hatcher, Drs. Mike and Tina Cox and Team, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edgar Chancellor III, Dr. and Mrs. Dick Stephenson, and Mr. and Mrs. John Dedwylder.

**Music Fund:** In memory of Mr. Bill Moorer by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Kimble.

**Naomi’s Village:** In honor of Camryn Smith by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Scott. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mr. and Mrs. Mick Longstreet and Mr. and Mrs. Brad Turner.

**Food Pantry:** In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mr. Billy Cunningham and Mr. and Mrs. Carter Mize.

**Fellowship/Jesus is Lord Class Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mr. Whit Blackmon.

**Bereavement Ministry:** In memory of Mr. Roy Spurlin, Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thomas.

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**Prayer Calendars**
If you would like a prayer calendar mailed to you please call the church office @ 706-327-4343.

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

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**CROSSWALK**
"Life is a cross walk" Luke 9:23

**The Corner**

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

**The Corner**

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