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No. 9

February 28, 2021

Volume 57

Recognition, Remembrance, Response The Three “R’s” of Lenten Renewal

I know you have heard the blessing Moses spoke to Aaron and his sons, a blessing to be given to all Israelites by their priests: *“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you peace.”* (Numbers 6:24-26) I have spoken these words many times to our congregation as a benediction for worship services or at the graveside to a grieving family burying their loved one. These are words meant not merely as a dignified way to end worship services but words to convey the enduring blessing of God’s love. They are the heart of the Lenten Season.

This past weekend, during our Women’s Day Conference, I had the privilege of keeping our granddaughter (and I do mean GRAND in the most profound meaning of the word), Ryleigh. As I showed her my office at the church, she saw pictures of her mother, her father and her grandmother (Pat Pat). With each picture, there was a noticeable light of recognition in her eyes. She excitedly extended her arms to touch the picture, and she squealed with joy. There was not only recognition, but there was also a whole-hearted response to the ones who love her.

For me, Ryleigh’s reaction served as a signpost pointing to the heart of Lent. All of our Lenten disciplines (prayer, fasting, giving, and Bible study) are not ends in themselves. They are the means of creating an atmosphere in which we can recognize, remember and respond to God’s great love for us in Jesus Christ. The *heart* of Lent is the divine embrace by which we are blessed. The light of God’s face shines into our darkness with grace. The countenance (undivided attention) of God’s love is focused on us to give us peace for troubled days such as these. As a result we may know the *renewal* of our lives by the great restorer of souls.

In the Numbers passage, it was not the sons of Aaron who blessed, but God. They are to speak of God’s desire to bless, and they shall put God’s name on the Israelites, **but God Himself will bless them**. May God **bless you** and keep you in these days of Lent. May God turn the light and grace of His smiling face on you. May you respond with childlike trust and spontaneous joy to God’s great love for you. It is God’s gift of renewal in a COVID Lent.

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.

February 28, 2021

2nd Sunday in Lent

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude (*Handbell Choir*)..... “With Heart and Hands and Voices”Douglas Wagner

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

Hymn..... “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” (*vs. 1, 2, and 3*)Number 295

Scripture Lesson.....Proverbs 8:32-36

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.**

The Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.**

**Anthem (*Chancel Choir*)..... “Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow”Lloyd Larson

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..... “Dresden Amen”Johann Naumann

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

Hymn..... “O Word of God Incarnate”Number 598

Special Music (*Handbell Choir*)..... “And Can It Be?”arr. Linda Lamb

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.....John 14:1-6

The Spoken Word..... “**FIND LIFE**”Rev. Beckum

Invitation to Discipleship and Congregational Prayer

Almighty God, your mission is to redeem the world. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit with passion and courage so we can join you in that work. Open our eyes to see you moving in our community. Open our ears to hear your call. Open our hearts to love our neighbors. Open our minds to imagine new ways of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in the world. Amen.

Hymn..... “Standing on the Promises”Number 374

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (*11:00 a.m.*)..... “Fivefold Amen”Marc Boensel

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “And Can It Be?”Improvisation

** Music Box

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

IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! It glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, our Savior, received the gift divine,
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the sacred vessel where gems of truth are stored;
it is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

The Scripture is a banner before God's host unfurled;
it is a shining beacon above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that, o'er life's surging tide,
'mid mists and rocks and quick-sands, to you, O Christ, will guide.

O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations your true light as of old.
O teach your wan-deing pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see You face to face.

STANDING ON THE PROMISES

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages, let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**

Refrain: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. **Refrain**

Permit

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Music Box

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 45 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 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the Sanctuary. Rehearsals will be limited to 45 minutes, socially distanced and masked at all times. Temperature checks will be taken between 5:15 p.m. and 5:25 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: "Through the night of doubt and sorrow, onward goes the pilgrim band, singing songs of expectation, marching to the Promised Land. Clear before us through the darkness gleams and burns our guiding light; pilgrim, clasp the hand of pilgrim, and step fearless through the night. See the light of God's pure presence on the ransomed people shed, chasing far the gloom and terror, brightening this dark path we tread. One the object of our journey, one the faith which never tires, one the song we sing together, one the hope our God inspires. Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers, onward, with the cross our aid. Bear its shame and fight its battle till we rest beneath its shade. Soon shall come the great awakening, soon the rending of the tomb! Soon the scattering of all shadows, and the end of toil and gloom."

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 Jane Hardaway Loflin by Jim and Beth Vech.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES: March 7, March 21, May 2, and May 30. For more open flower dates in 2021 please contact Maggie Roberson at 706-327-4343 or maggie@stlukeum.com.

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: To Mr. and Mrs. Randy (Pat) Jones in the death of her mother, Mrs. Helen Batastini, on February 16, 2021, Columbus, GA.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT: Mr. and Mrs. Ryan (Chloe) Conkel announce the birth of a daughter, Lennon Reese Conkel, on February 17, 2021, Smiths Station, AL. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Greg (Patti) Conkel. A rose has been placed in the chancel area in her honor.



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.
-

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

mhubbard@stlukeum.com www.cornerkidz.com

Looking for a way to get your 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th grader involved in worship? Children's handbell choir will begin practicing on Wednesday, March 3rd from 3:45-4:15 p.m. in the church Sanctuary. Rehearsal will be socially distanced and masked at all times. SLS students will be walked over after school. Those arriving from other schools will need to be dropped off under the church portico where temperatures will be checked prior to entry. Please email me prior to March 1 to sign up.

Calling all 4th and 5th graders! Join me March 14th for an Empty Tomb Escape Room! We'll meet in Stockwell Hall from 5-7:00 p.m. Due to the nature of the activities planned, I do need an accurate head count so be sure to RSVP by March 7th.

Announcing the first ever Corner Kidz Bake Off! A mystery ingredient will be provided on Sunday, March 14th. All entries will need to be brought to the church on Sunday, March 21st by 11 AM to be included in the contest. Our very own Rev. Maddocks and JJ Harrison will taste the entries LIVE on our 1 PM Zoom that same afternoon. Prizes will be awarded for the top three winners. Email me to sign up today!

FUNDRAISER FOR CUB SCOUT PACK 35

Two Opportunities:

1. Camp Cards Sales. Discount cards to various area businesses/\$10.00 each. Selling through March 1st. Contact mendycason@yahoo.com for details. Monies will provide for Pack 35 activities for Scouts to progress in their ranks.
2. Friends of Scouts Donations. Tax deductible. Give by texting 'BSAGIVE6' to 71-777. Include the Pack 35 keyword 'BSAGIVE6', and Pack 35 will receive credit for donation and counts 100% towards the assessment being placed on Pack 35 by the Chattahoochee Council. This enables the Council to continue offering awesome camping facilities and Scouting programs.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Looking for a ministry opportunity where you can safely serve in a much needed area? Our Meals on Wheels program is in need of volunteers to deliver meals. You will have minimal contact picking up the meals at St. Luke and can leave the meal at the door of the homes where you deliver meals. If interested contact Julie Widener at 706-256-1017 or by email at jwidener@stlukeum.com.

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

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.

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.

Naomi's Village: In memory of Rev. Mike McAfee by Mrs. Harriett Bevil.

Respite Care: In memory of Mrs. Jeanette Jones by Mrs. Diane Hett and Dr. Laura P. Kleinschmidt.

Patriot Challenge: In memory of David and Barbara Smart by Mrs. Anna Montgomery. In memory of Rev. Mike McAfee and Mrs. Barbara Smart by Mrs. Debbie Hamilton.

Music Fund: In memory of Mrs. Martha Ann Smith, Mr. James Daffron, Mrs. Lois Brown, Rev. Mike McAfee, and Ms. Sandra Hayden by Mrs. Anna Montgomery.

Memorial Maintenance Fund: In memory of Mrs. Barbara Smart by Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Ron West.

Do you love working with children?

Join Our Ministry!

We Are Hiring @ St. Luke Early Learning Center!

Call 706-322-2703

Send resume to scarr@stlukeum.com

OPEN DOOR WALK CLASSIC 5K

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021

AT A LOCATION OF YOUR CHOICE

Walk/run, hike/bike, dance/skip, mow the lawn, clean up your neighborhood, whatever gets you up and moving while raising money and awareness to love our neighbors. Register online at www.odch.org. Free t-shirt with registration available for pick-up at Open Door, 2405 2nd Ave., Tues-Thurs, March 9-11 from 9 am to 4 pm each day.



THE CORNER

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

THE CORNER CROSSWALK UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 28, March 7, and March 14

NORMAL SCHEDULE!



MIDDLE SCHOOL!
5pm-6:30pm
Large Dining Room



HIGH SCHOOL!
6pm-7:30pm
Youth Room

**SYNTHESIS
LEADERSHIP**

Synthesis High School
Leadership Team Meeting
TODAY, February 28 – 4:30pm!

SAVE THE DATE!

MARCH 21 – Middle School and High School Students!

COLOR WAR for Middle Schoolers – 5pm-6pm

High Schoolers, join us for the **BONFIRE** at 6pm!

Pick up for all ages will be at 8pm!

Location will be sent out by email. **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!**

NO YOUTH – March 28 and April 4.

Have a safe Spring Break and a blessed Easter!
