



The Holy Communion The Conversion of St. Paul

10:15 a.m. - FM 98.1

Charles Lutz, singer / songwriter / guitarist

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 111 (Gospel, Luke 2:1-11, page 229).

ATTENTION PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN. We love the sound of young children in our services! However, if a parent prefers, a “cry 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

HYMN (insert)

“Come, Thou Fount of every blessing”

NETTLETON

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (kneel or sit)

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

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT FOR CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

O GOD, who, through the preaching of the blessed Apostle Saint Paul, hast caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world; Grant, we beseech thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness unto thee for the same, by following the holy doctrine which he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY 3

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Isaiah 45:18-25 (RSV)

The almighty Lord is ultimate ruler over nature, men and history and his sovereign will cannot be thwarted. This principle is played out in the conversion of Saul (Paul) in the New Testament.

18 For thus says the LORD,
who created the heavens
(he is God!),
who formed the earth and made it
(he established it;
he did not create it a chaos,
he formed it to be inhabited!):

“I am the LORD, and there is no other.

19 I did not speak in secret,
in a land of darkness;
I did not say to the offspring of Jacob,
‘Seek me in chaos.’

I the LORD speak the truth,
I declare what is right.

20 “Assemble yourselves and come,
draw near together,
you survivors of the nations!

They have no knowledge
who carry about their wooden idols,
and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.

²¹ Declare and present your case;
let them take counsel together!

Who told this long ago?

Who declared it of old?

Was it not I, the LORD?

And there is no other god besides me,
a righteous God and a Savior;
there is none besides me.

²² “Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!

For I am God, and there is no other.

²³ By myself I have sworn,
from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return:
‘To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear.’

²⁴ “Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;
to him shall come and be ashamed,
all who were incensed against him.

²⁵ In the LORD all the offspring of Israel
shall triumph and glory.”

FOR THE EPISTLE – Acts 9:1-22

Saul the persecutor's life and mission is turned around

AND Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, and desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about

him a light from heaven: and he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished 'said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And, he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, and hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: and here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: for I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house: and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared

unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

THE GOSPEL –St. Matthew 19:27-30 (stand)

As our Lord explained to Peter, true discipleship means forsaking all for the service of the Son of man. This is certainly what St. Paul did.

PETER answered and said unto Jesus, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

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 (insert)

“My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine”

GORDON

ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME..... The Rector

SERMON – The Rector

OFFERTORY

“I Am the Light”

by R. Repp

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 (kneel or sit)

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.**

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 (Merbecke, Hymnal Chant 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

**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

“The Gift of God”

by J. Marble

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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Old Scottish Chant)

**GLORY be to God on high, and on earth peace,
good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God
the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord
God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away
the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that
takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou
only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in
the glory of God the Father. 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 562

WEBB

“Stand up, stand up for Jesus”

DISMISSAL

**Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord!**

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Members of St. Luke's –Curly Robison, Ron Wikander, Dick Gensel, Jennifer Higdon, Stacy and Chris Johnson and Family, Jordan Van Horn, Christina Pinkerton, Bob Herrington, Bob Morgan, David Johnston, Sheila McConnell, Glenda Robinson, Deacon Tony McConnell, Tom McCormick, Rodney Allen, Charles Sims, Barbara Newman, Elizabeth Ann White, Bruce Berkinshaw, Pat and Sherron Dearing, Tom Hoffer, MaryLynn Kipfmiller, Rosanne Johnston, Thomas Heard, Martha Millsaps, and Paul Hiller.

Family & Friends –Tyger Vollrath, Dave Narey, Lynn Mahovsky, Meagan Boscque, Kaiston Nijssen, Tammy and Sammy Holloway (daughter and son-in-law of Ron and Diane Wikander), 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

DIANA BURDEN, Parish Musician

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	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 <i>Anglican Church in North America</i>
The Rt. Rev. Dr. William Wesley Millsaps, Bishop <i>EMC</i> <i>Diocese of the South</i>
The Rt. Rev. John Greaves, Coadjutor Bishop <i>EMC Diocese of the South</i>

ALTAR FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God in loving memory of Jere McConnell
by Pat McConnell

BIRTHDAYS

Alex Such, Jan. 29, Alvin Cash, Jan. 30, John Kautz, Jan. 31.
“*Watch over thy children as their days increase.*”

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ron & Diane Wikander, Jan. 30
Robert & Cindy Cranor, Jan. 31

“*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, Alex Mark, Tyler Ketro, 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

January

- **WSL Bible Study** – Starting Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 9:30 a.m. for 6 weeks. For more info contact Judy Brooten, 706-851-6296.
- **Jere McConnell Memorial Service** – Saturday, Jan. 24, at 3p.m.
- **Eastern Orthodox Vespers** – Today, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m.
- **Vestry Meeting** – Today, Jan. 25, after the 10:15 a.m. service

We welcome Linda Smith Lowe as a baptized member of St. Luke's from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Rome, GA.

The Women of St. Luke's (WSL) are hosting a book drive for the CRADDOCK CENTER'S Children's Enrichment Program during the month of February.

The not for profit program gives free books to young children ages 0 to 5 years old. They serve children in 9 counties including Fannin, Gilmer and Union counties.

Join the Women of St Lukes as we encourage literacy in children by donating new or very gently used books to this worthy cause. A book collection box will be available in Thomason hall soon. Make February an " I Love to read " event.

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 1-18-2026

Attendance in person: 8:15 - 21 / 10:15 – 53 = 74

General Fund: Contributions	/	Budget
1-11-2026	\$3,326	\$ 3,764
YTD:	\$26,341	\$11,292



St. Luke's Church

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