



(USPS # 552680)

Published weekly except Christmas by St. Luke UMC  
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No. 41

October 11, 2020

Volume 56

**2020 State of the Church Report**

There have been many disappointments in the year of COVID-19:

- Because of COVID-19, the entire St. Luke Campus closed on March 15 (Church and Worship, St. Luke School, St. Luke Preschool, St. Luke Early Learning Center (ELC), St. Luke Samaritan Center and St. Luke Respite Care). Worship services remained closed for 16 weeks. Many of the meaningful worship days, including Easter, have been virtual only experiences of worship. The largest ever confirmation class at St. Luke had to be postponed until late fall.
- Weddings and funerals experienced radical adaptations. More than 34 times we have had to radically adapt some of our most meaningful services for loved ones.
- Sunday School Classes, Choirs, Bible Studies, and groups for prayer and fellowship have not been able to meet in person. There were many cancellations including: our Free Spirit’s Trip to Oberammergau, mission team trips to Kenya and Mexico, DNOW Youth Weekend, Harvest Festival, and December First Saturday.

In the face of many disappointments, there are many more signs of hope:

- The steadfast faithfulness of our members has been a great reason for hope! Our pledged giving through August of 2020 is \$198,422 ahead of the same time last year (2019).
- While August financial statements reveal a total revenue decline of \$161,523 in 2020, they also reveal a \$625,339 reduction in expenditures when compared to the same point last year.
- Extra-budgetary generosity enables St. Luke to continue ministries of compassion throughout these COVID days. Meals on Wheels, F.A.N.N., the Samaritan Center, Uptown Food Pantry, and S.A.W. have extended God’s mercy to hundreds of people in great need. Year to date, we have given \$168,351 for these ministries.
- We have continued to remain faithful to our mission partners beyond Columbus in Kenya, Mexico, and U.M.C.O.R. giving \$86,978 for these missional ministries.
- We have been able to take limited steps forward. Our Early Learning Center reopened on July 6. St. Luke School reopened on August 12. St. Luke Preschool reopened on August 12. St. Luke Church reopened for limited, in-person worship services on July 12, and all four morning worship services were reopened by August 2nd.
- We have been blessed with the resources and staff to offer quality online and TV worship in these COVID days and will continue to do so in days ahead.
- Three most promising signs of hope for St. Luke are STELLAR additions to our staff: (1) In January, **Sherry Carr** became the Director of the St. Luke Early Learning Center (2) In July, **Richard Green** assumed his duties as the Head of St. Luke School (3) In August, **Michelle Hubbard** started her work as Director of St. Luke Children’s Ministries.

The Greatest Reason for Hope (The Promise of God)

“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”

Isaiah 41:10

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

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

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Canon in D” .....Johann Pachelbel

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

Hymn..... “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” .....Dr. Marc Boensel

Psalm 19:1-14

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 (*11:00 a.m., Chancel Choir*)..... “Immortal Love, Forever Full” ..... Ronald Kauffmann

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.**

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

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

Hymn..... “What a Friend We Have in 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.....Matthew 22:15-22

The Spoken Word..... “**GIVING BACK**” .....Rev. Beckum

Invitation to Discipleship - Prayer of Congregation

**All things come from you, O God,  
and with praise and thanksgiving we return to you what is yours.  
You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image.  
When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior,  
that we might have abundant and eternal life.  
All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you.  
And so, in gratitude for all that you have done,  
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 Lord. Amen.**

Hymn..... “Rejoice, the Lord is King” .....Dr. Boensel

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (*11:00 a.m.*)..... “Sevenfold Amen” .....Peter Lutkin

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Rejoice” .....Improvisation

\*\* Music Box

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

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## REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART

Rejoice, ye pure in heart; rejoice, give thanks and sing;  
your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

*Refrain:* Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud;  
whilst answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud. (*Refrain*)

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go;  
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. (*Refrain*)

At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their heavenly home, Jerusalem the blest. (*Refrain*)

Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore,  
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God forevermore. (*Refrain*)

## WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit O, what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

## REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING

Rejoice the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

*Refrain:*

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above. *Refrain*

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of earth and hell are to our Jesus given. *Refrain*

Rejoice in glorious hope! Jesus the Judge shall come,  
and take his servants up to their eternal home.

*Final Refrain:* We soon shall hear th'arch angel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice.

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### Permit

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# MUSIC BOX

Dr. Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, [mboensel@stlukeum.com](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:** "Immortal love, forever full, forever flowing, ever free, forever shared, forever whole, a never-ebbing sea! O Lord and master of us all, whatever our name or sign, we own Thy sway, we hear Thy call, we test our lives by Thine. We may not climb the heavenly steeps to bring the Lord Christ down. In vain we search the lowest deeps, for him no depths can drown."

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**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 Mrs. Frances McCluskey by the Naomi's Village family.

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY:** To Mrs. Franke Adams and Mrs. Sally Adams and families in the death of their brother-in-law, Mr. Thomas Edwin Adams, on September 29, 2020, in Columbus, GA

**OUR KNOWN SICK: Piedmont Northside:** Bill Montgomery, 203; Mickey McAfee. **Orchard View:** Ann Ward, 127. **Scottish Rite (Atlanta):** Josh McCullough, 190.

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## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

1. Date of Filing: October 11, 2020
2. Title of Publication: ST. LUKE.
3. Frequency of Issue: Weekly, except Christmas.
4. Location of known office of publisher: St. Luke UMC, 1104 2nd Ave., Columbus, GA. 31901-2408.
5. Location of headquarters of the business office of the publisher: St. Luke UMC, 1104 2nd Ave., Columbus, GA. 31901-2408.
6. Name and address of publisher and editor:  
Publisher: St. Luke UMC, 1104 2nd Avenue, Columbus, GA. 31901-2408.  
Managing Editor: Faye Thompson  
1104 2nd Avenue, Columbus, GA 31901-2408.

## 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*

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## 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](mailto:mhubbard@stlukeum.com) [www.cornerkidz.com](http://www.cornerkidz.com)

Calling all Corner Kidz! Join us at 1:00 p.m. today as we Zoom to discuss this week's Bible lesson. Meeting info is in this week's email from Ms. Michelle. Didn't get it? Let me know at [mhubbard@stlukeum.com](mailto:mhubbard@stlukeum.com) so I can add you to our contact list.

**Save the Date!** Children's Ministry is hosting a **Trunk or Treat Drive-In** on Friday, **October 30th** from 6:30-8 pm. The evening will begin with a drive-thru Trunk or Treat and conclude with a showing of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown". So bring the kids in costume and enjoy a classic from the comfort of your car. Registration is **required** and **space** is limited. Link to register can be found on [www.cornerkidz.com](http://www.cornerkidz.com). You don't want to miss it!

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Ministerio Hispano "La Cosecha"  
Iglesia Metodista Unidad St. Luke

**Palabra Escrita: Mateo 22:1-14**

**Palabra Hablada: "Parábola de la fiesta de bodas"**

En este pasaje Jesús, nos presenta la parábola de las bodas del su hijo, y la problemática y dificultades que confronto básicamente con los invitados a la boda. Todos lo que fueron originalmente fueron invitados no quisieron asistir el día de la boda, El Rey por ya tener todo preparado envió a su criado a invitar a otros criados y también estos se negaron a ir a las bodas. Entonces el Rey he inclusive, mataron a su mensajero y el Rey enojado envió a su ejército a destruir los homicidas pero también destruir aquella ciudad.

Debemos entender que así será Dios en el día de su venida, Él ha invitado a todos pero todo aquel que se niego también será destruido en el "Lago de fuego y Azufre" La invitación está abierta pero los hombres no quieren participar en las "Bodas del Cordero de Dios" (Jesucristo). Todos serán destruidos pues han despreciado la invitación del Rey. Evitemos a la gente a las bodas del Hijo de Dios. Todavía la invitación está abierta para aquel que quiera participar en estas bodas, pero si no aceptan la invitación entonces serán condenados y destruidos. Ven a Cristo y te darán la entrada a sus bodas. Cristo viene pronto, Amen.

Rev. Dr. José Resto/Pastor

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## 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](mailto:renee@stlukeum.com) or Brett Maddocks at [bmaddocks@stlukeum.com](mailto: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.*

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## 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](mailto:maggie@stlukeum.com).

**Memorial Maintenance Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey and Mr. George Adams by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Brantley. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Cail and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Warren. In memory of Mr. George Adams and Mr. George Trussell by Mr. and Mrs. George Mize. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey and Mr. Jens Sturup by Mr. and Mrs. Mizell Alexander.

**Food Pantry:** In memory of Mrs. Annie Scott, Mrs. Frances McCluskey and Mr. George Adams by Mr. and Mrs. John Martin. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Jane Jones.

**Music Scholarship Fund:** In memory of Mr. Jens Sturup by Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Woodall and Mrs. Joanne Cavis.

**Music Fund:** In memory of Mr. Jim Sigmund and Mr. Sonny Ward by Mrs. Jane Jones.

**Naomi's Village Fund:** In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Graham by Mrs. Jane Jones.

**Meals on Wheels:** In memory of Mrs. Betsey Hewitt by Mrs. Warene Taylor.

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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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### Prayer Calendars

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

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**THE CORNER**

Jonathan and Lisa Moore, Directors of Student Ministries, [jmoore@stlukeum.com](mailto:jmoore@stlukeum.com)

### SAVE THE DATE! - October 18<sup>th</sup> Parents as Spiritual Heroes

We have Dave Paxton, Life Long Youth Pastor and Student Ministry Communicator speaking at The 9! His message will be on Parents becoming the Spiritual Heroes in the home! He is an anointed student ministry leader who has been a mentor of ours for a long time!

This is a great Sunday to come back to church! If you are not able to attend we will be videoing and posting all sessions on our YouTube Page!

Helping you create disciples in your home is our passion! Looking forward to seeing you there!

There will be a short, interactive parent/student session directly after the 9. Please plan on staying in the seat you sit in at The 9 to ensure safety protocols during this time of precaution due to Covid 19. We will provide individual snack bags and Dave has informed me "there will be some homework for the students!"

We've only got one shot at raising these blessings! Let's make it a good one!  
Joshua 24:15

*But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."*

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