



David exercises magnanimity in sparing Saul's life

**Morning Prayer and Sermon
together with Shortened Holy Communion**

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10:30 A.M. - FM 98.1

Steven Cagle, organist

Charles Lutz, guitarist

8:15 a.m. – The Order of Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 199. Propers (Collect, Epistle and Gospel) begin on page 197.

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

“Cantilena”

by Josef Rheinberger

HYMN 272

MOSCOW

“Thou, whose almighty word”

OPENING SENTENCES

THE LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. *Hab. ii. 20.*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

GENERAL CONFESSION (kneel or sit)

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

¶ *To be made by the Priest alone, standing; the People still kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth

all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Minister: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Minister: O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

GLORIA PATRI (please stand)

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

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

VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

Minister: Praise ye the Lord.

People: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

VENITE (#608)

O COME, let us sing | unto • the LORD;

* let us heartily rejoice in the strength of | our **salv**ation.

Let us come before his presence with | **thanks**giving;

* and show ourselves | glad in him with psalms.

For the LORD is a | **great** God;

* and a great | King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners | of the earth; * and the strength of the hills is | **his also**.

The sea is | his, and • he made it;

* and his hands prepared • the **dry** land.

O come, let us worship and | **fall** down,

* and kneel before the | LORD our **Maker**.

For he is the Lord | our God;

* and we are the people of his pasture,

and the | sheep of **his** hand.

O worship the LORD in the | beauty • of holiness;

* let the whole earth | stand in awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to | judge *the* earth;

* and with righteousness to judge the world,

and the | peoples with his truth.

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 PSALTER

Psalm 148. *Laudate Dominum.*

1 PRAISE the LORD from the heavens: * praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all ye angels of his: * praise him, all his host

3 Praise him, sun and moon: * praise him, all ye stars and light.

4 Praise him, all ye heavens, * and ye waters that are above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD: * for he spake the word, and they were made; he commanded, and they were created.

6 He hath made them fast for ever and ever: * he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.

7 Praise the LORD from the earth, * ye dragons and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and vapours, * wind and storm, fulfilling his word;

9 Mountains and all hills; * fruitful trees and all cedars;

10 Beasts and all cattle; * creeping things and flying fowls;

11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples; * princes, and all judges of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, old men and children, praise the Name of the LORD: * for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.

13 He shall exalt the horn of his people: all his saints shall praise him; * even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

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.

FIRST LESSON – 1 Samuel 26:1-7, 12-17, 21-25

(RSV) (sit)

King Saul, filled with paranoia, is seeking to kill David whom he sees a rival. In this episode of the sage, David, forced to be a fugitive, spares Saul's life. In so doing David exhibits an amazing magnanimity. Instead returning a bad turn for a bad turn, He extends grace.

26 Then the Ziphites came to Saul at Gib'e-ah, saying, "Is not David hiding himself on the hill of Hachi'lah, which is on the east of Jeshi'mon?" ² So Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, with three thousand chosen men of Israel, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. ³ And Saul encamped on the hill of Hachi'lah, which is beside the road on the east of Jeshi'mon. But David remained in the wilderness; and when he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness, ⁴ David sent out spies, and learned of a certainty that Saul had come. ⁵ Then David rose and came to the place where Saul had encamped; and David saw the place where Saul lay, with Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his army; Saul was lying within the encampment, while the army was encamped around him. ⁶ Then David said to Ahim'elech the Hittite, and to Jo'ab's brother Abi'shai the son of Zeru'iah, "Who will go down with me into the camp to Saul?" And Abi'shai said, "I will go down with you." ⁷ So David and Abi'shai went to the army by night; and there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the army lay around him.

¹² So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head; and they went away. No man saw it, or knew it, nor did any awake; for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen upon them.

¹³ Then David went over to the other side, and stood afar off on the top of the mountain, with a great space between them; ¹⁴ and David called to the army, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, “Will you not answer, Abner?” Then Abner answered, “Who are you that calls to the king?” ¹⁵ And David said to Abner, “Are you not a man? Who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not kept watch over your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy the king your lord. ¹⁶ This thing that you have done is not good. As the Lord lives, you deserve to die, because you have not kept watch over your lord, the Lord’s anointed. And now see where the king’s spear is, and the jar of water that was at his head.”

¹⁷ Saul recognized David’s voice, and said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” And David said, “It is my voice, my lord, O king.”

²¹ Then Saul said, “I have done wrong; return, my son David, for I will no more do you harm, because my life was precious in your eyes this day; behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.” ²² And David made answer, “Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and fetch it. ²³ The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put forth my hand against the Lord’s anointed. ²⁴ Behold, as your life was precious this day in my sight, so may my life be precious in the sight of the Lord, and may he deliver me out of all tribulation.” ²⁵ Then Saul said to David, “Blessed be you, my son David! You will do many things and will succeed in them.” So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS (said)

The Te Deum is a Latin Christian hymn, believed to date back to A.D. 387, with origins in the Ambrosian hymnal.

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein;

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;

The Father of an infinite Majesty;

Thine adorable, true and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

THOU art the King of Glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints, in glory everlasting.

**O LORD, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern *them* and lift them up for ever.**

Day by day we magnify thee;

And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – St. Matthew 7:15-21 (RSV) (sit)

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said that those who belong to the Lord bear witness to it in the way they live, just as good fruit trees bear good fruit. Practicing the magnanimity of David in this morning's Old Testament reading is one way we witness to our membership in the Lord's family.

¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every sound tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears evil fruit. ¹⁸ A sound tree cannot bear evil fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will know them by their fruits.

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

JUBILATE DEO (#645)

Psalm 100

O BE joyful in the LORD | all ye lands:

* serve the LORD with gladness,
and come before his | presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the LORD he is God;

it is he that hath made us, and not | we ourselves;

* we are his people and the | sheep of • his **pasture**.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his | courts with praise;

* be thankful unto him, and | **speak** | good of • his Name

For the LORD is gracious, his mercy is | everlasting;

* and his truth endureth from generation to |
gener**ation**.

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 APOSTLES' CREED

**I BELIEVE IN GOD the Father Almighty, Maker
of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son
our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius
Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended
into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead:
He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall
come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic
Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness**

of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the Life everlasting. Amen.

SALUTATION AND VERSICLES

Minister: The Lord be with you.

Answer: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister: Let us pray.

¶ *Here, all kneeling or sitting, the Minister shall say,*

Minister: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Answer: **And grant us thy salvation.**

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

COLLECT FOR TRINITY 8

O GOD, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; We humbly beseech thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things which are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR GRACE

O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE PRESIDENT

O LORD our Governor, whose glory is in all the world; We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, and to all in Authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE CLERGY AND PEOPLE

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ALL CONDITIONS OF MEN

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [**especially those for whom our prayers are desired;*] that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

GENERAL THANKSGIVING

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

GRACE

2 Corinthians 23:14

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

HYMN 544

ST. CECILIA

“Thy Kingdom come, O God!”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME..... The Rector

ANTHEM

“Such a Thing as Glory”

Charles Lutz, guitar
by Rich Mullins

SERMON – The Rector

OFFERTORY

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

DOXOLOGY, AMERICA (LAST STANZA)

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings
flow:**

Praise Him, all creatures here below:

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Our fathers' God, to thee,

Author of liberty,

To Thee we sing;

Long may our land be bright

With freedom's holy light;

Protect us by Thy might

Great God, our King.

Amen.

PRAYERS (parish birthdays, anniversaries
military, etc.)

HYMN 523

RUSSIA

"God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest"

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Grand Choeur"

by Theodore Dubois

Those wishing to receive Holy Communion from elements consecrated at the 8:15 a.m. service are invited to remain in the church. This next service will not begin until the postlude is completed and those leaving the service of Morning Prayer and Sermon have departed.

Shortened Holy Communion

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 baptised 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.

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.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Members of St. Luke's , Patsy Williams, Judy Evans, Bryan Fobbus, Randy Wilbur, Lauren BURGEE, Bob Bradley, Curly Robison, Ron Wikander, Jennifer Higdon, Stacy and Chris Johnson and Family, Jordan Van Horn, Christina Pinkerton, Bob and Anna Herrington, Bob Morgan, David Johnston, Sheila McConnell, Glenda Robinson, Deacon Tony McConnell, Tom McCormick, Rodney Allen, Barbara Newman, Elizabeth Ann White, Pat and Sherron Dearing, Tom Hoffer, MaryLynn Kipfmiller, Rosanne Johnston, Thomas Heard, Martha Millsaps, and Paul Hiller.

Family & Friends –Larry Mark, Jackey Cheek, Richard Hord, Rick Vollrath, Steve Cummings, Richard Dotson, Michael Batet, Carlie Hammond, Susan Martin, Dave Narey, Meagan Boscque, Jean Fisher, 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 W. A. “TONY” MCCONNELL,
Deacon

THE REVEREND WILLIAM “BILL” BAIO

Assisting Clergy

THE REV. RICK GILLERT

Assisting Clergy

RANDY WILBUR, Choir Director (interim)

D.J. FULTON, Treasurer

DR. AL CASH, Webmaster

KEVIN SARTAIN, Webmaster

www.stlukesblueridge.org stlukesblueridge@gmail.com

THE WARDENS AND VESTRY

Kevin Sartain, Senior Warden

Savannah Foster

Tom Wall, Junior Warden

Neil McDonald

Frank Rule

Tim Kirby

Dr. Alvin Cash

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 to the glory of God.

BIRTHDAYS

Pat Dearing, Jul. 27, Kelley Storey, Jul. 28, Doug Jones, Jul. 28.

“Watch over thy children as their days increase.”

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Judy Evans, Jul. 26

Frank & Barbara Mang, Jul. 30.

“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

July and August

- **Eastern Orthodox Vespers** – Sunday, July 26, at 2 p.m.
- **Vestry Meeting** – July 26, following the 10:30 a.m. service.
- **Christmas Bazaar Planning Session** – Tuesday, July 28, at 10 a.m.
- **AARP Good Driver Class** – Saturday, Aug. 1, at 10 a.m.
- **SLMG Monthly Meeting** – Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 11 a.m.
- **The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ** – Thursday, Aug. 6, HC Jennus chapel at noon.
- **Eastern Orthodox Vespers** – Sunday, Aug. 9 and 23, at 2 p.m.
- **St. Bartholomew the Apostle** – Monday, Aug. 24, HC Jennus chapel at noon.
- **Charles Lutz Concert** – Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m.
- **Fellowship Luncheon** – Sunday, Aug. 30, following the 10:30 a.m. service.

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 7-19-2026

Attendance in person: 8:15 - 24 / 10:30 – 56= 80

General Fund: Contributions / Budget

7/19/2026 \$ 2,232 \$ 3,764

YTD: \$ 122,670 \$ 102,328



St. Luke's Church

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