



This Sunday at St. Luke's
August 16, 2026

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

10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion with Old Fashioned Hymns

George Atwell, organist

Susan Gooch, pianist

The Blue Ridge Bones, trombones

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity



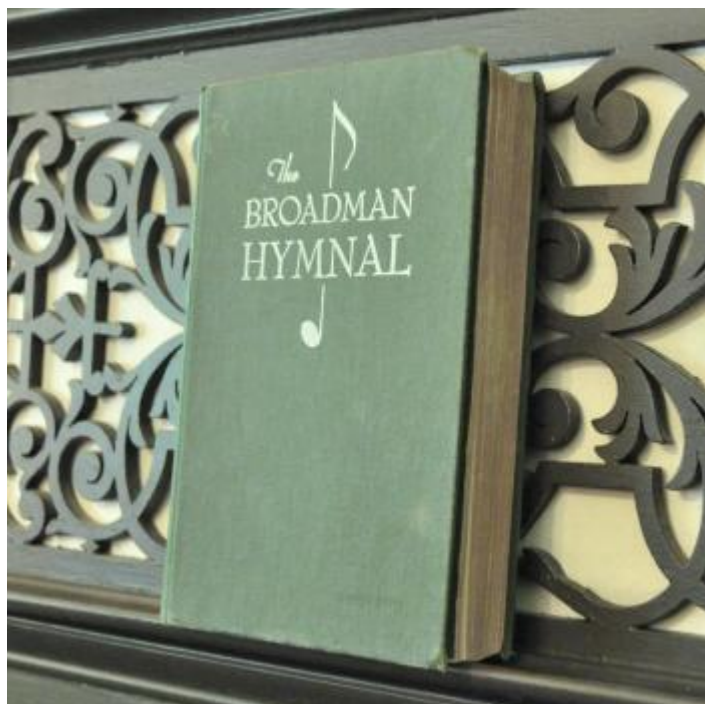
THE PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN

teaches that God shows mercy and pity to the humble and penitent, whereas those who are proud and arrogant shut themselves off from communion with Him. It illustrates and amplifies Jesus's words in the Sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are the poor in spirit."

This parable also speaks to the power of God to raise the dead, the 'dead' in this case being those mired in sin who

cry out to Him for mercy and help. This power, meanwhile, is withheld from the self-righteous, as in the case of the Pharisee whose favorite pronoun was "I".

CAMPMEETING IN AUGUST CONTINUES



The hymns we love to sing

During August, we shall be going back in time and singing hymns that many sang as children and young people. More than nostalgia, many of these hymns contain a message of love and hope that still needs to be heard in our world today. So, come bringing your voice and join us for what is being called “**Camp Meeting August**”. Our traditional Anglican liturgy will continue unchanged.

Lest anyone think we are doing anything ‘un-Anglican’, the Protestant Episcopal Church in the

early 20th century had the Joint Commission on Rural Work, and in 1930 this commission produced *A Book of Worship* which included many of the hymns we shall be singing in August. So, let’s reclaim our heritage and worship God with our whole heart, even as we engage in pure Americana! Many thanks to Randy Wilbur for his leadership in this endeavor.

THE COLLECT FOR THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

O GOD, who declarest thy almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity; Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (J.B. Phillips)

A reminder of the gospel message: the resurrection is an integral part of our faith
15¹⁻² Now, my brothers, I want to speak about the Gospel which I have previously preached to you, which you accepted, in which you are at present standing, and by which, if you remain faithful to the message I gave you, your salvation is being worked out—unless, of course, your faith had no meaning behind it at all.

³⁻⁸ For I passed on to you Corinthians first of all the message I had myself received—that Christ died for our sins, as the scriptures said he would; that he was buried and rose again on the third day, again as the scriptures foretold. He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve, and subsequently he was seen simultaneously by over five hundred Christians, of whom the majority are still alive, though some have since died. He was then seen by James, then by all the messengers. And last of all, as if to one born abnormally late, he appeared to me!

⁹⁻¹¹ I am the least of the messengers, and indeed I do not deserve that title at all, because I persecuted the Church of God. But what I am now I am by the grace of God. The grace he gave me has not proved a barren gift. I have worked harder than any of the others—and yet it was not I but this same grace of God within me. In any event, whoever has done the work whether I or they, this has been the message and this has been the foundation of your faith.

NOTE: These verses from 1 Corinthians 15 are the earliest and considered the most important testimony to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. God gives His grace (power to those who have faith in the risen Christ). (William Sydnor)

THE GOSPEL – St. Luke 18:9-14 (J.B. Phillips)

Jesus tells a story against the self-righteousness

⁹⁻¹⁴ Then he gave this illustration to certain people who were confident of their own goodness and looked down on others: “Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one was a Pharisee, the other was a tax-collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed like this with himself, ‘O God, I do thank you that I am not like the rest of mankind, greedy, dishonest, impure, or even like that tax-collector over there. I fast twice every week; I give away a tenth-part of all my income.’ But the tax-collector stood in a distant corner, scarcely daring to look up to Heaven, and with a gesture of despair, said, ‘God, have mercy on a sinner like me.’ I assure you that he was the man who went home justified in God’s sight, rather than the other one. For everyone who sets himself up as somebody will become a nobody, and the man who makes himself nobody will become somebody.”

NOTE: The parable of the Pharisee and the publican is the story of two men at prayer. The Pharisee intended to impress God just as he was in the habit of impressing men. But God saw through his self-centeredness and unbrotherliness. The publican could only throw himself on God’s mercy. He was found acceptable in God’s sight.

LECTIONARY READING

FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 26:12-16, 19 (RSV)

Judah's song of victory

26 ¹² O Lord, thou wilt ordain peace for us,
thou hast wrought for us all our works.

¹³ O Lord our God,
other lords besides thee have ruled over us,
but thy name alone we acknowledge.

¹⁴ They are dead, they will not live;
they are shades, they will not arise;
to that end thou hast visited them with destruction
and wiped out all remembrance of them.

¹⁵ But thou hast increased the nation, O Lord,
thou hast increased the nation; thou art glorified;
thou hast enlarged all the borders of the land.

¹⁶ O Lord, in distress they sought thee,
they poured out a prayer
when thy chastening was upon them.

¹⁹ Thy dead shall live, their bodies shall rise.
O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy!

For thy dew is a dew of light,
and on the land of the shades thou wilt let it fall.

⁷ The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words
in the house of the Lord.

¹⁰ When the princes of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to
the house of the Lord and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of
the Lord. ¹¹ Then the priests and the prophets said to the princes and to all the people,
"This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city,
as you have heard with your own ears."

¹² Then Jeremiah spoke to all the princes and all the people, saying, "The Lord sent me
to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³ Now
therefore amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God,
and the Lord will repent of the evil which he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴ But as for
me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵ Only
know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon
yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the Lord sent me to you to
speak all these words in your ears."

NOTE: God has the power to raise up the fortunes of Israel, sings the prophet. He speaks of God's reviving the life and fortunes of the nations. This is similar to Ezekiel 37. The God who can do this can and will raise the dead at the end of the age. (William Sydnor)

THIS SUNDAY

Preacher: The Rector

Lector (OT) – Lois Joldersma

Lector (Epistle) – Daniel Foster

Acolyte – Reed Ferrell

Verger – Jim Noblett

Ushers – Roger, Teresa and Stephen Wankel

OLD FASHIONED SUNDAY SCHOOL

ANGLICANISM 101

Grab a cup of coffee and join us!

Adult Sunday school will return this week, with the class meeting in the Skelton Conference Room in the Parish House next door. The topic will be “The Bible in the Church: Rightly dividing the Word of Truth. The Rector will be the facilitator.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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August and September

- **Eastern Orthodox Vespers** – Sunday Aug. 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.
- **SLMG Monthly Meeting** – Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 11 a.m.
- **WSL Bi-Monthly Meeting** – Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 9:30 a.m.

- **St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist** – Monday, Sept. 21, HC Jennus chapel at noon.
- **WSL Joyful Celebration and Luncheon** – Saturday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Vestry Meeting** – Sunday, Sept. 27, following the 10:30 service.
- **St. Michael, and All Angels** – Tuesday, Sept. 29, HC Jennus chapel at noon.

Options

In-church.

Online. Services are livestreamed on Facebook and available for viewing following the service on YouTube. To access both put “Parish Church of St. Luke, Blue Ridge, Ga.” In the search bar.



Tip of the Canterbury Cap to Jennifer Higdon for graphic work done behind the scenes.



JOIN THE CHOIR!



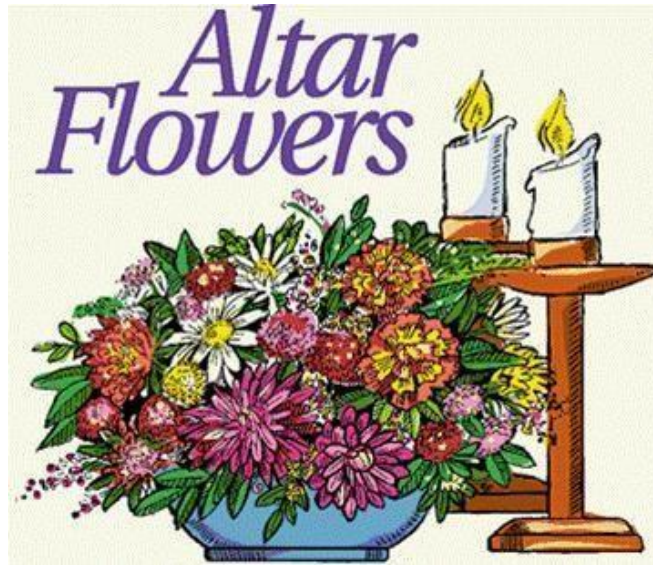
For information, contact, Diana Burden Mark at 678-852-6907 or email dburden6907@gmail.com.



The Anglican Relief
and Development Fund

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 2025.

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 2026

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 2026.

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.