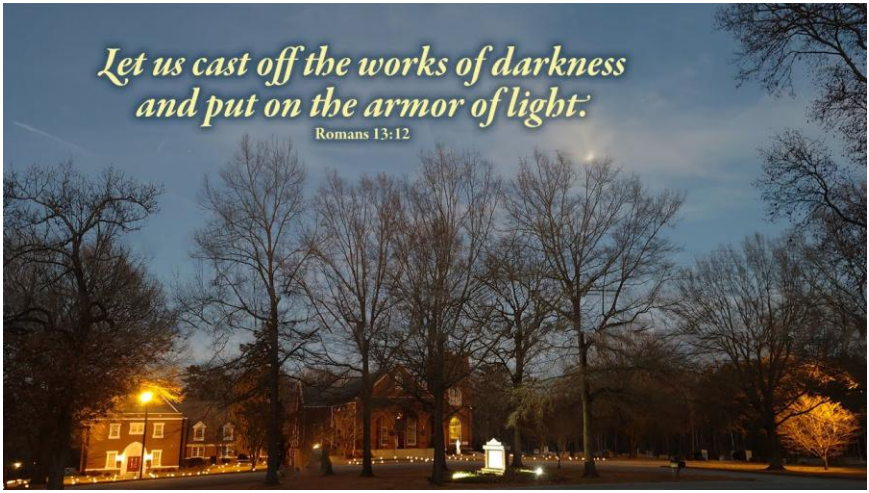


The Holy Communion

The First Sunday in Advent

10:30 a.m. - FM 98.1

Steven Cagle, organist

8:15 a.m. – The Order of Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 67. Propers (Collect, Epistle and Gospel) begin on page 90.

ATTENTION PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN. A family care room, (The Snuggery) with changing facilities and a closed-circuit television is available on the ground floor. An usher / greeter will be glad to direct you to it.

PRELUDE

"Savior of the Nations, Come" by J.S. Bach

INTROIT

"People, Look East" **BESANCON**

HYMN 1 **STUTTGARD**

"Come, thou long expected Jesus"

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE ELEISON (#702)
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT FOR ADVENT 1

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Malachi 3:1-6, 4:4-6 (RSV)

God will send his messenger to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. The New Testament identifies this messenger with John the Baptist. John is further identified with the Old Testament prophet Elijah.

"Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. **2** But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

"For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; **3** he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the Lord. **4** Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

5 "Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

6 "For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

[1]"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and ordinances that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

5 "Behold, I will send you Eli′jah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. **6** And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts

of children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse."

THE EPISTLE – Romans 13:8-14

Paul warns his readers to take God's commands seriously for Jesus' coming is never far away.

OWE no man anything, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

THE GOSPEL – St. Matthew 21:1-13

The King – God's anointed – comes and executes judgment in the Temple. Jesus cleansing the Temple is a foretaste of His final judgment of evil.

WHEN they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and

a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, and brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. And. a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. And when he was come into Jerusalem. all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves, and said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

THE NICENE CREED

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with

the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN 484 TRURO

"Lift up your heads, ye might gates"

ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME

ANTHEM

"Let There Be Light" by Mary McDonald

SERMON – The Rector

OFFERTORY

Online Giving: A portal for on-line giving is now available on St. Luke's webpage page: www.stlukesblueridge.org.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Minister: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our [alms and] oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE LONG EXHORTATION PRAYER BOOK 185

GENERAL CONFESSION

¶ *Then shall the Priest say to those who come to receive the Holy Communion,*

YE who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

¶ *Then shall the Priest (the Bishop if he be present) stand up, and turning to the People, say,*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

COME unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *St. Matt. xi. 28.* So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *St. John iii.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins. *1 St. John ii. 1, 2.*

SURSUM CORDA

Priest. Lift up your hearts.

Answer. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Answer. **It is meet and right so to do.**

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS (#704)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again: For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

The Oblation

WHEREFORE, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having

in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

The Invocation

AND we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

AND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences,

through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister: And now, as our Saviour Christ hath 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.

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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

AGNUS DEI (#706)

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world.
Have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world.
Grant us thy peace.**

THE COMMUNION

All persons who have been baptized and have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

FOR THE *GLORIA* - *Nunc dimittis*. St. Luke ii. 29.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, * according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen * thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared * before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, * and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 5 **HELMSLEY**

"Lo! he comes with clouds descending"

POSTLUDE

"Savior of the Nation, Come" (in Organo Pleno)

By J.S. Bach

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Members of St. Luke's – Michelle Perry, Patsy Williams, Judy Evans, Bryan Fobbus, Lauren Burgreen, Bob Bradley, Curly Robison, Jennifer Higdon, Stacy and Chris Johnson and Family, Jordan Van Horn, Bob Herrington, Bob Morgan, David Johnston, Sheila McConnell, Glenda Robinson, Tom McCormick, Rodney Allen, Barbara Newman, Elizabeth Ann White, Sherron Dearing, Tom Hoffer, MaryLynn Kipfmiller, Rosanne Johnston, Thomas Heard, Paul & Patti Hiller.

Family & Friends – Todd Smith, Ryan Veeter, Susan Whitt and family, Cameron Shackleford, Jessica Johnston, Pat Henegar, Frances Nation, Erica Ensley, Larry Mark, Jackey Cheek, Richard Hord, Rick Vollrath, Steve Cummings, Richard Dotson, Michael Batet, Carlie Hammond, Susan Martin, Dave Narey, Meagan Boscque, Evan Simpson, Janice Cary, Elma Donaldson, Helen Dotson, Cheryl Smith, Janet Thomas, Leland Thomas, Noah, Amy and child, Jan Newberry, Patsy Horsford, Gabriella Calla, Clara Bradley, Matt Cross, Michael Briggs, Bill Morgan, Charles Cecil, April Weich, Bob Jost, Lynn Grimme, Donna Dotson, and Alan Jackson.

THE PARISH STAFF

THE REVEREND VICTOR H. MORGAN, Rector

THE REVEREND WILLIAM "BILL" BAIO

Assisting Clergy

RANDY WILBUR, Choir Director (interim)

D.J. FULTON, Treasurer

DR. AL CASH, Webmaster

KEVIN SARTAIN, Webmaster

www.stlukesblueridg.org stlukesblueridge@gmail.com

THE WARDENS AND VESTRY

Kevin Sartain, Senior Warden
Tom Wall, Junior Warden
Frank Rule
Dr. Alvin Cash
Savannah Foster
Neil McDonald
Tim Kirby
Darlene Dunnigan
Jim Noblett

BISHOPS AND AFFILIATIONS

The. Rt. Rev. Julian Dobbs, Acting Archbishop
Anglican Church in North America
The Rt. Rev. Dr. William Wesley Millsaps, Bishop
EMC Diocese of the South
The Rt. Rev. John Greaves, Coadjutor Bishop
EMC Diocese of the South

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given in loving memory of Sam Sartain
by Shirley Sartain

BIRTHDAYS

Rodney Allen, Nov. 30, Katie McCormick, Nov. 30,
Gordon Bailey, Dec. 2, Jim Crews, Dec. 2,
Dave Guzzardi, Dec. 2, Sally Hess, Dec. 5.
"*Watch over thy children as their days increase."*

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity" (Colossians 3:14)

IN MILITARY SERVICE

Please remember in your prayers those serving in the Armed Services, especially those who have connections with St. Luke's particularly, Tyler Ketron, Wesley Ryan McIntosh, Christian Wade Newman, Kyle Morgan, Sam Sonn, Marc Rodriguez, Brooks Johnson, Jessica Wyllie Andres-Jansz, Kyle Yates and Ian Yates.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS
November and December

- **St. Andrew the Apostle –** Monday, Nov. 30, HC Jennus Chapel at noon.
- **SLMG Monthly Meeting –** Tuesday**,** Dec. 1, at 11 a.m.
- **WSL Christmas Bazaar –** Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Christmas by Candlelight Concert –** Saturday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 20, at 3 p.m.
- **St. Thomas the Apostle –** Monday, Dec. 21, HC Jennus Chapel at noon.
- **Christmas Eve Family Service –** Thursday, Dec. 24, at 5 p.m.
- **Christmas Eve Traditional Service –** Thursday, Dec. 24, at 10 p.m.
- **The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day Service –** Friday, Dec. 25, at 9 a.m.
- **Vestry Meeting –** Sunday, Dec. 27, following the 10:30 a.m. service.

St. Luke's 20th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 5, 2026



9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR

All additions to the calendar should be submitted to the church office ─ stlukesblueridge@gmail.com ─ no later than Wednesday at noon.

FROM THE TREASURER
Summary for 11-22-2026

Attendance in person: 8:15 -14 / 10:30 –59 = 73

General Fund:	Contributions	/ Budget
11/22/2026	$5,525	$ 3,764
YTD:	$181,064	$ 170,618



St. Luke's Church
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