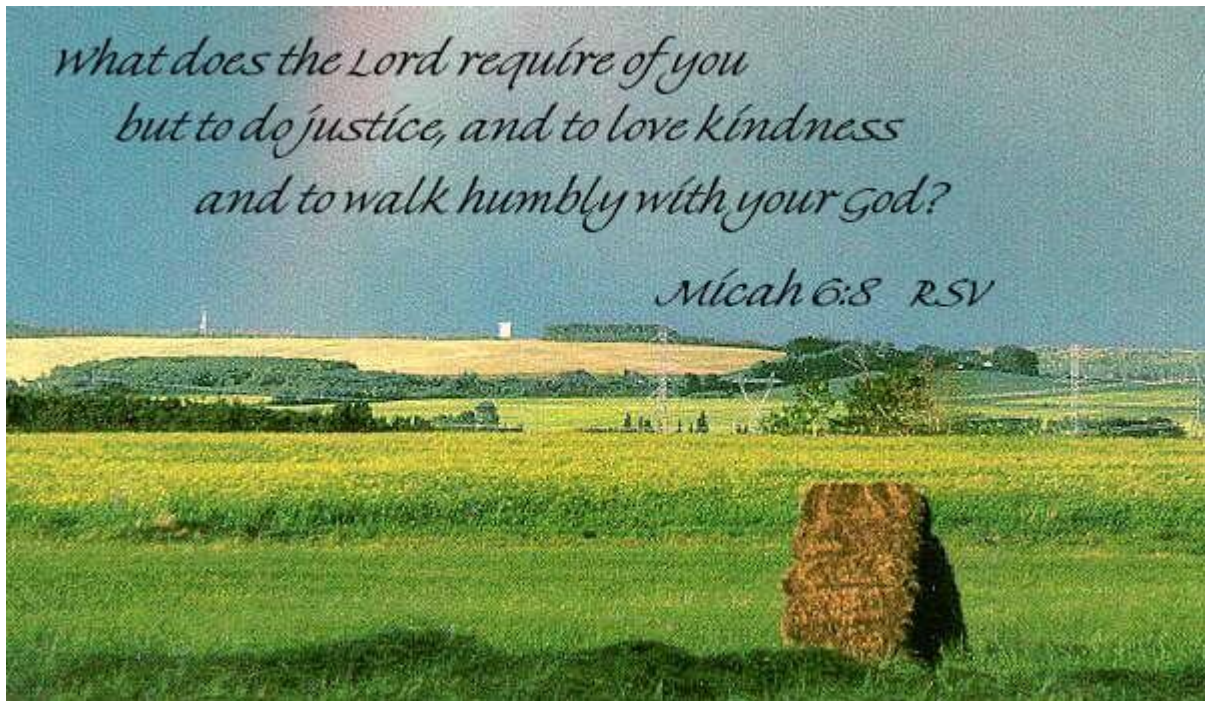


*This Sunday at St. Luke's Blue Ridge
September 17, 2017*

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity



The Old Testament prophet sums up what is required of those who would live a life that is pleasing to God.

The Collect for Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle (H.C.) – Galatians 5:16-24 (J.B. Phillips)

Life in the spirit

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Here is my advice. Live your whole life in the Spirit and you will not satisfy the desires of your lower nature. For the whole energy of the lower nature is set against the Spirit, while the whole power of the Spirit is contrary to the lower nature. Here is the conflict, and that is why you are not free to do what you want to do. But if you follow the leading of the Spirit, you stand clear of the Law.

¹⁹⁻²¹ The activities of the lower nature are obvious. Here is a list: sexual immorality, impurity of mind, sensuality, worship of false gods, witchcraft, hatred, quarrelling, jealousy, bad temper, rivalry, factions, party-spirit, envy, drunkenness, orgies and things like that. I solemnly assure you, as I did before, that those who indulge in such things will never inherit God's kingdom.

²²⁻²⁵ The Spirit however, produces in human life fruits such as these: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, fidelity, tolerance and self-control—and no law exists against any of them. Those who belong to Christ have crucified their old nature with all that it loved and lusted for. If our lives are centred in the Spirit, let us be guided by the Spirit.

NOTE: The fruit of the Spirit is described in acts which unite man and man; the works of the flesh have an opposite effect. Here is a practical description of the nature of brotherly love (Eph. 4:2-3).

THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Luke 17:11-19 (J.B. Phillips)

Jesus heals ten men of leprosy: only one shows his gratitude

¹¹⁻¹³ In the course of his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus crossed the boundary between Samaria and Galilee, and as he was approaching a village, ten lepers met him. They kept their distance but shouted out, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ When Jesus saw them, he said, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And it happened that as they went on their way they were cured. One of their number, when he saw that he was cured, turned round and praised God at the top of his voice, and then fell on his face before Jesus and thanked him. This man was a Samaritan. And at this Jesus remarked, "Weren't there ten men healed? Where are the other nine? Is nobody going to turn and praise God for what he has done, except this stranger?"

¹⁹ And he said to the man, "Stand up now, and go on your way. It is your faith that has made you well."

NOTE: The account of the healing of the ten lepers is one more example of our Lord's great concern for people. In the Fourth Gospel he commands those who would belong to him to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). In all the Gospel records we find him

reaching out to those whom others failed to care about and love – lepers, the demon-possessed, tax collectors, women of the streets, foreigners. The prayer from the cross and concern for the thief were of a piece with his whole life. This is our Master, and this is our commission.

READINGS FOR MORNING PRAYER FOR THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

FIRST LESSON – Genesis 45:1-15, 25-28 (KJV)

Joseph meets his brothers

[1] Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.

[2] And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.

[3] And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

[4] And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

[5] Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

[6] For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.

[7] And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

[8] So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

[9] Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:

[10] And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:

[11] And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

[12] And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.

[13] And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.

[14] And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.

[15] Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

Joseph's Father learns the truth

- [25] And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,
[26] And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.
[27] And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:
[28] And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

NOTE: Joseph makes himself known to his brothers in the climactic episode of the Joseph saga. Here is brotherly concern where we might have expected revenge.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Romans 12:9-21 (KJV)

Overcoming evil with good

- [9] Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.
[10] Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
[11] Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;
[12] Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
[13] Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.
[14] Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
[15] Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.
[16] Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.
[17] Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.
[18] If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.
[19] Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.
[20] Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.
[21] Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

NOTE: If Paul had set himself to write a Christian commentary on the Joseph story he could not have done better. Verses 9-13 urge that Christians rejoice in the service of those within the Christian Fellowship. Verses 14-21 deal with the way Christians should love and treat their enemies.

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SUNDAY SERVICES ON THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

- **8:15 a.m.** – Holy Communion (said service)

A quiet meditative service

Preacher: The Rev. Ronald O. Wikander

Celebrant: The Rector

Lector: Sam Sartain

Acolyte / Server: Finn Thoresen

- **10:00 a.m.** – Morning Prayer and Sermon (choral)

Classic Anglican morning service with hymns, choir and exposition of the Scriptures

Preacher: The Rector

Officiant: The Rector

Acolyte / Server: Brooke McHan

Lay Reader: Bob Morgan

Theme: Love one another.

ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Holy Communion will take place Thurs., Sept. 21 at Noon in the chapel to celebrate the feast of St. Matthew.

REGISTRATION CONTINUES FOR 2017 GEORGIA ANGLICAN MEN'S CONFERENCE October 13 – 15

Registration has begun for the 6th annual Georgia Anglican Men's Conference set for Oct. 13-15 at St. Luke's Church, Blue Ridge. This year's theme is "Christianity: What's in it for me?". Registration forms are located in the Narthex.

This Year's event will include a "Bishop's Dinner" open to all. Following the dinner, the Rt. Rev. Dr. William W. Millsaps will speak on "The Persecuted Church: An Anglican Response". Cost for the dinner is \$15 per person.

For additional information, contact: Roger Johnson, Tony McConnell, the Rev. Ron Wikander or the Rector.

Registration form may be downloaded from St. Luke's website www.stlukesblueridge.org.

SAVE THAT DATE!

The next concert in St. Luke's "Classics by Candlelight" series will be held **Saturday, Oct. 7**, at 7 p.m. The concert is entitled "**100 Years of Musical Theatre!**" and will feature Atlanta soprano Mary Fullerton and Atlanta pianist / organist / choral conductor Randall F. Romig.

AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE

DATE: **Saturday, November 18, 2017**

Time: 9 a.m.—4 p.m. Please arrive by 8:30 to register and pay.

Location: **St. Luke's "Yellow Room"**

Cost: **\$15.00 for AARP members, \$20.00 for non-members, payable in cash only on day of course).**

It is advisable to bring a sack lunch for the 45 minute lunch break.

The facilitator is Mr. John Daniel. ALL participants must contact him at 1-706-400-2755 to pre-register.

If you require additional information, please contact Mr. Daniel at the number above.

REMEMBER THE NEEDY

EVERY TIME YOU COME TO CHURCH



Please bring one or more item for the needy -- paper, soap products, tinned and dried food, etc. Leave in Narthex. Items will be distributed through North Georgia Community Action Agency



A sign-up sheet for Altar flowers is available in Thomason Hall for 2017.
Please sign up for days you wish to commemorate.

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Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513; [\(706\) 632-8245](tel:7066328245); www.stlukesblueridge.org; stlukes@tds.net.