



# GRACE-ST. LUKE'S

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E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**SOLEMN LITURGY OF PRAYERS, SPIRITUAL COMMUNION,**  
**AND BLESSING OF ASHES, VIRTUAL**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**

This service is according to the Liturgy of the Word of The Episcopal Church. Text in boldface type is read aloud or sung by the congregation. Text in italics provides directions or details. Explore the richness of the BCP online at [bcponline.org](http://bcponline.org) including Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families. During this service, please feel free to stand, sit, or even kneel at the appointed times and practice any personal pieties that might enhance your engagement in this experience.

**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](http://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](http://www.gracestlukes.org).

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher

**Preacher:** The Rev. Laura F. Gettys

*The community gathers in silent meditation. At the sound of a bell, the Celebrant begins the service.*

## **The Salutation and Collect of the Day**

BCP 264

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated for the Lesson and Psalm.*

## **A Reading from the Book of Joel**

(2:1-2,12-17)

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 103:8-14** *read responsively by whole verse.*

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

## A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

(5:20b-6:10)

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

*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 Matthew.

(6:1-6,16-21)

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

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord

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

**The Homily:** The Rev. Laura F. Gettys

### Invitation to a Holy Lent

BCP 264

*All stand.*

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is kept.*

*The Celebrant then says*

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### **The Imposition of Ashes**

*The ashes are blessed on this day will be available to the parish in the coming days. Weather-permitting, on the First Sunday in Lent, February 21: Take-away packets of ashes and Steadfast Love devotional booklets will be available for pick up from GSL by those who are able to attend the 10:30 a.m. service, and will be available after worship at the Church Offices entrance door for pick up from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

*The Celebrant self-imposes ashes using the following words.*

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**Psalm 51:1-18** *read responsively by whole verse.*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 **Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 **Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.**
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 **Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 **Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 **Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 **Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 **I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.**
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
- 16 **Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 **The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

### **Litany of Penitence**

BCP 267

*The Celebrant and People together.*

**Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

*People* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

*Celebrant* We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

*People* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

*Celebrant* We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

*People* **We confess to you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

*People* **We confess to you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

*People* **We confess to you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

*People* **We confess to you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

*People* **We confess to you, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

*People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

*Celebrant* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

*People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

*Celebrant* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

*People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

*People* **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

*Celebrant* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

*People* **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

*Celebrant* By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

*People* **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All stand for*

## **The Peace**

BCP 360

*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**

*Financial offerings may be made to support life at Grace-St. Luke's: visit [gracestlukes.org/onlinegiving](http://gracestlukes.org/onlinegiving); text [GSLChurch ALMS to 73256](tel:73256) to give to ALMS; text [GSLChurch PLEDGE to 73256](tel: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 [gracestlukes.org/pledge](http://gracestlukes.org/pledge). For information about worship, formation for all ages, ways to connect, serve and more, visit [www.gracestlukes.org](http://www.gracestlukes.org).*

### **Online Giving**

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



### **Recurring**

Set up recurring 2021 pledge payments by scanning the QR code with your phone!



## 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.**

## The Blessing

Let us bow our hearts before the Lord.

*The Celebrant says:*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; 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 worshipping from home are invited to join in singing. See page 10 regarding in-person congregational singing.*

**Hymn 147, "NOW LET US ALL WITH ONE ACCORD"**

*music: Bourbon, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859)  
words: att. Gregory the Great (540-604); tr. Praise the Lord, 1972, alt.*



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in  
2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to  
3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has  
4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in  
5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our  
2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -  
3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,  
4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -  
5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heav - en - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.  
2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.  
3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.  
4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.  
5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

## The Dismissal

BCP 366

*The people are dismissed with these words.*

*Minister* Let us bless the Lord.

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

## The Imposition of Ashes

Ash Wednesday has served as the beginning of Lent, with a special rite for placing ashes on the heads of penitents, since at least the 8th century. The public sinners sat outside the churches with ashes on their heads as a penance and as a way of seeking forgiveness for their sins. Over the centuries, this practice of repenting our sins in this special way during Lent spread to include all the people, not just public sinners. The imposition of ashes reminds us both of our beginning as coming from the earth and our ending returning back to the earth.

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

**The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Celebrant**

**Beth Perkins, Lector**

**Dr. Patrick A. Scott, Director of Music & Organist**

## A Message from the Rector

**Steadfast Love in Lent.** Lent is a 40-day season to slow down together. In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, I doubt if slowing down will be a problem. The Lenten slowing-down is a time for Christians to more intentionally consider who and whose we are as beloved children of God. By simply slowing down, looking within, and engaging in some form of daily prayer and meditation for the season, spiritual growth is bound to happen. In Lent, we can experience new beginnings, realize new blessings, take on new practices, and benefit from a transformation bound to make us better. – The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher, Rector (Read the full text: [gracestlukes.org/news/steadfast-love-in-lent](https://gracestlukes.org/news/steadfast-love-in-lent)).

## Ash Wednesday Schedule

**7–7:30 a.m. Solemn Liturgy of Prayers and the Blessing of Ashes.** Virtual-only offering via Facebook Live ([facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)). When weather permits, individual take-away packets of ashes will be made available from GSL and delivery to homebound parishioners.

**Noon–12:45 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of Prayers, Spiritual Communion, and Blessing of Ashes.** Virtual-only offering via the GSL website ([gracestlukes.org/live](https://gracestlukes.org/live)) and Facebook Live ([facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)). When weather permits, individual take-away packets of ashes will be made available from GSL and delivery to homebound parishioners.

**6–6:45 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of Prayers, Spiritual Communion, and Blessing of Ashes.** The noon service will be restreamed on the GSL website ([gracestlukes.org/live](https://gracestlukes.org/live)) and Facebook Live ([facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)). When weather permits, individual take-away packets of ashes will be made available from GSL and delivery to homebound parishioners.

## 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” ([gracestlukes.org/news/lent-holy-week-and-easter](https://gracestlukes.org/news/lent-holy-week-and-easter)) is the theme for Lent 2021 at GSL. Our Lenten Preaching Series will feature sermons by the parish clergy and guests (Sundays, February 21 – March 21, 10:30 a.m.). On Palm Sunday, the GSL musicians and clergy will offer this work at 5:30 p.m. During the season, watch for text excerpts from the work in the eNews and other spaces to enhance journeys.

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

## Worship and Music

**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.

### SUNDAY

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

**5:30 p.m. Contemplative prerecorded worship** with the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher and Kelly Herrmann, flute via the GSL website ([gracestlukes.org/live](https://gracestlukes.org/live)), Facebook Live ([facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)) and YouTube ([youtube.com/gracestlukes](https://youtube.com/gracestlukes)).

### WEEKDAYS

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

## Christian Formation

**Adults.** ([gracestlukes.org/adult-formation](https://gracestlukes.org/adult-formation))

**Sundays 9:15 a.m.** February 21: *The Beauty of What Remains: How Our Greatest Fear Becomes Our Greatest Gift* with Rabbi Micah Greenstein and the Rev. Ollie V. Rencher via Facebook Live ([facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)) and the GSL Website ([gracestlukes.org/live](https://gracestlukes.org/live)). Based on a book by friend and fellow Rabbi Steve Leder, Rabbi Micah will join Father Ollie Rencher for a conversation about the power of fear and the gifts that can come from it. In the aftermath of the death of loved ones, an everchanging world, and many forms of loss and grief, our greatest fears also are occasions to identify blessings that can lead to peace and a new hope-filled way forward. | Looking Ahead, February 28: *Closing the Divide: Navigating a Culture Divided* with Dean Randy Hollerith of Washington National Cathedral. For more about adult formation, explore [www.gracestlukes.org/adult-formation](https://www.gracestlukes.org/adult-formation).

**Lenten Book Study** begins Wednesday, February 24: *The Art of Forgiveness, Lovingkindness, and Peace*. Visit [gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether](https://gracestlukes.org/gslreadingtogether) for more information, including sign-up link.

**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](https://gracestlukes.org/discover/life-at-gsl-guide)) for Sunday guest speakers, Wednesday events, and more including plans for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

**Youth.** ([gracestlukes.org/youth-formation](https://gracestlukes.org/youth-formation))

**Sunday, February 21,** In-person EYC returns this Sunday! Meet outside the Red Door and be sure to dress appropriately for the weather. 6th-8th, 3-4 p.m. and 9th-12th, 4-5 p.m.

**Lenten Youth Sermon Series.** Beginning February 24, all youth in grades 6th-12th are invited to gather for a weekly youth Lenten sermon, led by various leaders in our Episcopal Youth Community. A hybrid of in person and virtual, we hope you can join us Wednesday evenings for whatever works best for your household. To register for these events, please contact [awilliams@gracestlukes.org](mailto:awilliams@gracestlukes.org) (mailto:[awilliams@gracestlukes.org](mailto:awilliams@gracestlukes.org))

**Children.** ([gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation](https://gracestlukes.org/childrens-formation))

**Children's Activity Bags for March.** Please sign up here ([tinyurl.com/ChildrensActivityBags2](https://tinyurl.com/ChildrensActivityBags2)) to reserve your child's bag of at-home lessons and crafts for Lent. Delivery day is February 28, and signups will close February 21.

**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](https://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](mailto:scampbell@gracestlukes.org)), Director of Children's Formation.

## Recreation and Wellness

**GSL Church Spring Soccer.** GSL Church sponsors a Spring Soccer Program for JK-4th Grades. The season is April 10 - May 15. The spring season is shorter than the fall season and designed for continued soccer skill development during the spring. Spring Soccer registration is February 4-18 and can be accessed here: [gracestlukes.org/spring-soccer](https://gracestlukes.org/spring-soccer). Please refer to the website listed for ALL information regarding spring soccer. Registration fills up quickly, so please register sooner than later. Once registration is closed, individual placement will be made only if space is available.

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

## Community Life

**The Messenger Magazine.** The February-March issue is available for download by following this link ([gracestlukes.org/the-messenger](https://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](mailto:cmorrow@gracestlukes.org)).

## Social Justice

**Social Justice Meeting, Wednesday, February 23, 6-7 p.m.** Please join the GSL Social Justice Ministry for its monthly meeting as we explore our call as beloved community and live into our baptismal covenant of "striving for justice and peace among all people." By signing up, ([tinyurl.com/GSLSJMeeting](https://tinyurl.com/GSLSJMeeting)) you will receive all of the necessary meeting information including the Zoom link. If you have any questions, you can contact Nicki Soule, Jennie Vandever, Paula Barnes, or Laura F. Gettys via Realm Connect ([gracestlukes.org/realm](https://gracestlukes.org/realm)). For more information on social justice, please visit [gracestlukes.org/social-justice](https://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](https://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](https://bit.ly/2021AbsalomJones).

## Outreach

**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](mailto:outreach@gracestlukes.org).

**Friends for Life's Art Dash is back!** This Servant Ministry Partner is on a mission to prevent the spread of HIV and help those affected by HIV/AIDS live well. They do this through a multitude of programs – from providing nutritious food and health coaching, housing assistance, counseling, advocacy, and more. A healthier community positively impacts us all, especially during this pandemic! One resource FFL has created to support their mission is an online, multi-day Art Dash. The Art Dash Winter Show and Sale offers various ways to participate from 14 February to 13 March. See details and learn more about our partner on their website ([fflmemphis.org/events](http://fflmemphis.org/events)) and social media pages.

## Quick Links

Follow these links to frequently visited pages on our website and Facebook.

- LIVE Virtual Worship, Music, Formation Offerings: [gracestlukes.org/live](http://gracestlukes.org/live)
- Facebook Live: [facebook.com/gracestlukes/live](https://facebook.com/gracestlukes/live)
- YouTube Live: [youtube.com/gracestlukes](https://youtube.com/gracestlukes)
- Wednesday eNews: [gracestlukes.org/weekly-news](http://gracestlukes.org/weekly-news)
- More Information about Worship: [gracestlukes.org/worship](http://gracestlukes.org/worship)
- More Information about Music: [gracestlukes.org/music](http://gracestlukes.org/music)
- Sacramental Life Events: [gracestlukes.org/connect/in-the-church/life-events](http://gracestlukes.org/connect/in-the-church/life-events)
- Hope and Good News: [gracestlukes.org/discover/spiritual-guidance](http://gracestlukes.org/discover/spiritual-guidance)
- Pastoral Care, Prayer List, and Prayer Requests: [gracestlukes.org/prayerrequest](http://gracestlukes.org/prayerrequest)
- Subscribe to GSL, Diocesan & The Episcopal Church eNews: [gracestlukes.org/enews](http://gracestlukes.org/enews)
- Information about Fraudulent Emails & Text: [gracestlukes.org/news/phishing](http://gracestlukes.org/news/phishing)
- The Messenger, Bi-monthly Magazine: [gracestlukes.org/the-messenger](http://gracestlukes.org/the-messenger)
- Realm Connect: GSL Directory & More: [gracestlukes.org/realm](http://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, Ann & Bill Russell, Tom Wyatt, Carolyn Wills, Billy Denman, Susan Williamson, Rodgers and Nancy Menzies, Renee Williford, Lucy Singh, Rachel Sanford, The Kaldon Family, Paul Douglas, Peggy Mulherin Williamson, and Kathleen.

**Our prayers are asked for** those who have died, especially Enyeart Myers Arnold (father of Karen Clark), Rosie Bell Macklin, Don Kvam, and John “Barton” Williams, husband of Peria Gober Williams, those who have died from coronavirus, and Eldon Upton Bertaut in whose loving memory the altar flowers are given.

**We give thanks for** those celebrating birthdays, especially Katelyn Adams, Tracy Adkisson, Lee Allison, Steve Brewer, Charles Burrell, Neely Carter, Shanna Eason, Rai Elrod, Becca Garrick, Molly Gary, Brett Hughes, Isabella Hughes, Peo Hughes, Catherine Johnson, Allie Khumalo, Jon McCalla, Mary McCalla, Katie McDermott, Rodgers Menzies, Lois Moore, Kelly Munson, Andy Newton, Hal Owens, Beth Perkins, Miles Phillips, Katherine Robinson, Virginia Rowland, Donnie Sappington, Ryan Scott, Ham Smythe, Mary Stagg, Robin Swanson, Virginia Ward, and Margaret Willson, and for those celebrating wedding anniversaries, especially Powell & Cheryl Crider.

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

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**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](http://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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