



# SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday Liturgy---10:00 O'clock AM

The Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Priest-in-Charge

Our Mission Statement

To spread the Gospel to all people through hospitality, service, and spiritual growth.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

Broadcast Link: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Lukes-Episcopal-Church-Scranton-PA-215512459865/>

## PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

O Almighty God, *who pourest* out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to *thee*, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship *thee* in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**PRELUDE** Ps. 103 Nun lob, mein' Seel', den Herren Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP page 351

*Celebrant*

Blessed by God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People**

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant may read the following sentence*

BCP page 352

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

*Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

**GLORIA**

**BCP page 356**

*When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**BCP page 231**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**THE FIRST READING**

**Genesis 50:15-21**

**R**EALIZING THAT their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 103:8-13**

*Benedic, anima mea*

- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

**THE SECOND READING**

**Romans 14:1-12**

**W**ELCOME THOSE who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

**People**            **Thanks be to God.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 18:21-35**

*Celebrant*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People**            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**P**ETER CAME and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

*Celebrant*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

**Mother Barnes**

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**BCP page 358**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Confident of the gracious and ever-widening mercy of God, let us pray for the Church and the world, saying: *Hear us, O Holy One.*

For the Church: especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin, our bishop, that as we proclaim the love of Christ in words and deeds, we may be signs of your peace, and instruments of your reconciliation. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For this parish family, that we may bear witness to God's unconditional love, by opening our hearts to a deeper relationship with Christ. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For all who have experienced terrorism, violence, or war, that God will help them break the cycle of violence and help them choose paths of justice and peace. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For communities in strife, that God's Spirit will open opportunities for dialogue in places of violence, bring an end to injustice, and help all to respect the dignity and value of every person. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For teachers and leaders in education, that God will give them wisdom and insight, as they strive to keep everyone safe, and promote effective learning. Hear us, O Holy One.

For firefighters, and relief workers, that God will keep them from harm, give them strength, and speed the assistance that they need. ***Hear us, O Holy One.***

For all who live with poverty, injustice, isolation, or sickness, remembering especially Jordan, Jean, Mary Ann, Sally, Beverly and Frank, Elsa, Hudson, Grayson, Dave, Christopher, Jim, Sylvia, David, Anne, DJ, Jennifer, Justin, Jeannette, Tom, Leslie, Debbie, Marissa, and Rochelle, that God will comfort them, give them hope, and raise them up. *Hear us, O Holy One.*

For all the departed, remembering especially Stephen, Jeffery, Glenna, Bob, Marianne, and Judy, that having died to the Lord, they may live with him for ever. *Hear us, O Holy One.*

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord our God.*

*Celebrant* God of infinite mercy, hear the prayers we offer this day, bring your merciful forgiveness into our lives, and free us from all division and pride, that we may become your instruments of pardon and peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

BCP page 360

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP page 364

And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ  
has taught us,  
we now pray,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI

BCP page 337

*The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
**grant us thy peace.**

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori*

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

*People and Celebrant*

**In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.**

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.***

*A moment of silence is observed*

*Celebrant* Come Lord Jesus,

**All and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.***

## A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*People and Celebrant*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of**



grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with a truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ my Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

## GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE BLESSING

## DISMISSAL

BCP page 337

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Fanfare in C

Henry Purcell (1658-1695)

### PRAYER AFTER THE SERVICE

Grant, we beseech *thee*, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through *thy* grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of *thy* Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



*Texts of the Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Acclamation, collects, psalm, Nicene Creed, Lord's Prayer, Agnus Dei taken from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain. Prayers of the People by the Rev. Canon Cliff Carr; Prayer of Spiritual Communion is excerpted from Saint Augustine's Prayer Book, © 2014 Forward Movement Printed in the U.S.A.*

## **THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S**

**Live streaming and zoom gatherings from St. Luke's.**

**Daily Office: Morning and Evening Prayer** – Morning Prayer at 9 AM; Evening Prayer at 5PM. Are live-streamed on Tuesday through Sunday.

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

**Morning Prayer, Rite I at 9AM.**

**Sunday School, 9:30 AM** – From Sunday, September 6 until Advent we will be offering a virtual program on the Beatitudes. Please email Mother Barnes at [mthrbarnes@gmail.com](mailto:mthrbarnes@gmail.com) to register and receive Zoom log-on information.

**Sunday Liturgy, 10AM** – Sunday Liturgy is a service of Ante-Communion with spiritual communion. A full service leaflet for the Sunday service may be found by clicking below:

[\*\*Service Leaflet for September 13, 2020\*\*](#)

Please join us on our [\*\*Facebook page\*\*](#) for the streaming of the services listed above.

**Virtual Coffee Hour, Sundays, 11AM** (following 10AM Sunday Liturgy).

Click [\*\*here\*\*](#) to join coffee hour.

**Sunday Adult Ed – Study of the Gospel of Matthew, Sunday, 12 PM.** Please join us this Sunday, August 30th when we will resume our Adult Ed Bible Study. We will discuss Matthew 24.

### **Children's Christian Education Materials**

Click below to access free faith formation resources for kids.

For **Sunday, September 13, 2020**. Materials include:

– Lectionary based Children's worship - [\*\*The Sunday Paper Junior\*\*](#)

**Also, please see the information above regarding our 12 week virtual program on The Beatitudes**

See our [\*\*Children and Youth page\*\*](#) for more offerings including resources for talking with kids about the challenging issues of our time.

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

**Social Justice Book Club, 6:30 PM.** Join us to discuss *Necessary Trouble: Americans in Revolt* by Sarah Jaffe. [\*\*Click here\*\*](#) to reserve your space.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Centering Prayer – Tuesdays at 5:30 PM. Join in the virtual chapel by clicking [here](#). Click [here](#) for a brochure on The Method of Centering Prayer.

7 PM - Regathering Task Force Meeting

### Upcoming Services and Events

#### Phase II Reopening

*We are planning to return to in-person worship on the weekend of October 17 & 18, the weekend of the Feast of St. Luke. In preparation, our schedule is:*

Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm – Parish Work Day

Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> 10am – Compliance Team Training

Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm – Vestry and Task Force Liturgy  
*(Vestry, Regathering Task Force, and Compliance Team only to work out details)*

#### First In-Person Parish Services

Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 5pm – Eve of the Feast of St. Luke.

Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> 10am – Feast of St. Luke.

(We will be providing more information as to what to expect at our in-person services as we get closer to reopening dates. We will also be conducting a parish survey prior to reopening to obtain feedback and hear from you as your hopes and concerns.)

**Special Service – Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm – Annual First Friday Blessing of the Animals, Memorial Garden. (We will also bless pets outdoors on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, The Feast of St. Francis at 11am for those unable to attend on Friday, and/or to permit safe numbers and social distancing.**

For all events and services, everyone **MUST** wear a mask and socially distance. All services will continue to be live streamed via our parish Facebook page.



*Please note, St. Luke's policies and procedures are subject to change under the direction of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Diocese of Bethlehem*



**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
"In the heart of things"

**The Rev'd Rebecca A. Barnes, Priest-in-Charge**

**Ms. Maria Zengion, Organist and Choirmaster**

**The Vestry**

Deirdre Frazier (2021—Clerk), Mickey Baccoli, (2022—Senior Warden),  
Francis McMullen (2021), Jane Merolla (2023—Treasurer),  
Robin O'Hearn (2021), Bernard Ott (2022), Kathy Selemba (2022),  
Sharon Sollami (2023), and Amanda Wrazien (2023).

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