



This Sunday at St. Luke's
July 7, 2024

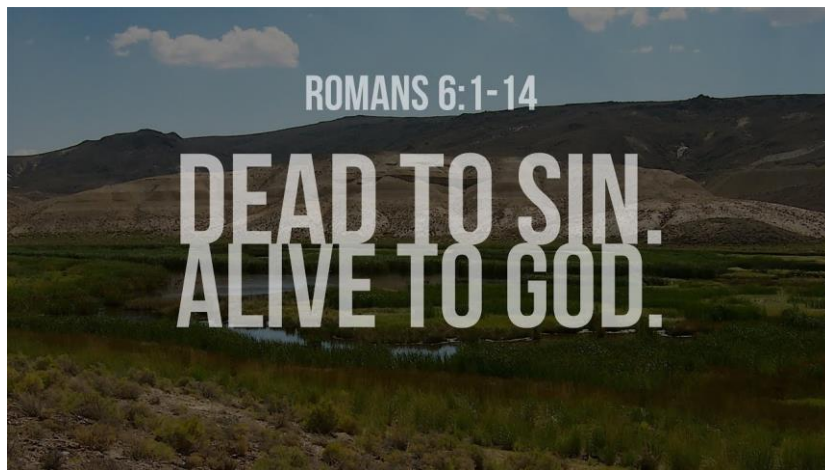
8:156 a.m. – Holy Communion (said service)

10:15 a.m. – Holy Communion with Hymns

Diana Burden, pianist

The Rev. Richard Gillert, guest preacher

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity



LIVING OUT OUR FAITH continues to be the focus of the Trinity season. In this Sunday's Epistle Paul points out what becoming a Christian means as he takes his readers back to their baptism. Many if not most of his readers had been pagans and lived according to the precepts of the prevailing Roman culture. Baptism meant a clean break with their past life. If sufficient water was available, they were plunged entirely beneath the water. Such a baptism suggested burial and rising again, death and resurrection. No matter the mode of baptism, this is what happened to us at that pivotal moment in our life. We died and were raised with Christ. What's true of Him is now true of us. Those outside the church should be able to see something radically different about those who have been so identified with Jesus.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

O GOD, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding; Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

THE EPISTLE – Romans 6:3-11 (J.B. Phillips)

Righteousness by faith, in practice

6 ¹⁻¹¹ Now what is our response to be? Shall we sin to our heart's content and see how far we can exploit the grace of God? What a ghastly thought! We, who have died to sin—how could we live in sin a moment longer? Have you forgotten that all of us who were baptised into Jesus Christ were, by that very action, sharing in his death? We were dead and buried with him in baptism, so that just as he was raised from the dead by that splendid Revelation of the Father's power so we too might rise to life on a new plane altogether. If we have, as it were, shared his death, let us rise and live our new lives with him! Let us never forget that our old selves died with him on the cross that the tyranny of sin over us might be broken—for a dead man can safely be said to be immune to the power of sin. And if we were dead men with him we can believe that we shall also be men newly alive with him. We can be sure that the risen Christ never dies again—death's power to touch him is finished. He died, because of sin, once: he lives for God for ever. In the same way look upon yourselves as dead to the appeal and power of sin but alive and sensitive to the call of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

NOTE: The apostle says that the Christian shares in Christ's death and resurrection. This means, as Ephesians 2:11-14 makes clear, that the old life to which we die includes our hostilities and grudges, and the new life in Christ is one of Christian brotherliness. (William Sydnor)

THE GOSPEL – St. Matthew 5:20-26 (J.B. Phillips)

Christ's authority surpasses that of the Law

¹⁷⁻²⁰ "You must not think I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to complete them. Indeed, I assure you that, while Heaven and earth last, the Law will not lose a single dot or comma until its purpose is complete. This means that whoever now relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men to do the same will himself be called least in Heaven. But whoever teaches and practises them will be called great in the kingdom of Heaven. For I tell you that your goodness must be a far better thing than the goodness of the scribes and Pharisees before you can set foot in the kingdom of Heaven at all!

²¹⁻²² “You have heard that it was said to the people in the old days, ‘You shall not murder’, and anyone who does must stand his trial. But I say to you that anyone who is angry with his brother must stand his trial; anyone who contemptuously calls his brother a fool must face the supreme court; and anyone who looks on his brother as a lost soul is himself heading straight for the fire of destruction.

²³⁻²⁴ “So that if, while you are offering your gift at the altar, you should remember that your brother has something against you, you must leave your gift there before the altar and go away. Make your peace with your brother first, then come and offer your gift.”

²⁵⁻²⁶ “Come to terms quickly with your opponent while you have the chance, or else he may hand you over to the judge and the judge in turn hand you over to the officer of the court and you will be thrown into prison. Believe me, you will never get out again till you have paid your last farthing!”

NOTE: The Pharisees were very moral and law-abiding people. Our Lord says His followers must go beyond the letter of the law to the spirit. His command, which goes beyond personal rights and legal requirements, is “be reconciled with thy brother.” (William Sydnor)

LECTIONARY READING

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – 2 Samuel 19:16-23 (RSV)

A promise of help and healing

¹³ But he who takes refuge in me shall possess the land,
and shall inherit my holy mountain.

¹⁴ And it shall be said,

“Build up, build up, prepare the way,
remove every obstruction from my people’s way.”

¹⁵ For thus says the high and lofty One
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:

“I dwell in the high and holy place,
and also with him who is of a contrite and humble spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble,
and to revive the heart of the contrite.

¹⁶ For I will not contend for ever,
nor will I always be angry;

for from me proceeds the spirit,
and I have made the breath of life.

¹⁷ Because of the iniquity of his covetousness I was angry,
I smote him, I hid my face and was angry;
but he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart.

¹⁸ I have seen his ways, but I will heal him;

I will lead him and requite him with comfort,
creating for his mourners the fruit of the lips.

¹⁹Peace, peace, to the far and to the near, says the LORD;
and I will heal him.

NOTE: These poetic lines contain both a sense of God's majesty and holiness (v.15) and the promise that he who gave life to man will also give new life to "him who is of a contrite and humble spirit" (vv. 15-16). (William Sydnor)

THIS SUNDAY

Preacher: Fr. Rick



Fr. Rick is a priest and Chaplain in the Anglican church in North America. He holds a B.A. in English from John Brown University, a M. L. I. S. from Valdosta State University and M.Div. from Trinity School for Ministry. He has served in hospices in hospitals in three states. He has served as volunteer staff at five churches. Rick has published one book and several articles on

the subject of grief and other topics related to chapter to chaplaincy.

Sunday Worship Options

In-church.

Online. Services are livestreamed on Facebook and available for viewing following the service on You Tube. To access both put "Parish

Church of St. Luke, Blue Ridge, Ga.” In the search bar.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Sharing Tuesday – Bible Study continues on Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. downstairs in the Yellow Room.

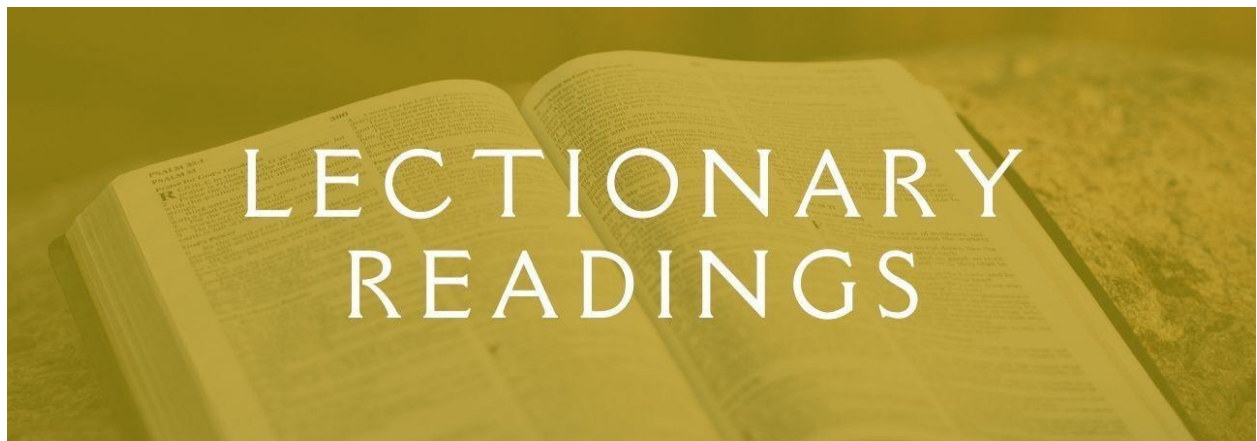


FUTURE FIFTH SUNDAY POTLUCKS DATES

St. Luke's will have one service at 9:30 a.m. on Fifth Sundays with a potluck lunch following. Dates for future events are Sept 29 and Dec. 29.



Tip of the Canterbury Cap to Randy Wilbur, Diana Burden and members of the St. Luke's Singer for their ministry of music.



Sharing Tuesdays

A Preview of Sunday's Readings

9:45 a.m. Sharing Tuesdays is your turn !!!
There are no teachers; no leaders; no presentations;
no videos; no homework; no assignments. Just
COME and read the Bible together with your
brothers and sisters in Christ and share from your
heart. All thoughts, questions, uncertainties, feelings
are welcome.

CHOIR PRACTICE



For information, contact, Diana Burden at 678-852-6907 or email dburden6907@gmail.com.



ST. LUKE'S SUMMER CONCERTS

Ah Surely Celtic Trio
Sunday, July 21st
5:00 pm

(reception to follow)

A \$10 per person donation is requested to help pay for musicians



Future performances

Alpharetta Symphony Wind Quintet
August 11th, 5:00 pm

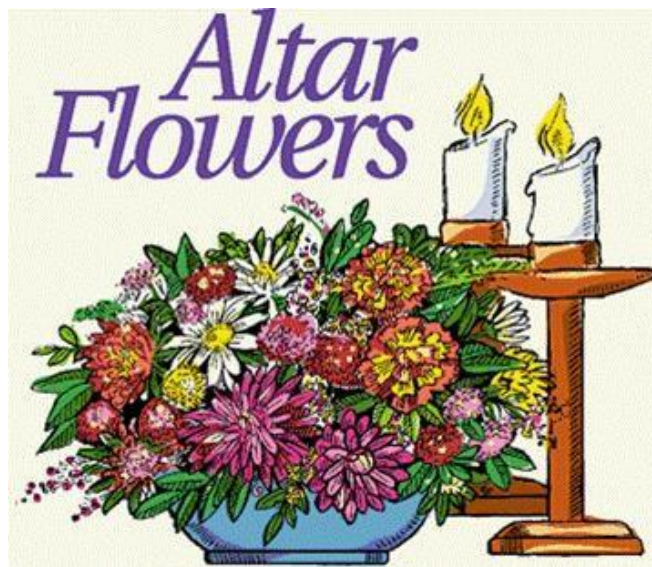
St. Luke Anglican Church
7 Ewing Street, Blue Ridge
706-632-8245

StLukesblueridge.org



OUR MISSION

St. Luke's mission is to grow spiritually in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit and to share our faith, our hands and hearts for the sake of the Gospel, our community and the world.



SIGN-UP FOR FLOWERS

A sign-up sheet for Altar flowers is available in Thomason Hall for 2024.

Please sign up for days you wish to commemorate.

Flowers are needed throughout the end of the year. Please email
or call Kathryn Noblett at the church office to sign up.

Financial Pledge for the Year of our Lord 2024

*As stewards of God's gifts and in gratitude for all blessings, I pledge the following amount to
the work of Christ through St. Luke's Church for 2024*

Name

Address

Amount

_____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Yearly
(Please tick the appropriate blank)



St. Luke's Church, "The Parish Church of the Mountains," 7 Ewing St., (POB 1821), Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513; (706) 632-8245;
www.stlukesblueridge.org; stlukes@tds.net.