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September 6, 2020

Volume 56

ONE OF GOD'S GREATEST PROMISES

In my devotional reading, I was reminded of one of God's greatest promises. It's found in I John 3:19-20. John is talking about the importance of sharing Christ-like love in a community of faith. He says, "*By this we shall know that we are of the truth, and reassure our hearts before God, even if our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.*"

One of the greatest difficulties in our spiritual life is self-condemnation. Most of us tend to be pretty hard on ourselves, much harder than we are on others. We may be able to forgive others, but we have trouble forgiving ourselves. We may be able to reassure others of God's love for them but have trouble accepting God's love for us because we don't "feel very lovable." Admittedly, there are times when guilt is appropriate. We've done something wrong, and the pain of guilt calls us to repentance and forgiveness; however, many of us carry around the burden of misplaced guilt, which comes out in the form of self-condemnation.

There are many sources of self-condemnation: childhood experiences, the terrible sense of inadequacy we feel as parents, loose ends left in our life by the death of a loved one. The list of sources could go on forever. E. Stanley Jones said that there are only three places in this world for the pain of guilt and shame. One is on our own backs in the form of self-condemnation. This breaks us down. Another place is on the backs of others in the form of blame. This destroys relationships. The last place is on the back of Jesus in the form of His forgiving love and our need of a savior. This alone brings healing and salvation.

John's assurance is that God knows us better than we know ourselves. While we lock in on a painful experience or feeling, God knows the context of our whole life. It is almost as if John is saying, "If God loves us, who are we to be so high and mighty as to refuse to love ourselves?" Self-condemnation is most powerful when we are alone. A healthy Christian community helps us to experience the love of God "even when our hearts condemn us."

This Sunday we have the opportunity to experience anew, in a community at worship (virtual and in-person), the presence of a loving God who is much greater than our hearts and who knows everything. I don't know about you, but for me that is one of God's greatest promises.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor

rbeckum@stlukeum.com

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 6, 2020
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Rhapsody”Herbert Howells

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

Hymn..... “How Great Thou Art”Dr. Marc Boensel

Exodus 12:1-14

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*)..... “Come to Me”Dan Forrest

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..... “Just As I Am”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.....1 Corinthians 11:20-26

The Spoken Word..... “**A COSTLY DELIVERANCE**”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..... “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”Dr. Boensel

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

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

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”Improvisation

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

HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds
thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout
the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds
sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die,
I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home,
what joy shall fill my heart. Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! *Refrain*

JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe, thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Permit

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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: "Come to me, all you who labor. Come to me, and I will give you rest. Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and you will find rest for your souls. Come, my child, learn my heart, for I am gently and lowly. See how great my love for you that I have called you my child."

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 Mrs. Ellen Sargent by the family.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: 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.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Mary Frances McCluskey
August 28, 2020

CRADLE ROLL: Major Austin and Allison Laney Harrison announce the birth of a son, Caleb David Harrison, on August 14, 2020, in Germany. Proud grandparents are Ruth Wilheit Laney and the late David Laney. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in his honor.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Mr. and Mrs. Andrew (Colby Boers) Biberstein announce the birth of a son, Benjamin Luke Biberstein, on August 27, 2020, in Houston, TX. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tom (Carol) Boers. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in his honor.

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 next Sunday! Be sure to swing by the church next Sunday, September 13th 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. More info to come!

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"

Palabra Escrita: Mateo 18:15-20

Palabra Hablada: Cómo se debe perdonar al hermano

¹⁵ Por tanto, si tu hermano peca contra ti, ve y repréndele estando tú y él solos; si te oyere, has ganado a tu hermano.

¹⁶ Más si no te oyere, toma aún contigo a uno o dos, para que en boca de dos o tres testigos conste toda palabra.

¹⁷ Si no los oyere a ellos, dilo a la iglesia; y si no oyere a la iglesia, tenle por gentil y publicano.

Todas las reglas de Dios son de orden y claras para que haya confusión cuando se llevan a cabo. En este caso cuando un hermano peca contra ti, tú tienes la responsabilidad de llamarle la atención y confrontarlo estando tú y el solos. Pero si el hermano no corresponde a tu reclamo, toma contigo uno o dos testigos para que el hermano se confrontado con testigos. Pero si el hermano continúa en la misma conducta, esta tercera vez les notificaras a los líderes de la Iglesia y a la congregación y señalar que este hermano continua en una práctica pecaminosa, aun cuando se le ha llamado la atención en varia ocasiones y el mismo prevalece en esa conducta, la iglesia debe considerar a ese hermano como gentil y publicano. Este hermano posiblemente terminara en disciplina o fuera de iglesia. Aprendamos las reglas de Dios para cumplirlas, pues nuestro Dios es Dios ordenado y nosotros debemos seguir su ejemplo.

Gloria a Dios, 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.

F.A.N.N. Ministry: In honor of the F.A.N.N. Volunteers by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

Music Fund: In memory of Mrs. Anetha Nielson by the Chancel Choir.

Samaritan Fund: In honor of Mrs. Mary Reed for her 99th birthday by Mrs. Glenda Merrill. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Randall by Mrs. Annette Pollock.

Bereavement Ministry: In memory of Ms. Samantha Worthington by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pate.

Food Pantry: In memory of Mr. George Adams by Mr. and Mrs. Mote Andrews. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Peggy Gindville.

Fellowship/Jesus is Lord Class Fund: In honor of Mrs. Mary Reed for her birthday by Mrs. Leita Coleman.

Respite Care: In honor of Ms. Nancy Pedersen, Mrs. Glenda Crew, and Mrs. Pat Myhand by Mrs. Annette Pollock.

Meals on Wheels: In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Duke Walsh by Mrs. Annette Pollock.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mr. George Adams by Mr. Bryan Sargent.



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



Will not meet this Sunday,
September 6, due to the
Labor Day holiday.

The Corner
