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

Preacher: The Rev. Laura F. Gettys

All are asked to observe silence during the

Voluntary: “Variations on Ora Labora”

Welcome, Announcements and Children’s Message
Officiant    Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People      And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
The Collect of the Day

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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Reader     Here ends the Lesson.

Psalm 119:33-40 read responsively by whole verse

33  Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
    and I shall keep it to the end.
34  Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
    I shall keep it with all my heart.
35  Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
    for that is my desire.
36  Incline my heart to your decrees *
    and not to unjust gain.
37  Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
    give me life in your ways.
38  Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
    which you make to those who fear you.
39  Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
    because your judgments are good.
40  Behold, I long for your commandments; *
    in your righteousness preserve my life.

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

Priest  A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

The Apostles’ Creed
In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
   He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
      and born of the Virgin Mary.
   He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
      was crucified, died, and was buried.
   He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
   and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
   the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
   the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
   and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People, Form VI
The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. Silence
For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.
For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.
For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.
For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.
For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.
For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Phoebe our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.
For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including those reflected on the Prayer List in this service leaflet; those infected with coronavirus and their caregivers; for reconciliation and healing of social unrest and violence throughout the world; and for those we name either silently or aloud [N.N.]. Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.
We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, including the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that support life at Grace-St. Luke’s; for our Parish School and all schools that serve our community; and other abundance we name either silently or aloud [N.N.]. We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.
We pray for all who have died, especially Scott Schneider and the Rev. Charles Riddle, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, and for those we name either silently or aloud [N.N.]. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. Silence

Priest and People
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
BCP 360

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, “If ye love me, keep my commandments”
music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)
text: John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you for ever, even the spirit of truth.

The Lord’s Prayer
BCP 364

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 Blessing
May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen. (A Four-Fold Benedictine Blessing)
Hymn 541, stanzas 1, 3, & 5, “Come, Labor on”

music: Ora Labora, Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)
text: Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897), alt.

1 Come, la - bor on. Who dares stand i - dle
2 Come, la - bor on. The en - e - my is
3 Come, la - bor on. A - way with gloom - y
4 Come, la - bor on. Claim the high call - ing
5 Come, la - bor on. No time for rest, till

1 on the har - vest plain, while all a - round us
2 watch - ing night and day, to sow the tares, to
3 doubts and faith - less fear! No arm so weak but
4 an - gels can not share- to young and old the
5 glows the west - ern sky, till the long sha - dows

1 waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant
2 snatch the seed a - way; while we in sleep our
3 may do ser - vice here; by feeb - lest a - gents
4 Gos - pel glad - ness bear; re - deem the time; its
5 o’er our path - way lie, and a glad sound comes

1 does the Mas - ter say, “Go work to - day.”
2 du - ty have for - got, he slum - bered not.
3 may our God ful - fill his right - eous - will.
4 hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
5 with the set - ting sun, “Ser - vants, well done.”

The Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: “Finale, from Variations on Ora Labora”

Gerre Hancock

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@gracesstlukes.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
Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist
Isabel Wittman, Andrew Carroll, & Daniel Massey, Cantors
Jeff White, Director of Technology, Grace-St. Luke’s School
Lucy Owens, Communications Administrator
Take Note: New Highlights


Wellness and Recovery Sunday Recordings Available. GSL was blessed to have two wonderful guests for Wellness and Recovery Sunday. If you missed hearing what these two had to say about this very important topic, follow these links. A Conversation with Dr. Monty Burks and the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher (tinyurl.com/Monty-Ollie) and the homily by the Rev. Dr. Stuart Hoke (tinyurl.com/StuartHoke).

GSL’s Online Safety Precautions. In an attempt to protect parishioners against whaling attacks (previously known as phishing), GSL does not include parishioner emails as searchable clickable links in our eNews, on our website, or any of our publications available online. Please note that the @ sign is replaced with at, so just copy and paste the email, remove the spaces, and replace “at” with “@”.


Virtual Offerings

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 6, 10:30 a.m, Livestream Service of Morning Prayer including music and sermon via the GSL website (www.gracestlukes.org/events/sunday-worship) and Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

Tuesday, September 8, 12-12:45 & 6-6:45, Wonder, Zoom Discussion (www.gracestlukes.org/gsl-reading-together).

Tuesday, September 8, Compline (Night Prayers), 8 - 8:15 p.m via Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).


Thursday, September 10, 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 what to expect and ZOOM access information. (www.gracestlukes.org/mens-fellowship).

Thursday, September 10, Compline (Night Prayers), 8 - 8:15 p.m via Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/gracestlukes/live).

Celebration Sunday Virtual Formation Offering, September 13. Available via the GSL website (gracestlukes.org/sunday-morning), Facebook (facebook.com/gracestlukes/live), and YouTube (youtube.com/gracestlukes).

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 13, 10:30 a.m, Livestream Service of Morning Prayer including music and sermon via the GSL website (www.gracestlukes.org/events/sunday-worship) and 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: Online and In-Person. Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:30 for livestream and in-person worship. Limited space is available for in-person worship in order to maintain social distancing requirements. Online reservations are required on this and every Sunday for the limited-capacity seating by ushers of a total of 46 households. For safety reasons, we are unable to accommodate those who have not signed up in advance. Visit tinyurl.com/GSLWorshipSignup to sign up for Sunday, September 13. Compline (Night Prayers) is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. via Facebook Live. Visit www.gracestlukes.org/worship for more about worship, and to explore past and upcoming services, follow this link (www.gracestlukes.org/events/sunday-worship).

Contemplative Prerecorded Worship & Music Events, Sunday 5:30–6 p.m. Beginning September 13, virtual meditative services will be offered by the clergy for those watching in a more contemplative setting, enhanced by candles, icons, intentional moments for silence, and instrumental music. Offerings scheduled at this time also include occasional recitals, concerts and choral services. For the fall schedule, follow this link: www.gracestlukes.org/news/contemplative-prerecorded-events.

Christian Formation

Adults.
Visit www.gracestlukes.org/adult-formation for the exciting fall lineup of Sunday morning formation offerings, Wednesday evening offerings, and more.
**GSL Reading Together: Zoom Discussions for August Books & September Book Announcement.** Join in the discussions of Wonder on September 8 and The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World on Wednesday, September 9. GSL Reading Together is one of many ways to connect to life at GSL around a common subject. The GSL Reading Together book for September is Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus by the Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. For sign-up details and the book list thru December, visit [www.gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether](http://www.gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether).

**From Lament to Hope: Preparing for a Time “When Life is Good Again,” facilitated by Dr. Dan Pigg.** Sitting with lament, contemplating the mystery of divine providence, realizing our limitations along with our hopes, dreams, and fears connect us in 2020 to an important period in the history of Israel/Judah which is also our history. Life will be “good again,” but we have to trust the process of time. Lament is important to living into God’s future and ours. Class participants will explore that movement over our four weeks of meetings via Zoom. For more information and to sign up, visit [www.gracestlukes.org/midweek-formation](http://www.gracestlukes.org/midweek-formation).

**Youth.**
*Please Note:* There are no youth activities today due to the Labor Day holiday.

**Celebration Sunday, September 13:** Look forward to our first socially distanced EYC of the year! We are excited to share with you what we have in the works in the very near future! Look out for an email from Amzie Williams ([awilliams@gracestlukes.org](mailto:awilliams@gracestlukes.org)) on Friday, September 4, to see what surprises we have in store to kick off the year! For more information about Youth Formation at GSL, visit [www.gracestlukes.org/youth-formation](http://www.gracestlukes.org/youth-formation).

**Children.**
This fall’s offerings for children and families will be spiritually rich, varied, and so much fun! To SIGN UP and read about all we have in store for your children — Traveling Model Altar, Prayer Table Kit, Sunday Prayer Table (via Zoom), Children’s Activity Bags, and Outdoor, In-Person Gatherings for Families — follow this link: [www.gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation](http://www.gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation).

**Save the Date!** To meet the needs of parents and children to be together in a safe way, we will offer outdoor, in-person, socially distanced gatherings, as local conditions allow. Our first gathering is planned for Sunday, September 27, 2-4 p.m. on Anchor Hill (the grassy area adjacent to the Anchor Center at Peabody & Lemaster).

**All Ages.**
Celebration Sunday: Are you Ready??! Formation, Stewardship, & Connections. On September 13, 9:15-9:45 a.m. online, the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Rector, will introduce an exciting season of events. The clergy and lay leaders will reflect and invite members to a connective, creative, and spiritually rich life this year at GSL through a lively and engaging video to lift a tired heart, thrill an eager mind, and center a beautiful soul. Plan on seeing familiar faces, laughing a bit, and becoming encouraged that COVID has only made us even more conscientious about remaining connected and resilient as a faith community.

**Community Life**

**Pastoral Care Ministry Invitation.** The clergy and several lay pastoral care ministers proactively reach out weekly to parishioners in various meaningful ways. The scope of this vital ministry to our more than 500 households include phone calls, cards, notes, meals, and companionship to households expecting a child. If you are interested in serving others in any of these ways, email Lay Pastoral Care Coordinator Jocelyn Busby (jocelynbusby@gmail.com) or contact the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher (901-252-6320, orencher@gracestlukes.org).

**Keeping GSL Strong and Sustainable.** Your sacred gifts of time, talent, and treasure are keeping GSL strong and sustainable. While parishioners are striving to practice self-care and care for one another during the COVID-19 pandemic, individual and household financial gifts also are supporting administration and operations, worship offerings, personnel, and much more. For ways to serve and connect at GSL in any season, contact Stewardship Associate Chapman Morrow (901-252-6328, cmorrow@gracestlukes.org) and visit [gracestlukes.org/onlinegiving](http://gracestlukes.org/onlinegiving).

**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@gracestlukes.org](mailto:pastoralcare@gracestlukes.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.

**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!
Stay Informed

**eNews.** Visit [gracelstlukes.org](http://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](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](http://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](http://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** Freda Harrison, Linda, Kristina Holland, Hunter Gossett, L. C. Hamilton Jr., Tom, Paul, Jennifer, Kristin, Liz Deeley, Betsy Tate, Nancy Wilkerson, Charles Chandler, Caroline Clay, Kay, John, Patty McManus, and Brad Larson.

**Our prayers are asked for those who have died:** especially Scott Schneider, the Rev. Charles Riddle, and those who have died from coronavirus.

**We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays,** especially May Adrian, Ben Barksdale, Jackson Beck, Patricia Brown, Stephanie Cheney, Rob Clark, Elizabeth Dunlap, Sam Law, Sara Layman, Drew Mascelino, Austin Nauert, Garner New, Rivers Powers, Wilbanks Roche, Ann Sandberg, Hattie Strange, Gil Uhlhorn, Robbie Weinberg, Nikki Wilks, and Mary Woodmansee, and **for those celebrating wedding anniversaries,** especially Wil & Amanda McGriff.

**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@gracelstlukes.org](mailto:ahuber@gracelstlukes.org), 901-252-6336) or complete the online Prayer Request Form ([www.gracelstlukes.org/prayerrequest](http://www.gracelstlukes.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.

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