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 gracestlukes.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.gracestlukes.org.

Officiant: The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher
Lector & Intercessor: Jessica Abell, Parish Intern

Preacher: The Rev. Laura F. Gettys

All are asked to observe silence during the

Voluntary: “SCHMÜCKE DICH, O LIEBE SEELE” Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome, Announcements and Children’s Message
1 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness, come into the daylight’s splendor, there with joy thy praises render

2 Sun, who all my life dost brighten; Light, who dost my soul enlighten; Joy, the best that any gladly here obey thee; never to my hurt in knowledge; Fount, whence all my being floweth; 

3 Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me understand, there with joy thy praises render

unto him whose grace unbounded hath this at thy feet I cry, my Maker, let me from this banquet let me measure, Lord, how

wondrous banquet founded—high o’er all the heavens he be a fit tax collector of this blessed food from vast and deep its treasure; through the gifts thou here dost

reigneth, yet to dwell with thee he deigneth. heaven, for our good, thy glory, given. give me, as thy guest in heaven receive me.
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 25:1-8 *read responsively by whole verse*

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
3 Show me your ways, O Lord, * and teach me your paths.
4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.
6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
8 He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Gospel**

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew. 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Here ends the Lesson.
The Homily: The Rev. Laura F. Gettys

The Priest invites the People to stand or kneel for the

The Prayers of the People, Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Diocesan Bishop Phoebe, Presiding Bishop Michael, and the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Brian Delloyd Kellett & Larry Thomas and those in whose loving memory the altar flowers are given: Lawrence Paul Busby, Jr., Mary Girard Busby, Wilbur Harrison Ogden, Ethel Garner Bourdlaits, Ruth Mathews Ogden, Lawrence P. Busby III, Jane Ogden Busby, and Lee Clarke Busby. Pray for those who have died. Silence

I ask your prayers for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including those reflected on the Prayer List in this service leaflet; and I ask your thanksgivings [N.N.]. Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. Silence

Loving God, we pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. Silence

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest says

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 Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

The Offertory

During the offertory music or following this service, your offering supports this virtual ministry and much more of life at Grace-St. Luke's: visit gracestlukes.org/onlinegiving; text GSLChurch ALMS to 73256 to give to ALMS; text GSLChurch PLEDGE to 73256 to give to 2020 PLEDGE; mail to the church office. We are not closed during this season of physical distancing. Instead, we are becoming more open and creative in how we abide with God, walk by faith, and serve one another. Your gift to the glory of God supports the administration, operations, and life of Grace-St. Luke's Church.

Anthem at the Offertory, “TEACH ME, O LORD”

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;
and I shall keep it unto the end.

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.
Spiritual Communion Prayer
Mindful of COVID-19 pandemic precautions and guidelines that exclude our ability to assemble for the Holy Eucharist, the Officiant and People offer the following prayers as part of a Spiritual Communion. These are recited daily throughout the church catholic (universal) by communities who long for the occasion when all can fully participate in the central practice of both blessing and receiving the Holy Sacrament. Until then, we pray:

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly Grace-St. Luke’s and those worshiping there, 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.

The Blessing
The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Hymn 601, stanzas 1, 3-5, “O DAY OF GOD, DRAW NIGH”

music: St. Michael, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)
text: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (1899-1987)
The people are dismissed with these words
Minister      Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People        Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: “FUGUE IN G MAJOR (A LA GIGUE) BWV 577”  Johann Sebastian Bach

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@graceslukes.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. Ollie V. Rencher, Officiant
The Rev. Laura F. Gettys, Preacher
Jessica Abell, Lector & Intercessor
Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist
Elizabeth Hornor, Isabel Wittman, Daniel Massey, & André Moore, Cantors
Jeff White, Livestream Support
Lucy Owens, Communications Administrator
Weekly Message from the Clergy

Connection In A Time Of Isolation. Social isolation has increased to record levels since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent precautions to flatten the curve. In most spaces and contexts, it seems that many are reflecting on and grappling with the current dilemma of isolation: complete or near-complete lack of contact between an individual and society. I know well and others often share with me about both the reality of isolation and need for connection. Whether one identifies as an extrovert, introvert and somewhere between, connection-making is essential and can even be life-giving. Countless professionals have shared that loneliness and social isolation can be damaging to one’s health, and that the lack of connection can have life threatening consequences. Even as the GSL community has shown resilience and continues to make connections, we definitely can learn more about this situation of isolation and ways to respond. Today at 9:15 a.m., we hosted a virtual opportunity to explore “Resilience in Times Like These with The Rev. Dr. Bill Harkins.” If you missed this offering, visit www.gracestlukes.org/sunday-morning.

Take Note: New Highlights

Pastoral Notice: A Death in our Parish Family. Stella Anne Drewe Bain, August 31, 1947–September 18, 2020. Stella Bain died on Friday, September 18. A private burial service will be attended by family and officiated by the Rev. Anne Carriere. Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Stella. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen. May her soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

In-Person Fellowship Survey. The Congregational Development committee is working to identify ways that we can gather while following safety protocols so that everyone feels comfortable. Details under Community Life.

GSL Sunday Evening Eucharist Outdoors Begins Today, 6 p.m. Details under Worship and Music.


Shop and Support GSL’s Ministry Partners. Details under Outreach.

September 18th Message from the Senior Warden. Follow this link (www.gracestlukes.org/news/a-message-from-the-senior-warden-september-2020) for last week’s message for September from Senior Warden Simon Wadsworth on behalf of the Vestry.

Ongoing events, less recent news, and more, explore below: Virtual Offerings, Worship and Music, Stewardship, Christian Formation, Community Life, Outreach, Social Justice, and Stay Informed.

Virtual Offerings

Sunday, September 27, Resilience in Times Like These with The Rev. Dr. Bill Harkins, 9:15 a.m. on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live) and YouTube Live (www.youtube.com/gracestlukes).

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 27, 10:30 a.m. Livestream Service of Morning Prayer including sermon and music via the GSL website (www.gracestlukes.org/events/sunday-worship) and Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

Sunday, September 27, GSL Reading Together Zoom Discussion, 4-4:45 p.m. Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus. Details below under Christian Formation.

Sunday, September 27, EYC Zoom-at-home Scavenger Hunt. Details below under Youth Christian Formation.

Sunday, September 27, Musical concert online, 5:30-6 p.m. available on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live) and YouTube Live (www.youtube.com/gracestlukes). Details below under Worship and Music.

Tuesday, September 29, 8 until 8:15 p.m. Compline (Night Prayers) via Facebook Live.

Wednesday, September 30, 6-6:45 p.m. Zoom Discussion: From Lament to Hope with Dr. Dan Pigg via Zoom. Third week of four-week series.

Thursday, October 1, Men’s Morning Fellowship, 7 until 7:45 a.m. via ZOOM. Hosted by Doug Duncan and the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, all men may join at any time. Follow this link for information. (www.gracestlukes.org/mens-fellowship).

Thursday, October 4, 8 until 8:15 p.m. Compline (Night Prayers) via Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

Event Details. For important details about each of these and more, follow this link (www.gracestlukes.org/news/weekly-virtual-offerings) to Virtual Offerings and watch for the Friday Looking Ahead eNews.
Worship and Music

Worship: In Person or Virtual. Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for worship. Limited space is available for in-person worship based on physical distancing guidelines, and online reservations are required. Follow this link to sign up for Sunday, October 4 (tinyurl.com/GSLWorshipSignup). For virtual, visit www.gracestlukes.org/events/sunday-worship. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8-8:15 p.m., Compline (Night Prayers) is offered via Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live). Visit www.gracestlukes.org/worship and to explore past and upcoming services, follow this link.

Musical Concert Online, Sunday, September 27. Today’s 5:30 p.m. prerecorded musical concert is by Memphis Symphony member and GSL regular, Robert Patterson. He’ll play music for French Horn accompanied by Patrick A. Scott and Debbie Smith. This concert will be available on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live) and YouTube Live (www.youtube.com/gracestlukes).

GSL Sunday Evening Eucharist Outdoors Begins Today, 6 p.m. The Right Reverend Phoebe A. Roaf, Bishop, has sanctioned the opportunity for faith communities to offer the Holy Eucharist outdoors upon approval of their plan submitted to the diocese. Grace-St. Luke’s plans to offer its first service today at 6 p.m. on the lawn of Anchor Hill (Peabody at Lemaster). At this time, only bread will be offered and distributed by a priest. Face coverings are required. Households will be assisted by Welcome Hosts with gathering six feet apart and be responsible for bringing chairs or blankets for seating. Advanced sign-up is required for a limited number of household spots. Sign up by following this link: www.gracestlukes.org/news/preparing-for-worship-outdoors-at-gsl.

Stewardship: Time, Talent, Treasure

Resilience and Connections by Giving | 2021 Stewardship Campaign. Perhaps this year more than any other, we appreciate the countless gifts that come from the priceless connections made with one another through prayer, conversation, worship, formation, pastoral care, outreach, social justice, fellowship, music, recreation, wellness, and year-round stewardship. Our stewardship campaign and fall programs are all about Resilience and Connections! Please prayerfully consider the ways you might invest in life at Grace-St. Luke’s and make a pledge for 2021 by returning a Pledge Form to the church office or by pledging online at www.gracestlukes.org/pledge. Questions about how you can become more involved or about pledging? Please contact Stewardship Associate Chapman Morrow, cmorrow@gracestlukes.org or 901-252-6328.

Christian Formation

Adults.

Resilience in Times Like These with The Rev. Dr. Bill Harkins is available on our website (www.gracestlukes.org/sunday-morning), on Facebook (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes) and YouTube (www.youtube.com/gracestlukes). Resilience has been demonstrated and celebrated by the people of God since the beginning of time to navigate hardships and changes to life by being stronger than before and finding a new positive way forward. Atlanta-based pastoral theologian and Canon Priest Associate at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Philip, Dr. Harkins offered a presentation (“Lonely in America: Psychological and Theological Perspectives on Isolation in an Age of Connection”) on resilience psychology and wisdom to support individuals and households through pandemics.

Invitation to GSL Reading Together. During the month of September, all ages were invited to read Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus by our Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Michael Curry, and join a ZOOM discussion this afternoon, 4-5 p.m. Meanwhile, personal reflections on our August books, Wonder and The Book of Joy, are offered by Anne Ayres and the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher. To sign up for this afternoon’s discussion, read the reflections, and learn about this new connection and formation offering, visit www.gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether.

Exciting Fall 2020 Lineup of Sunday and Wednesday Formation Offerings and more: visit www.gracestlukes.org/adult-formation.

Youth.

Today we will enjoy EYC from the comfort of our own homes. Join us for a Zoom-at-home Scavenger Hunt with the prize of a Muddy’s Gift Card! 6th-8th grade will “gather” starting at 4 p.m. and 9th-12th grade follow at 5 p.m. We hope to see you there! For the Zoom link and password, you can contact Amzie Williams (awilliams@gracestlukes.org). For more information about Youth Formation at GSL, visit www.gracestlukes.org/youth-formation.

Online Giving
Make a one time gift now by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone!

Recurring
Set up recurring 2020 pledge payments by scanning the QR code with your phone!
Children.
Our first Outdoor Gathering for Children’s Formation Families is planned for this this afternoon, 2-4 p.m. on Anchor Hill, and we’d love for your family to be there! Please email Sharon Campbell if you’ve not had a chance to RSVP. For more information about these activities or other programs for children and families, contact Sharon Campbell, Director of Children’s Formation (secampbell@gracelstlukes.org).

Community Life

In-Person Fellowship Survey. The Congregational Development committee is working to identify ways that we can gather while following safety protocols so that everyone feels comfortable. All parishioners are invited to complete this 2-minute, anonymous survey by Monday, October 5 to help us gauge readiness so we can plan events people want (and are ready) to participate in. The survey can be found here: tinyurl.com/InPersonFellowshipSurvey. Thank you for your time!

Vestry Nominations Open until October 4. In preparation for the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Sunday, December 6, Vestry nominations for five 2021-2023 positions will be open until Sunday, October 4, and again during the meeting. All process related forms are available online at www.gracelstlukes.org/news/vestry21-23 or contact Vestry Nominating Committee Chair Simon Wadsworth at (srcw at icloud.com).

Pastoral Care. To alert the clergy of a pastoral matter concerning yourself or a parishioner, including any medical procedures, contact the clergy confidentially via 901-252-6320 or pastoralcare@gracelstlukes.org. For hospitalizations or emergencies concerning a member, contact the 24/7 Clergy-on-Call phone line at 901-252-6334. This is the best way to communicate pastoral needs and ensure a prompt response from the clergy.

Outreach

Shop and Support GSL’s Ministry Partners. How’s your online shopping going? How many times have you filled your recycling bin with Amazon boxes? How about supporting one of our Servant Ministry Partners through their online shops, or picking up a free t-shirt? And hey, with this weather change, it’s not too early to start Christmas shopping, right? Follow this link for three opportunities: www.gracelstlukes.org/news/shop-and-support.

Stay Informed

eNews. Visit gracelstlukes.org to subscribe to the parish eNews to receive weekly, seasonal, and emergency pastoral notices from the clergy or other leaders. Visit http://eepurl.com/bi3C5 to subscribe to the West Tennessee Diocesan Communicator, and for access to beyond-local news from The Episcopal Church, visit episcopalnewsservice.org/email-signup. Please spread the word about these key communication platforms.

The Messenger Magazine. The August-September issue is available for download by following this link: www.gracelstlukes.org/the-messenger. Included in this issue is a copy of Life at GSL—Fall 2020 Guide, a comprehensive publication of Christian formation offerings for all ages through December, a schedule of contemplative prerecorded worship and music events through December, and more.

The Prayer List


Our prayers are asked for those who have died: especially Stella Bain, Brian Delloyd Kellett, and those who have died from coronavirus.

Our prayers are asked for those in whose loving memory the altar flowers are given: Lawrence Paul Busby, Jr., Mary Girard Busby, Wilbur Harrison Ogden, Ethel Garner Bourdlais, Ruth Mathews Ogden, Lawrence P. Busby III, Jane Ogden Busby, and Lee Clarke Busby.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays, especially Joanna Byrnes, Sonny Golden, Mike Jaeger, John Malmo, James Bedwell, Banner Campbell, Cable Campbell, Parker Campbell, Lucy Chiozza, Robin Gerber, Owen Gooch, Betty Malmo, Janie Morris, Glenn Munson, Dan Peacock, Elise Stratton, and Penny Tucker, and for those celebrating wedding anniversaries, especially Schaefer & Brittney Rowe, Sam & Nayla Law, Brad & Lauren Spicer, Scott & Elizabeth Warren, and Blanchard & Louise Tual.
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 (www.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; Jessica Abell, Parish Intern, Christi Authement, Athletics Director; Sharon Campbell, Director of Children’s Formation; Abby Huber, Receptionist and Ministry Associate; 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 and Treasurer: Grant Adams (Worship & Liturgy), Jimpse Ayres (Congregational Development), Wight Boggs (Clerk, Fellowship), Patrick Burnett (Youth Formation), Nina Callan (Pastoral Care), Ben Cowan (Children’s Formation), Mike Davis (Athletics), Jim Greer (Worship & Liturgy), Sandra Ireland (Adult Formation), Jonathan Large (Outreach), Stinson Liles (Social Justice), Charlie Pazar (Jr. Warden, Property, Stewardship), Anna Robbins (Congregational Development), Tom Stephenson (Stewardship), Bev Trojan (Treasurer), and Simon Wadsworth (Sr. Warden, Administration & Communications, Stewardship)

WWW.GRACESTLUKES.ORG
1720 Peabody Ave. • Memphis, TN 38104-6124
Tel: 901.272.7425 • Email: gsl@gracestlukes.org • Clergy on Call for Pastoral Emergencies: 901-252-6334
facebook.com/gracestlukes • twitter.com/gracestlukes • Search for “gracestlukes” in the iTunes/Google Play stores