



SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Said Holy Eucharist---5:00 O'clock PM (Vigil)

The Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Rector

Our Mission Statement

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

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 20, 2024

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

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

“BCP” with a page number, refers to The Book of Common Prayer.
The Collect of the Day, the First and Second Lessons, and the Gospel are on the bulletin insert.

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.*

All stand, as able, as the procession enters the nave.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP page 355

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP page 355

GLORIA

BCP page 356

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP page 224

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

THE RULERS, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

Read in unison

BCP page 612

THE SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-24

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.

WE KNOW love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

JESUS SAID, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Celebrant

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Mother Barnes

THE NICENE CREED *(All stand, as able)*

BCP page 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor Let us pray for the needs of all God's children in the name of Jesus the Good Shepherd, saying: *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Kevin our bishop, that we may give bold witness to Jesus the source of life and salvation. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For this parish family, that we who are known by Christ may gladly welcome into this flock all who will listen to the Lord's voice. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who are searching, that they may encounter life and wholeness and so find the shepherd who searches and cares for them. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, and all places where war and violence threaten lives, that God will shepherd and shield all those in danger. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the leaders of nations, that God will give them hearts like the Good Shepherd, compassion toward those who suffer, and wisdom to seek dialogue and peace. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all those in need of our prayers, remembering especially , Jordan, Frank, Elaine, Lynn, Rich, Mary Jane, Bill+, Robin, Heather, Chase, Francis, Carol, Althea, Stacy, Isabella, Will, Jodie, Naomi, Richard, Philomena, Ken, Jesse, Dave, Mike, Kyle, John, Tim, Debbie, Lilly, and Justin. that they may be strengthened by the goodness and mercy of the Good Shepherd. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those who have died, remembering especially Daniel+, Frankie, and Mary that they may dwell in the house of the Lord forever. *Alleluia! Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, Mark the Evangelist and all the saints who have borne witness to the Risen Christ, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *Alleluia! To you, O Lord, we give praise and glory.*

Celebrant God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, hear our prayers, give us the cup of salvation to drink and keep us always in the fold of your divine love, that goodness and mercy may follow us all the days of our life. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharistic Prayer A **BCP page 361**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD **BCP page 362**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION **BCP page 363**

GREAT AMEN **BCP page 363**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional) **BCP page 364**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD **BCP page 364**

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM Agnus Dei **BCP page 337**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Luke's. The Celebrant will place the consecrated host in the palm of your hand; a Eucharistic minister will then offer you the common cup. We ask that you do not instinct (dip the bread in the wine). If you wish, the Celebrant will instinct for you; you may indicate your desire to receive in this manner by keeping your hands folded. If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward to receive a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.

We invite those who are joining via livestreaming to make an Act of Spiritual Communion

<https://news.forwardmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spiritual-Communion.pdf>

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER **BCP page 365**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE EASTER BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

BCP page 366

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.

People *Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.*

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.*

This week's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Torrington R. and Ruth Davis Watkins on the occasion of their 100th Wedding Anniversary
by Torrington D. and Judith Watkins.

The candle beside the Aumbry, in which the Blessed Sacrament is reserved, has been given in loving memory of
Jeffrey Tilberry by Sharon Sollami.

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, Creed, Eucharistic Prayer A, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing 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. Service music and hymns permission used by Rite Song a one-time use reprint license for congregational use. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed under One License #A-728767

SPECIAL MINISTERS

Saturday, 5:00 pm: TBD (Altar Guild); M. Savinelli, L. Savinelli, (Ushers); D. Kraus (Crucifer and Acolyte); TBD (Lector); TBD (Intercessor); TBD (Chalice Bearer); **TBD** (Counters).

Sunday, 10:00 am: TBD (Altar Guild); **TBD** (Ushers); A. Guthrie (Crucifer and Acolyte); M. Baccoli, E. Rayburn (Lectors); D. Wegner (Intercessor); M. Baccoli (Chalice Bearer); **TBD** (Counters).

***Servers are needed at every service:** Readers, intercessors (prayers of the people), ushers, and coffee hour hosts are needed on a regular basis. Sign-up sheets are located in Israel lounge. If you are interested in serving, please contact Mother Barnes.

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S

Welcome to St. Luke's as we return to in-person worship! **Live streaming and zoom gatherings continue from St. Luke's.** Please join us on our [Facebook page](#) for the streaming of the services.

** (Note: if you are NOT a Facebook member, when you click on the link it will ask you to sign in or create an account, which you can ignore and just scroll down the page a bit till you see the service.)

Click [here](#) for a copy of the Book of Common Prayer!

Click [here](#) for a copy of Enriching Our Worship 1. This contains supplemental liturgical materials (i.e. Canticles) we occasionally use for Morning and Evening Prayer.

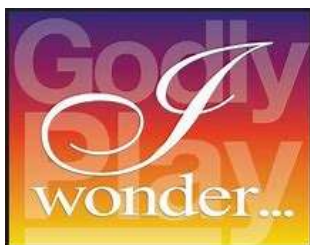
Daily Office: Morning and Evening Prayer – Morning Prayer at 9 AM; Evening Prayer at 5PM are live-streamed on Sunday; Tuesday through Saturday morning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

► **Lenten Pizza Sale Extended** - Vouchers for Roseanna's Pizza are still available, however, the restaurant fell behind in getting tickets to us to sell so we will not be mailing tickets out to parishioners as planned. There are plenty of tickets available in the church office, from any Vestry member, or by seeing Mother Barnes. Voucher that can be redeemed for a plain tray of pizza at either of their location at 998 Main Ave., Dickson or 501 N. Hyde Park Ave. in west Scranton. Please consider buying a voucher or two to gift to a friend or neighbor. all proceeds will benefit the general fund of the parish. Thank you to Rick Ammenhauser for co-ordinating this fundraiser. Please contact Rick at imgold67@aol.com for more information

Christian Education and Formation

► Children



Sunday School: St. Luke's uses the **GODLY PLAY**, a Montessori-based curriculum with our younger children, ages five to ten years old. Sunday School is held at 9:30 AM every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month. **To register your child please contact Mother Barnes at mthrbarnes@gmail.com or Rick Ammenhauser at imgold67@aol.com**

Family Eucharist is held on the first Sunday of the month. The children and youth play a direct role in the 10am worship service by serving as ushers, acolytes and lectors.

► Adult

Wednesday Bible & Book Study – Each week, following the 12:10 Healing Eucharist the Wednesday Bible/Book Study group meets at 1:15 PM.

Currently, the midweek Bible study is exploring *The Path: A Journey Through the Bible*. *The Path* is the story of the Bible excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version so that it is clear and easy to read. Follow the path of God’s love all the way from the beginning to the end from creation and John’s revelation. With informative trail signs to help one see how each piece of the narrative fits together, *The Path* is an experience unlike any other: an amazing 360 degree overview of the vast, sweeping story of God’s love for ordinary people.

The Path is available through Forward Movement (<https://www.forwardmovement.org/>) or Amazon; pdfs will be distributed for the weekly class.

Centering Prayer Group: Each Thursday evening at 5:30PM an ongoing weekly Centering Prayer group meets. Centering Prayer is a contemplative form of prayer geared toward the cultivation of interior silence or “centering.” This form of prayer invites one to enter into a deeper relationship with God by being open and receptive to the presence and action of God in our lives. No prior experience is necessary. For more information, contact Mother Barnes at mthrbarnes@gmail.com or call the parish office.

Community Outreach and Social Justice

► Food Pantry – Volunteers Needed

St. Luke’s satellite food pantry in partnership with Friends of the Poor will be **April 23rd from 1-2:30pm**. For more information on how to volunteer or if you or someone you know is in need, please email Sharon Sollami at sharonsollami@gmail.com

► **Little Free Library** - Please consider donating books or magazines to our Little Free Library found in the Memorial Garden. With spring and summer comes an increase in foot traffic through the garden and of late we have found ourselves with few books to offer. Your donation can be left in the large tub found under the coat rack in Israel Lounge, or you can simply add your donation to the library as space allows.

► Register now for Gather 24

Registration for Gather 24 on May 4, 2024, is now open. There are 21 sessions to choose from at Gather 24, and the day includes lunch, hearing from Bishops, worship, and lots of other fun and fellowship opportunities. The \$25 registration fee helps offset the event site cost, meals and snacks, prizes, and other event costs (scholarships are available for those with need). We suggest you preview the session descriptions before registering: click here: <https://diobeth.org/gather24/gather24sessions/>
Register now: click here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../gather-24-registration...>

Gather is the Diocese of Bethlehem’s annual formation event. Gather 24 is May 4, 2024, at PNC Field (just south of Scranton), home of the RailRiders, a Triple-A baseball team. The Gather 24 page on the diocesan website includes the day’s schedule and links and will be updated with more information as available: diobeth.org/gather24



► **Safe Church classes are hitting the road and coming to YOU!**

After hearing your feedback, we're thrilled to announce that in-person classes are back, alongside our trusted online option. Now you can choose what works best for you!

Registration is now open! Choose from these two sessions offered at Prince of Peace in Dallas ([420 Main St, Dallas PA 18612](#)).

Remember, you only need to attend one of the days.

- **Friday, May 10th, 1:00pm - 5:00pm**
- **Saturday, May 11th, 9:00am - 1:00pm**

Register online: [click here](#).

If you have questions or want to host a session in your area this summer, please contact Tim Wagner (tim@diobeth.org). Let's continue the vital work of protecting everyone in our communities together.

Upcoming Concerts at St. Luke's

► **SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024 at 3:00PM - *An Afternoon of Solo Violin***

Violinist Brendan Bordick Lescavage plays works of Mozart, Schubert, Kreisler, Massenet, and Saint-Saëns, accompanied by pianist John Zinsky.



► **SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024 at 800 PM - Lyric Consort: Elizabethan Voices** Music of Thomas Tallis, William Byrd, and selections from “The Triumphs of Oriana.” Admission \$10. Reception to follow. lyricconsort.com

In a Pastoral Emergency, please contact—The Reverend Rebecca A. Barnes, Rector at 646-533-1836/e-mail at mthrbarnes@gmail.com. If you, or a family member, are in the hospital, a health care facility, or are home bound and would like to have a visit from Mother Barnes or a member of our Pastoral Care Committee, please contact the parish office. Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, commonly known as HIPAA, hospitals no longer automatically provide churches with names of admitted parishioners. If you or a family member are hospitalized or in a health care facility someone acting on your behalf will need to notify the church to assure that proper pastoral care may be offered. St. Luke’s church complies with all HIPAA requirements and cannot provide personal information for sick or injured members without permission of the member or his or her close family member. Additionally, if you or a loved one are hospitalized or homebound and desire regular Eucharistic visitation, please notify the parish office. Eucharistic Visitations are customarily made once per month; weekly visits may be scheduled upon request.



April 21, 2024 – Easter 4 (B)
Week 4: Reflections on the Resurrection

During the Easter season, Sermons That Work is pleased to present reflections from some of the newest bishops of The Episcopal Church on the resurrection of our Lord. Check back each week for a brief exploration of how Jesus Christ's rising from the grave changes everything. To listen to this reflection, scan the QR code on this page and subscribe to the Sermons That Work podcast.

During Eastertide, we lift high the good news that God's saving work in human history has been accomplished solely through the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. We proclaim that in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting our trespasses against us, and that salvation is not earned by any human effort at all but received by faith in the finished work of Christ.

But let's be honest: Sometimes this all sounds too good to be true – a well-meaning sentiment, but not terribly helpful when confronted with day-to-day reality. In the face of darkness, despair and death, we need resurrection, not sentiment.

We know all too well that life is filled with suffering. Some of us feel paralyzing guilt and condemnation because of the sins we've committed. Some of us feel overwhelming shame because of the sins committed against us. Some of us feel despair because of the impulses and addictions that seem to have power over us. Some of us are shrouded in the darkness of depression. Some of us are suffocated by grief because death has taken a child, a spouse, a parent or a friend.

Rather than minimize darkness, despair and death, Jesus experiences it and comforts us in it right now. The one who stepped out of the grave on Easter morning has the last word. We're comforted knowing that Jesus Christ, God himself, knows what it's like to suffer, and that his Resurrection is a guarantee of our future resurrection to eternal life. Because Jesus conquered death, we know that darkness is not the end of the story or the last word on us. The risen Christ says the last word on us is "hope."

The Bible teaches that our suffering is a place to experience God's sustaining grace in our weakness (2 Cor. 1:8-9, 12:9-10). Grief, Scripture clearly says, is a natural response when we experience loss, but it can be tempered by the good news of Christ's Resurrection. Because of his victory over death, all threats against us are tamed. He conquers all our enemies: Satan, sin, hell and the grave. The Resurrection not only readjusts our horizon, but it completely transforms our understanding of the future as well.

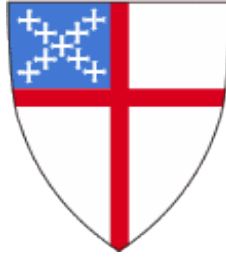
Where darkness, despair and death had reigned, Jesus breaks in with light, liberation and love. A picture of this comes from Robert Louis Stevenson, the author of "Treasure Island" who lived in Scotland in the 19th century. As a boy, he and his family lived on a hillside overlooking a small town. He was intrigued by the work of the old lamplighters, who went about with ladders and torches, lighting the streetlights for the night.

One evening, as Robert stood watching with fascination, his nurse asked him, "Robert, what in the world are you looking at out there?" With great excitement, he exclaimed, "Look at that man! He's punching holes in the darkness!"

Jesus Christ, "the light of the world" (John 8:12), has entered our suffering to punch holes in the darkness and lead us into the dawn of his grace, love and eternal life. While it is true that in the midst of life, we are in death, what's more true is that, because of the Resurrection, in the midst of death, we are in life.



***The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb** is the bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida, a seminary professor, and an author or editor of more than twenty books on theology, abuse, and biblical studies. This reflection was adapted from [Bishop Holcomb's Easter sermon at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Orlando, March 31, 2024](#).*



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"In the heart of things"

HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist (Said)

(Followed by Coffee Hour in Kreitler Hall on the first week of the month.)

Sundays: 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Sung)

(Please join us each week for Coffee Hour in Kreitler Hall
following the Sunday service)

The first Sunday of each month we offer a "Family Eucharist" with special participation by our youth. On all other Sundays, Sunday School is offered for younger children at 9:30 A.M.

**Wednesdays: 12:10 P.M. Holy Eucharist with prayers
and anointing for healing**

—
The Rev'd Rebecca A. Barnes, Rector

Ms. Maria Zengion, Organist and Choirmaster

The Vestry

Mickey Baccoli, (2025—Senior Warden), Rick Ammenhauser (2027 —Junior Warden),
Kathy Selemba (2025—Clerk), Kimberly DeSanto (2027), Bernard Ott (2025),
Sharon Sollami (2026), and Thomas Zurla (2026 – Treasurer)

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Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.



St. Luke's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

