Welcome to Worship: Thank you for making Grace-St. Luke’s part of your spiritual journey and for joining us today for this virtual worship offering. If you are new among us, please complete an online Connect Card at gracetlukes.org/online-visitor-card. Our clergy-staff team would like to reach out to learn more about you and to explore how life at Grace-St. Luke’s might bless your journey and you bless ours. For more about our thriving faith community including online formation (learning) offerings, please visit www.gracetlukes.org.

Celebrant: The Rev. Laura F. Gettys
Assisting: The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke

All are asked to observe silence during the

Voluntary: “Prelude on Olivet”

Mark C. Jones

Welcome and Announcements
The Penitential Order: Rite Two

The congregation is invited to remain seated and meditate on the text of the opening hymn while the cantors and organist sing. Those worshiping from home are invited to join in singing. See page 9 regarding in-person congregational singing.

Hymn 401, stanzas 1 & 3-5, “The God of Abraham Praise”

music: Leoni, Hebrew melody; harm. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1875, alt.
words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures for ever.

The Celebrant and People kneel or stand for
The Decalogue: Contemporary
Hear the commandments of God to his people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8,9

The Celebrant and People kneel or stand for
The Confession of Sin and Absolution
The 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.

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.

The Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison. (Lord, have mercy upon us.)
Christe eleison. (Christ, have mercy upon us.)
Kyrie eleison. (Lord, have mercy upon us.)
The Collect of the Day

Celebrant  The Lord be with you.
People     And also with you.
Celebrant  Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

All are seated for the Lessons.

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Lector  The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God. Silence

Psalm 22:22-30 recited by all in unison

22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *  
    stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
    all you of Jacob’s line, give glory.  
23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; *  
    neither does he hide his face from them;  
    but when they cry to him he hears them.  
24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *  
    I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.  
25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
    and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *  
    “May your heart live for ever!”  
26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *  
    and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.  
27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *  
    he rules over the nations.  
28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *  
    all who go down to the dust fall before him.  
29 My soul shall live for him;  
    my descendants shall serve him; *  
    they shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.  
30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *  
    the saving deeds that he has done.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father
of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God. Silence

All stand for the Gospel.

The Gospel
Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. 8:31-38
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke

The Priest invites the People to stand for The Nicene Creed.

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.

Prayers of the People, Form I
With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.
For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For those reflected on the prayer list and for those we now name either silently or aloud [N.N.], let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, and for those we now name either silently or aloud [N.N.], let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
In the communion of the ever blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Luke, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

*All stand for*

**The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

The Celebrant and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

**The Offertory**

*The Celebrant first offers instructions about the ministration of communion. Then the Celebrant and Assisting Priest wash their hands with soapy warm water and sanitize them. During the setting of the Holy Table, financial offerings may be made to support life at Grace-St. Luke's: visit graceslukes.org/onlinegiving; text GSLChurch ALMS to 73256 to give to ALMS; text GSLChurch PLEDGE to 73256 to give to your PLEDGE; or you may mail offerings to the church office. Our 2021 stewardship campaign, Resilience and Connection by Giving, is seeking 100% participation from all parishioners: visit graceslukes.org/pledge. For information about worship, formation for all ages, ways to connect, serve and more, visit www.graceslukes.org.*

**Music at the Offertory**

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.
On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
**We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Luke, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

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

*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.*

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The People are seated or may kneel to prepare to receive communion.*

**The Ministration of Holy Communion**

After receiving the Bread, the priests immediately proceed to the nave to give the Bread to the people by coming to each pew pod. The Bread is given to communicants with these words *The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.* or The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Anthem at Communion**

*DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND*  

*music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918), alt.*  
*words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.*

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
Forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;  
In purer lives, thy service find,  
In deeper rev'rence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
Beside the Syrian sea,  
The gracious calling of the Lord,  
Let us, like them, without a word,  
Rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
Till all our strivings cease:  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe thro’ the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak thro’ the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!
During communion, Spiritual Communion Prayers are offered by those worshipping via livestream.

**Spiritual Communion Prayers**

These rich words are recited daily throughout the church catholic (universal) by individuals and communities unable to gather for public worship for whatever reason, while also longing for the occasion to participate in the Episcopal Church's central practice of receiving the Holy Sacrament.

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, remembering Grace-St. Luke’s Church and those worshiping and receiving communion at this time, I long to offer 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, and particularly for the blessings given me. 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.

Come Lord Jesus, 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.

**Post-Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Blessing**

Let us bow our hearts before the Lord.

*The Celebrant says*

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
The congregation is invited to remain seated and meditate on the text of the opening hymn while the cantors and organist sing. Those worshiping from home are invited to join in singing. See below regarding in-person congregational singing.

**Hymn 442, “IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY”**

Music: Tomter, Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)  
Words: John Bowring (1792-1872)

The Dismissal

The people are dismissed with these words

Minister  
Let us bless the Lord.

People  
Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: “LITANIES”  
Jehann Alain

Exiting The Pews. Please remain seated throughout the organ voluntary. After the voluntary is finished, ushers will be available in the aisles to direct all exiting in a distanced manner via the narthex only (south entrance behind you) using the east doors only (left as you approach). The Clergy and Welcome Hosts will be stationed in the narthex and outside to exchange greetings.

Continue the day, giving thanks to God for blessings known and known, and by reaching out in care for fellow parishioners, neighbors, and any persons in need. Members of the parish with any needs or pastoral concerns: email pastoralcare@gracetolukes.org or dial 901-252-6320, and for hospitalizations or emergencies, dial the 24/7 Clergy-on-Call phone line at 901-252-6334.

The Rev. Laura F. Gettys, Celebrant  
The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke, Preacher  
The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Assisting  
Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist  
Elizabeth Hornor, Isabel Wittman, Daniel Massey, & Andrew Carroll, Cantors  
Ed Griffith, Lucy Owens, Livestream Support

A note regarding congregational singing: Current research is comparing singing to that of sneezing or coughing—claiming that the aerosols that are produced while coughing/sneezing/singing may go further than 6 feet (think of a can of aerosol hairspray); even if wearing a mask, some of the aerosol particles may still be released into the air. The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of West Tennessee are recommending that congregations refrain from singing until it is safe to do so. Our diocese has approved parishes to have 4 singers in the Chancel area that are placed 17 feet apart from each other and from congregation members.
A Message from the Rector

Steadfast Love: Weeping For Us. Father Henri Nouwen reflects for the Wednesday in the First Week of Lent: “I think sometimes Jesus must look out of our world and weep ... I remember how Jesus cried out from the cross for his Father ... and for me. Lord Jesus, you once said that ‘if you reach out to care for others, you’re reaching out to me.’ Lord, let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Amen.” – The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Rector (Read the full text: gracestlukes.org/news/steadfast-love-weeping-for-us)

Take Note

GSL Lenten Theme: Light In Deepest Night. Based on the title of a work of choral music and spoken meditations by Aaron David Miller drawing from the writings of Julian of Norwich, “Light in Deepest Night” is the theme for Lent 2021 at GSL. Our Lenten Preaching Series features sermons by the parish clergy and guests (Sundays, 10:30 a.m.). For more information and to explore the text, visit tinyurl.com/lightindeepestnight.

Explore Lent, Holy Week, Easter at GSL. Explore gracestlukes.org/news/lent-holy-week-and-easter for details about Sunday and Wednesday events and a variety of resources to support individual and household journeys. Spread the news far and wide!

Worship and Music

SUNDAY

10:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist with Music, in person and virtual. Follow this link (tinyurl.com/GSLWorshipSignup) to sign up for in-person worship by 8 a.m. Sunday. Access livestream services via GSL website (gracestlukes.org/live), Facebook Live (facebook.com/gracestlukes/live) and YouTube (youtube.com/gracestlukes).

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer officiated from the Chapel at GSL by the Rev. Laura F. Gettys via Facebook Live (facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

WEEKDAYS

Tuesdays and Thursdays, Compline (Night Prayers), 8 until 8:15 p.m. via Facebook Live (facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

Christian Formation

Life at GSL Sunday and Weekday Offerings. Explore and share with others the Life at GSL Winter-Spring 2021 Guide (gracestlukes.org/discover/life-at-gsl-guide) for Sunday guest speakers, Wednesday events, and more including plans for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

Adults. (gracestlukes.org/adult-formation)

Lenten Book Study, The Art of Forgiveness, Lovingkindness, and Peace continues Wednesdays, March 3, 10 & 17. All are welcome to attend. Visit gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether for more information, including sign-up link.


Youth. (gracestlukes.org/youth-formation)

Sunday, February 28. EYC in person returns! We are so happy to finally be back to having EYC outside and masked, but together! To kick things off, we will be playing Gaga Ball! Come find out why this is an all-time favorite of St. Columba and Mud Camp. 6th-8th grades 3-4 p.m.; 9th-12th grades from 4-5 p.m. Meet outside the Red Door on LeMaster. For more information, please contact Director of Youth Formation Amzie Williams (awilliams@gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation).

Children. (gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation)

Lenten Video Project for Children. Plans are underway for a children’s video project for Lent. Please watch your email and/or upcoming eNews for details and ways for your child/ren to take part in this special gift to our parish.

SAVE THE DATE! We’re so excited to partner with some of our fellow midtown congregations on a second drive-through event for families with children! Mark your calendars for the afternoon of Easter Sunday, April 4, and come see us at Idlewild Church for lots of Easter-themed fun! Visit gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation for WAYS TO HELP. To be added to the Children’s Formation email list, please contact Sharon Campbell (scampbell@gracestlukes.org), Director of Children’s Formation.
Recreation and Wellness

Recreation Let’s Play Ball! It’s that time again. March is the month for 2021 GSL Church Baseball, Softball & T-Ball Online Registration. Teams are available for JK–4th grades and registration is March 1–14. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and does fill up quickly. Please register at gracestlukes.org/playball. If you are interested in coaching, please email Christi Authement (cauthement@gracestlukes.org) or fill out the coaching box on the online registration form.

Uniform Drop Box. To keep costs to a minimum, GSL Church Sports Committee requests that you recycle your church sports uniforms. A Drop Box will be in front of the GSL School Circle Drive through March 7. This is a perfect time to recycle your uniforms. What to Recycle: Soccer jerseys & shorts; Baseball, Softball, & T-Ball jerseys, pants, shorts, & belts (hats and socks optional); Basketball jerseys & shorts

Yoga with Shantih, Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Follow this link (gracestlukes.org/events/yoga-with-shantih) for signup details and Zoom info.

Community Life

Lenten Observances in Liturgy and More. During the season of Lent, it is our custom to minimize ornamentation and cover (“veil”) some religious symbols throughout our sacred space, simply to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter. These visual and other liturgical changes are not meant to be there forever. We actually live in a “veiled” world, in exile from our true home. It is by self-examination, repentance, and dying-to-self that the veil is lifted, and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives. The unveiling at Easter is a reminder of our own life on earth. You will notice that the cross and candles at the high altar and the paraments (fabrics on the altar, pulpit, and lectern) will be different. By these outward changes, worship on Sundays and other days, a shift in the tones of music, devotional resources, and virtual formation offerings, the parish community journeys deeper into Christ in ways that will transform our lives.

The Messenger Magazine. The February-March issue is available for download by following this link (gracestlukes.org/the-messenger). Included in this issue is a copy of Life at GSL—Winter-Spring 2021 Guide, a comprehensive publication of Christian formation offerings for all ages through May, articles on the 100th Anniversary of GSL Scout Troop 34, Social Justice, Outreach, and much more.

Baptisms at GSL. The sacrament of Holy Baptism typically is administered during public worship services at various times throughout each year. Four occasions are set aside on the Church Year Calendar (The Baptism of our Lord, The Great Vigil of Easter, The Day of Pentecost, All Saints’ Sunday) and a few other dates excluding the season of Lent through Holy Week (February 17-April 2). During the COVID-19 pandemic, Bishop Phoebe has authorized the clergy to administer the sacrament in small gathering settings, outside of the Sunday 10:30 a.m. service, including weekdays and Saturdays. For information and to schedule a baptism, contact Stewardship Associate Chapman Morrow (901-252-6328, cmorrow@gracestlukes.org).

Social Justice

Virtual Absalom Jones Celebration, Saturday, February 27, 9 a.m. In collaboration with the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE: ube.org) Bishop E. Thomas Demby Chapter of the Diocese of West Tennessee and Diocese of Atlanta Chapter, the Grace-St. Luke’s community is invited to attend “Wake Up, O Sleepers, and Rise!: A Calling for Racial Reconciliation, Healing, and Justice.” Visit bit.ly/2021AbsalomJones.

Outreach

Valentine’s Food Drive Thank You. Sending one huge thank you heart for spreading the message of love! The food pickup was delayed for a week due to our inclement weather, but may turn out to be even more of a success, with store shelves emptying while our neighbors in need have contacted Neighborhood Christian Centers for help. Our Servant Ministry partner will distribute the food we collected to their clients who have contacted them because of the storm shortages. Again, thank you to all the food and financial donors and volunteers – look for a full article on this parish success in the next Messenger!

New Servant Ministry Partner Indigenous Pastoral Relief (IPR) is primarily committed to serving newcomers to the United States, those who are in the process of requesting asylum and those who cannot afford clothing, food, housing, educational and/or medical expenses. They do this by helping with education, health care, food, advocacy, and pastoral counseling. They have asked us for a liaison and volunteers who can speak Spanish. If you are able to help us facilitate communications and explore this exciting new opportunity, please email outreach@gracestlukes.org.
Quick Links
Follow these links to frequently visited pages on our website and Facebook.

- LIVE Virtual Worship, Music, Formation Offerings: gracestlukes.org/live
- Facebook Live: facebook.com/gracestlukes/live
- YouTube Live: youtube.com/gracestlukes
- Wednesday eNews: gracestlukes.org/weekly-news
- More Information about Worship: gracestlukes.org/worship
- More Information about Music: gracestlukes.org/music
- Sacramental Life Events: gracestlukes.org/connect/in-the-church/life-events
- Hope and Good News: gracestlukes.org/discover/spiritaual-guidance
- Pastoral Care, Prayer List, and Prayer Requests: gracestlukes.org/prayerrequest
- Subscribe to GSL, Diocesan & The Episcopal Church eNews: gracestlukes.org/enews
- Information about Fraudulent Emails & Text: gracestlukes.org/news/phishing
- The Messenger, Bi-monthly Magazine: gracestlukes.org/the-messenger
- Realm Connect: GSL Directory & More: gracestlukes.org/realm

The Prayer List

Our prayers are asked for Brad Larson, Patty McManus, Kaye, John, Caroline Clay, Betsy Tate, Nancy Wilkerson, Kristin King, Charles Chandler, Michael Wills, Jake Seymour, Alymarie “Dooney” Twele, Annelise Ware Simmons, Felix Dae Sanders, Deborah Lowe, Amanda Adams, Bill Russell, Tom Wyatt, Susan Williamson, Peggy Mulherin Williamson, Madeline Mathis, Lucy Singh, Rachel Sanford, The Kaldon Family, Paul Douglas, and Kathleen.

Our prayers are asked for those who have died, especially Enyeart Myers Arnold, father of Karen Clark, and those who have died from coronavirus.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays, especially Brackie Carter, Duncan Sheats, Tim Bakelaar, Stephen Bush, Margaret Chesney, Finn Church, Martin Edwards, Rowan Gratz, Lynn Hammond, Jack Hayes, Walker Hays, Laura Hutton, Murray McKay, Patti Newsom, Virginia Phillips, Suzanne Pyler, Joanne Rhea, Melinda Rutland, Kenny Schildt, Wynn Scott, Nicholas Smith, Lauren Wiener, and John Williford, and for those celebrating wedding anniversaries, especially Mat & Sophie Parker, Stinson & Patty Liles, Rob & Melissa McLean, and Brent & Jo Ann Powell.

Prayer List and Prayer Requests. To submit a prayer request for the Prayer List, you may contact Parish House Receptionist & Ministry Associate Abby Huber (ahuber@gracestlukes.org, 901-252-6336) or complete the online Prayer Request Form (gracestlukes.org/prayerrequest). Names of persons, who have given consent for names to be printed, will be listed for one month, unless a longer period is requested. While certain concerns may be confidential between the clergy and the individual, others may not be. If you are wondering about an individual, please contact the individual directly or a member of the clergy. Intercessions are offered daily by the clergy and lay pastoral care ministers and reflected in the worship service leaflet.

Clergy and Staff. The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Rector; The Rev. Laura F. Gettys, Associate Rector; The Rev. Anne S. Carrière, Priest Associate; Christi Authement, Recreation & Wellness Director; Sharon Campbell, Director of Children’s Formation; Abby Huber, Receptionist, Ministry Associate, & Assistant to the Rector; Ashley Kendrick, Facilities Assistant; Chapman Morrow, Stewardship Associate; Lucy Owens, Communications Administrator; Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist; Debbie Smith, Assistant Organist-Choirmaster; Linda Stine, Parish Administrator; Darling “D” Thomas, Lead Facilities Assistant; Amzie Williams, Director of Youth Formation. Clergy and staff contact information: www.gracestlukes.org/welcome/clergy-and-staff.

Vestry, Treasurer, Chancellor. 2021: Grant Adams (Congregational Development), Wight Boggs (Social Justice), Patrick Burnett (Youth Formation), Charlie Pazar (Senior Warden, Administration), Tom Stephenson (Stewardship); 2022: Ben Cowan (Children’s Formation), Mike Davis (Outreach), Sandra Ireland (Adult Formation), Jonathan Large (Outreach), Anna Robbins (Junior Warden); 2023: George Johnson (Stewardship), Andy Nix (Stewardship), Johnny Norris (Social Justice), Paula Sappington (Clerk, Congregational Development), Taylor Taylor (Congregational Development); Treasurer: Phil Ashford; Parish Chancellor: Steven King

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Lent 2021 at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church
“Light in Deepest Night”
A Lenten Meditation based on the Writings of Julian of Norwich

Sunday, March 28, 5:30 p.m. Grace-St. Luke’s musicians and clergy offer a prerecorded service of choral music and spoken meditations based on the writings of Julian of Norwich, compiled and set to music by Aaron David Miller

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Lenten Preaching Series – Sermons by Parish Clergy and Guests
February 21 – The Rev. Laura F. Gettys | February 28 – The Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke

Tune In gracestlukes.org/live | facebook.com/gracestlukes | youtube.com/gracestlukes

Faith, Be Our Light in Deepest Night
Faith, be our light in deepest night,
Spirit of good, our endless day.
Blest be your holy trinity,
You are the goodness of all things.

Oh, Love How Deep
Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, beyond all thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals’ sake!

For us by wickedness betrayed, for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death; for us he gave his dying breath.

For us he rose from death again; for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad;
the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

Prayer
God almighty, loving father,
Christ all wisdom, loving mother,
with the love and goodness of the Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord.
In our creation and your incarnation, you joined and united yourself with us.
In union with you, we are your true spouse and beloved wife with whom you are never displeased.
For you say to us, “I love you, and you love me, and our love will never divide in two.”
Grant that our hearts may constantly abide in your loving union
that we may delight, praise, thank, and endlessly rejoice in Christ our Savior and tender mother,
who with you and the Holy Spirit, are endless love and eternal delight.
Amen.
Living Prayer
Make my life a living prayer.
May I flourish in your sight.
Make me life a living prayer.
Where there is truth and wisdom, there is love.

I am known to you in times of sickness.
I am known to you in times of feebleness.
I am known to you in times of darkness.
I am known to you in times of loneliness.

You are endless truth,
endless wisdom,
Love beyond all fear.

Make my life a living prayer.
May I flourish in your sight.
Make my life a living prayer.
Where there is truth and wisdom, there is love.

Lead us into fullness of joy
Lead us into fullness of joy. You are our hope for endless bliss. Be our keeper.
By love you made us. In love you shape us. Through love preserve us. For love intend us.

Mothering God, you gave me birth
Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light,
grain of new life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one, in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow until I flower, until I know.

God our father, Christ our mother
God our father, Christ our mother, father guides as mother nurtures.
Father, font of every being, Mother Christ, the heart of mercy.

Spirit give us grace abundant. Spirit grant us peace and comfort.
Mother Jesus grant us peace and joy. Bear us to your heavenly bliss.

Mother Jesus, love’s fair grace, Lay us gently on your breast.
Grant us through your open side, Blessed life and endless love.

Mother Jesus still the same. Love unchanging ever near to us.
Guard us safe to heaven’s bliss.
Sweet Light
Sweet light from Jesus face, shining clear, shining bright, we do not fear the coming night,
keep our hearts in purest light.
Eternal day shines in your face, where we rest, safe in grace. We rise and fall in your eternal day,
touched by your gracious hand, our life, our love, our light.

O Trinity, O blessed Light
O Trinity, O blessed Light, O unity of sovereign might: as now the fiery sun departs,
shed holy light within our hearts.

To you our morning song of praise, to you our evening prayer we raise;
to you in awe we bend the knee from age to age, eternally.

All glory be to God above and to the Son, the prince of love, and to the Spirit, One in Three!
We praise you, blessed Trinity.

Chaconne
God our maker, God our keeper, God our lover, God our wisdom, God our endless joy.

Tree of Life
Tree of Life and awesome mystery in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of history, still you rise with every morn.
We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;
every person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord.

Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea.
Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing, give us faith to love your word.

Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright.
God of all our fear and sorrow, God who lives beyond our death,
hold us close through each tomorrow, love as near as every breath.

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Lent, Holy Week, and Easter at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church