



This Sunday at St. Luke's
September 13, 2026

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

**10:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer and Sermon with organ, choir
and hymns together with Shortened Holy Communion**

George Atwell, organist

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity



AGE OF ANXIETY

“Wherever you look, the message is the same: anxiety is the epidemic of our age. The numbers alone tell a grim tale: diagnosed cases of anxiety disorders are up 1,200 percent over the past three decades and affect as many as 117 million Americans,” says a recent article in *Psychology Everywhere*. Hence, Jesus’ message in the Sermon on the Mount concerning worry needs more than ever to be heard and heeded. The

counterbalance to worry is faith, not faith in faith, but faith in God who feeds the birds of the air and clothes the flowers of the field. Worry is futile; faith in God gives us an anchor in life's storms.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

KEEP, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy; and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE – Galatians 6:11-18 (J.B. Phillips)

A final appeal, in my own handwriting

¹¹ Look at these huge letters I am making in writing these words to you with my own hand!

¹²⁻¹³ These men who are always urging you to be circumcised—what are they after? They want to present a pleasing front to the world and they want to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who have been circumcised do not themselves keep the Law. But they want you circumcised so that they may be able to boast about your submission to their ruling.

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ Yet God forbid that I should boast about anything or anybody except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which means that the world is a dead thing to me and I am a dead man to the world. But in Christ it is not circumcision or uncircumcision that counts but the power of new birth. To all who live by this principle, to the true Israel of God, may there be peace and mercy!

¹⁷ Let no one interfere with me after this. I carry on my scarred body the marks of my owner, the Lord Jesus.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, my brothers, be with your spirit.

PAUL

NOTE: To be a Christian means to identify oneself with the crucified and risen Lord. "I have been crucified with Christ," St. Paul said earlier (2:20). God gives the power (grace) of His Spirit to those who seek to do just this. That is the meaning of Acts 1:8 and the closing prayer in Baptism (Prayer Book, p, 280). (William Sydnor)

THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Matthew 6:24-34 (J.B. Phillips)

Put your trust in God alone

“No one can be loyal to two masters. He is bound to hate one and love the other, or support one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and the power of money at the same time.”

²⁵⁻³⁰ “That is why I say to you, don’t worry about living—wondering what you are going to eat or drink, or what you are going to wear. Surely life is more important than food, and the body more important than the clothes you wear. Look at the birds in the sky. They never sow nor reap nor store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Aren’t you much more valuable to him than they are? Can any of you, however much he worries, make himself an inch taller? And why do you worry about clothes? Consider how the wild flowers grow. They neither work nor weave, but I tell you that even Solomon in all his glory was never arrayed like one of these! Now if God so clothes the flowers of the field, which are alive today and burnt in the stove tomorrow, is he not much more likely to clothe you, you ‘little-faiths’?

³¹⁻³³ “So don’t worry and don’t keep saying, ‘What shall we eat, what shall we drink or what shall we wear?! That is what pagans are always looking for; your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all. Set your heart on the kingdom and his goodness, and all these things will come to you as a matter of course.

³⁴ “Don’t worry at all then about tomorrow. Tomorrow can take care of itself! One day’s trouble is enough for one day.”

NOTE: Those who serve mammon (riches) try to be self-sufficient, to provide for all their needs, all their emergencies. Humbly trust in the loving heavenly Father as the balance of His creation does. (William Sydnor)

LECTIONARY READING

FIRST LESSON – Joel 2:21-27 (RSV)

God’s message to the Southern Kingdom of Judah

“Fear not, O land;
be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!
²² Fear not, you beasts of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;

the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ “Be glad, O sons of Zion,
and rejoice in the LORD, your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the latter rain, as before.

²⁴ “The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will restore to you the years
which the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent among you.

²⁶ “You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is none else.

And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

NOTE: In this reading, the prophet Joel portrays God as the great provider. This observation will be further confirmed in today's New Testament reading in which Jesus condemns faithless fears over material things. (William Sydnor)

THIS SUNDAY

Preacher: The Rector

Lector – Roger Johnson

Acolyte – Ruth Johnson

Verger – Dr. Alvin Cash

Ushers – Jordan Van Horn and Tim Kirby

**(New usher volunteers are needed! Why not put your name in this blank?
Speak to Tim Kirby)**

NEW EVENING BIBLE STUDY

THE OLD TESTAMENT IN FOUR WEEKS



Gifted Bible teacher Charles Lutz will lead a four-week Bible study entitled "The Old Testament in Four Weeks: History and Literature" on Thursdays: Sept. 17 through Oct. 8. Gather at 5:30 p.m. for a meal. Study will follow at 6 p.m. Please mark your

calendar and invite a friend.

OLD FASHIONED SUNDAY SCHOOL

ANGLICANISM 101

Grab a cup of coffee and join us!

Adult Sunday school will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Skelton Conference Room in the Parish House next door. The topic will be "Times and Seasons". The Rector will be the facilitator.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

September and October

- **Eastern Orthodox Divine Liturgy – Sunday, Sept. 13 and 27, at 2 p.m.**

- **The Old Testament in Four Weeks, Charles Lutz, instructor, Thursdays, Sept. 17-Oct. 8. Meal at 5:30 p.m., study at 6 p.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 a.m. service.**
 - **St. Michael, and All Angels – Tuesday, Sept. 29, HC Jennus Chapel at noon.**
 - **SLMG Monthly Meeting – Saturday, Oct. 3, at 10 a.m.**
 - **Annual Church Picnic – Sunday, Oct. 11, following the 10:30 a.m. service.**
 - **Eastern Orthodox Divine Liturgy – Sunday, Oct. 11 and 25, at 2 p.m.**
 - **Young Harris Concert – Sunday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m.**
 - **St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles – Wednesday, Oct. 28, HC, Jennus Chapel at noon.**

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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 the Women of St. Luke's for coordinating the reception for Pat Dearing's Memorial Service.



JOIN THE CHOIR!

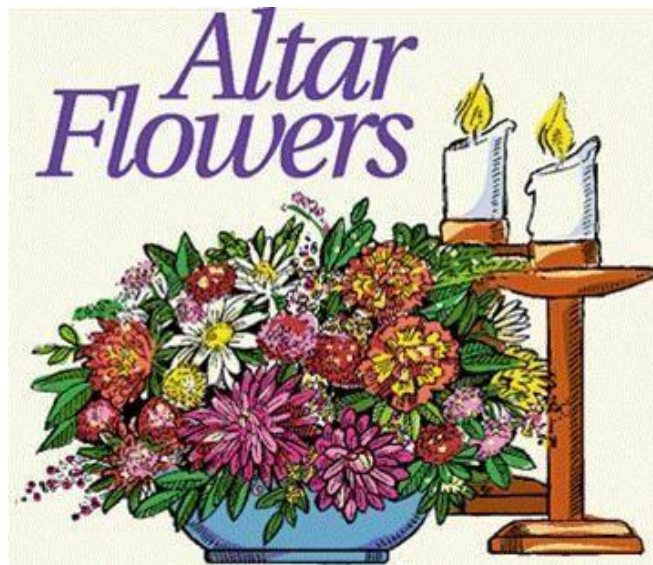


For information, contact, Diana Burden Mark at 678-852-6907 or email dburden6907@gmail.com.



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.