The Third Sunday in Lent
“Pray”
March 15, 2020
8 a.m.

Come Eat, Go Serve

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whatever you believe, whatever you don’t believe, you are welcome at Christ’s Table, where we become a community united to serve the needs of the world.
The purpose of worship at St. Luke’s is to connect with God, with each other, and with the world. We are a people who practice expanding worship into all aspects of our lives throughout the week. We intentionally shape the worship experience to dissolve the barrier between the sacred and the secular.

We connect by:

- Engaging scripture and looking for its relevance in our lives.
- Considering current events from a Christian perspective.
- Saying our prayers, lifting up the concerns of our families, neighborhoods, nation, and global village.
- Greeting each other in God’s love.
- Sharing the bread and wine.
- Looking to the beauty and wisdom of our traditions as well as new ways of connecting with God, each other, and the world.

**Ministers of the Day**

**Presider**
The Reverend Jessica K. Hitchcock, *Rector*

**Deacon**
The Rev. Lesley Krauland

**Deacon Intern**
Sally Lermond

**Readers**
Linda Freeman, Meredith Eller

**Eucharistic Minister**
Brenda Curtis-Heiken

**Usher**
Robin Woollatt

**Altar Guild**
Brenda Curtis-Heiken, Amy Elsbree, Kendall Montgomery

**Altar Flowers**
Members of the Flower Guild

*Cover Art:* “Prayer for Death in the Desert” by Elihu Vedder (1836-1923), circa 1867. From the collection at the Brooklyn Museum
The Call to Worship

Presider: Hear the commandments of God to God’s people: I am your God; you shall have no other gods before me.

People: Almighty God, may we respond to your presence by serving only you.

Presider: You shall not make for yourself any graven image…you shall not bow down to them or serve them.

People: May our lives center on you and your will for us.

Presider: You shall not take the name of your God in vain.

People: May we have respect for you and invite others to respect you.

Presider: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

People: Loving God, keep us mindful of your creative power and help us to be refreshed to enjoy life fully.

Presider: Honor your elders.

People: Enable us to care for others as you have cared for us.

Presider: You shall not kill.

People: May we have reverence for life.

Presider: You shall not commit adultery.

People: May we be faithful to one another and the promises we make.

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1 Touch Holiness by Ruth C. Duck and Maren Tirabassi, p. 255-256, based on the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20:2-17)
Presider: You shall not steal.
People: May we have regard for the rights of others.
Presider: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
People: May our words be truthful and may they reflect honorably on others.
Presider: You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor’s.
People: Generous God, may we enjoy the blessings we receive, and share them generously with others.

The Opening Sentences
Presider: Blessed be the God of our salvation:
People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Presider: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect for Purity (together let us pray)
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 Trisagion
Presider: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal one,
People: Have mercy upon us.
Presider: Holy God, Holy Compassion, Holy Abundant One,
People: Have mercy upon us.
Presider: Holy God, Holy and Gracious, Holy Beautiful One,
People: Have mercy upon us.

The Collect for the Day
A prayer that collects our intentions for a particular day
Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to
hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire
or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and
giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to
ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ
our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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2 Women’s Uncommon Prayers p. 324, by The Reverend Judith P. Ain
Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People: Thanks be to God.
The Response

Psalm 25:1-9

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
    do not let me be put to shame;
    do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
    let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
    teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
    for you are the God of my salvation;
    for you I wait all day long.
Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
    for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
    according to your steadfast love remember me,
    for your goodness’ sake, O Lord!
Good and upright is the Lord;
    therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
    and teaches the humble his way.
All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
    for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
The Epistle

2nd Corinthians 12:7-10

Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.’ So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Reader:   Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People:   Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (please stand as you are able) Luke 11:1-13


People:   Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.” And he said to them, “Suppose
one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Jessica K. Hitchcock
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 truly human.
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 she is worshiped and glorified. She has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic & 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.

**Litany of Penitence** *(you may stand or kneel)*

*The Presider and People all say together*

Most holy and compassionate God: 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 reader 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; **We confess to you, God.**

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

**We confess to you, God.**

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

**We confess to you, God.**

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

**We confess to you, God.**

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

**We confess to you, God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to live the faith that is in us;

**We confess to you, God.**

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;

**Heal our brokenness and failures to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.**

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

**Repair the pain we have caused.**
For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us;  
**Turn our hearts to care for creation.**

For those in our community in acute need, for those we now name silently or aloud (*pause*), and for George Brown, Roger Hahn, Myrna Olsen, Don Park, and Sue Williams;  
**Make us bearers of comfort in their time of need.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**That we may show forth your goodness in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*The presider continues:*  
Almighty God, the giver of Jesus Christ, you grieve the distance between us and desire that we turn back to you so that we might enjoy fullness of life. You declare and pronounce to your people a return from the exile and bondage of our sins and that everyone, through the mercy of God, is forgiven. Therefore we ask your help in turning toward your vision of beauty and truth and that those things which we do on this day show our sincere desire to be a holy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
The Peace
Now that we have heard our sacred story, said our prayers, and made our confession, we can offer our love to one another as the reconciled people of God. The peace is a good time to share God’s peace with someone who is new-to-you. It is not at all a time to conduct administrative business, and you may want to consider catching up with friends during coffee hour and using this time to greet as many people as possible.

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: And also with you.

The Announcements

Virtual Offering No cash today? If you’d like to make a one-time contribution, scanning this code will take you to our online donations page, or you can visit www.stlukesbethesda.org. Thank you for supporting St. Luke’s mission!

THE HOLY COMMUNION
We practice an open communion at St. Luke’s, which means everyone is invited to receive the bread and the wine. The bread is gluten free.

Invitation to the Offertory
O Lord our God, we want to follow all your commandments - to love you above all and to love our neighbor freely. Accept these offerings, we pray, and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.
The Offertory
We acknowledge that what we give is our offering – music, bread, wine, money, donations – come from what we have been given by God, and now we offer all that back to God.

The Eucharistic Prayer
Presider: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God.
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Presider continues saying
Eternal God, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be; from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity; in all our wanderings you never cease to call us to fullness of life.

You gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life broken for the world.

He fed us and feasted with us, he healed us and suffered for us; his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and the famine of death.

Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished & called, with all who hunger for your kingdom and will not rest until all your children are fed, with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages, we take up the song of your praise:

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3 Eucharistic Prayer 1 from Prayers for an Inclusive Church by the Rev. Steven Shakespeare, as used in the Diocese of Washington’s Convention Eucharist with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
Sanctus
Holy, holy, holy God, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosanna in the highest.

The presider continues saying
We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.’ In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.’ As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Presider and People: Christ was born.
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The presider continues
Therefore, in our eating and drinking we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ; we proclaim him as creation’s
host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, for ever and ever. AMEN.

The Lord’s Prayer  (please gather around the altar)
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
We believe Christ is present in the gathering of people in worship and when we remember Him through the bread and wine. We believe in the real presence of Christ in the mystery of the Eucharist, and the power of the experience does not depend on our ability to understand how or why it happens.

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
People: We who are many are one body for we all share in the one bread.
Prayer of Humble Access
We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Distribution of Communion

To receive Communion: There are several postures when you receive the bread. You may stand or kneel at the rail. In the interest of public health, we are not sharing the wine at this time. Receiving just the bread alone is considered full communion. The custom at St. Luke’s is to remain at the altar rail until all have received and are dismissed by the priest.
The post communion prayer is a prayer of thanksgiving AND a promise that we will use the gifts we have been given to go out into the world and BE the love of God.  

Presider: Let us pray.
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life & cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ & one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven & on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing
Presider: Transforming God, send us anywhere you would have us go, only go there with us. Place upon us any burden you desire, only stand by us to sustain us. Break any tie that binds us, except the tie that binds us to you. And may your blessing be with us now and always, the blessing of the Holy and Undivided Trinity. Amen.

The Dismissal
People: Thanks be to God.

During the Lenten season, we ask that you leave the sanctuary in silence or remain in quiet personal prayer.
Please reserve conversation for the coffee hour in Ludlum Hall.

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4 Book of Uncommon Prayer by Kenji Koramitsu, p. 55
5 Blessing attributed to The Rt. Rev. John Shelby Spong
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CENTRAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY
St. Francis, Potomac; St. James, Potomac; St. Luke’s, Bethesda; Christ Church Rockville; Christ Church Kensington; Good Shepherd, Silver Spring; St. Mary Magdalene, Wheaton; Our Savior, Silver Spring; Transfiguration, Silver Spring; and St. Mark’s, Silver Spring

The Rev. Jessica K. Hitchcock, Rector
The Rev. Lesley Krauland, Deacon
Sally Lermond, Deacon Intern
Sarah Horick, DMA, Minister of Music & Liturgy

ST. LUKE’S VESTRY AND OFFICERS
Amy Elsbree, Sr. Warden, 2020
Cliff Johnson, Jr. Warden, 2021
Jenny Bradley, Treasurer
Susie Casson, Assistant Treasurer
Deb Marks, Clerk
Arlene Antonicelli, Financial Contributions Officer

2020
Soumaia Amin
Tom Fluegel
Stuart Wilkinson

2021
Jane Battles
Jarod D’Agostino
Andi Pringle

2022
Michael Bernier
Jen Luna
Gretchen MacLeod

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