



*This Sunday at St. Luke's*  
*August 7, 2022*

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

**10 a.m. – Holy Communion (organ and hymns)**

*In-church, in-parking lot and online*

## **The Eighth Sunday after Trinity**



*A wife for Isaac*

After the death of Sarah, Abraham considers his old age and that it is time to find a wife for Isaac. He fully trusts that the Lord will find this wife and makes his servant Eliezer take an oath to return back to his homeland to find her. Eliezer journeys to his master Abraham's home and his journey is made successful by God. He finds Rebekah and returns with her back to Isaac. Here, we find Abraham ending well by continuing to trust in God's providence. May the same be true for us.

## THE 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.*

### THE EPISTLE – (J.B. Phillips) – Romans 8:12-17

*Following the Spirit, as God's sons*

8<sup>12-13</sup> So then, my brothers, you can see that we have no particular reason to feel grateful to our sensual nature, or to live life on the level of the instincts. Indeed that way of living leads to certain spiritual death. But if on the other hand you cut the nerve of your instinctive actions by obeying the Spirit, you are on the way to real living.

14-17 All who follow the leading of God's Spirit are God's own sons. Nor are you meant to relapse into the old slavish attitude of fear—you have been adopted into the very family circle of God and you can say with a full heart, "Father, my Father". The Spirit himself endorses our inward conviction that we really are the children of God. Think what that means. If we are his children we share his treasures, and all that Christ claims as his will belong to all of us as well! Yes, if we share in his suffering we shall certainly share in his glory.

NOTE: Romans 8 is about the meaning of the Christian's life in the Spirit. To have the Spirit of the family of which God is the Father makes us true sons, just as legal adoption does. (William Sydnor)

### THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Matthew 7:15-21 (J.B. Phillips)

*Living, not professing, is what matters*

7<sup>15-20</sup> "Be on your guard against false religious teachers, who come to you dressed up as sheep but are really greedy wolves. You can tell them by their fruit. Do you pick a bunch of grapes from a thorn-bush or figs from a clump of thistles? Every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree is incapable of producing bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. The tree that fails to produce good fruit is cut down and burnt. So you may know men by their fruit."

21 "It is not everyone who keeps saying to me 'Lord, Lord' who will enter the kingdom of Heaven, but the man who actually does my Heavenly Father's will.

NOTE: The test of a genuine faith in Christ is evident to others because it shines forth in life's daily relationships. This is true also of the corporate life of Christians. The Creed that is proclaimed by the way Church members act outside the church speaks more loudly than the one recited in church services. (William Sydnor)

# LECTIONARY READING

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Genesis 24:1-27 (RSV)

### *Finding a wife for Isaac*

**24** <sup>1</sup> Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. <sup>2</sup> And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who had charge of all that he had, “Put your hand under my thigh, <sup>3</sup> and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell, <sup>4</sup> but will go to my country and to my kindred, and take a wife for my son Isaac.” <sup>5</sup> The servant said to him, “Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from which you came?” <sup>6</sup> Abraham said to him, “See to it that you do not take my son back there. <sup>7</sup> **The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father’s house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me and swore to me, ‘To your descendants I will give this land,’ he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there.** <sup>8</sup> But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this oath of mine; only you must not take my son back there.” <sup>9</sup> So the servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter.

<sup>10</sup> Then the servant took ten of his master’s camels and departed, taking all sorts of choice gifts from his master; and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. <sup>11</sup> And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at the time of evening, the time when women go out to draw water. <sup>12</sup> And he said, “O Lord, God of my master Abraham, grant me success today, I pray thee, and show steadfast love to my master Abraham. <sup>13</sup> Behold, I am standing by the spring of water, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water. <sup>14</sup> Let the maiden to whom I shall say, ‘Pray let down your jar that I may drink,’ and who shall say, ‘Drink, and I will water your camels’—let her be the one whom thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac. By this I shall know that thou hast shown steadfast love to my master.”

<sup>15</sup> Before he had done speaking, behold, Rebekah, who was born to Bethu’el the son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham’s brother, came out with her water jar upon her shoulder. <sup>16</sup> The maiden was very fair to look upon, a virgin, whom no man had known. She went down to the spring, and filled her jar, and came up. <sup>17</sup> Then the servant ran to meet her, and said, “Pray give me a little water to drink from your jar.” <sup>18</sup> She said, “Drink, my lord”; and she quickly let down her jar upon her hand, and gave him a drink. <sup>19</sup> When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, “I will draw for your camels also, until they have done drinking.” <sup>20</sup> So she quickly emptied

her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to draw, and she drew for all his camels. <sup>21</sup> The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether the Lord had prospered his journey or not.

<sup>22</sup> When the camels had done drinking, the man took a gold ring weighing a half shekel, and two bracelets for her arms weighing ten gold shekels, <sup>23</sup> and said, “Tell me whose daughter you are. Is there room in your father’s house for us to lodge in?” <sup>24</sup> She said to him, “I am the daughter of Bethu’el the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.” <sup>25</sup> She added, “We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.” <sup>26</sup> The man bowed his head and worshiped the Lord, <sup>27</sup> and said, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken his steadfast love and his faithfulness toward my master. As for me, the Lord has led me in the way to the house of my master’s kinsmen.”

NOTE: The story of Rebekah at the well continues the Abraham saga which has been the O.T. lesson since the beginning of the Trinity Season. Faith is certainly “profitable to our salvation,” and Abraham typifies great faith, as verse 7 makes evident. (William Sydnor)

## The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Today’s Preacher – The Rector  
“Ending well”

### Sunday Worship Options

In-church.

Drive-in. Those choosing this option are asked to remain in their automobile and listen to the service via their car radio (FM 98.1). Holy Communion will be provided.

Online. Services are livestreamed on Facebook and available for viewing following the service on You Tube.

To access both put “Parish Church of St. Luke,  
Blue Ridge, Ga.” In the search bar.

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**Tip of the Canterbury Cap** to Todd Lyons for making a riding lawn mower available to the church at a ‘steal of a price’ and to the Men of St. Luke’s for purchasing this machine.

**Next concert is Sunday, Aug. 21**

The next concert in the 2022 series is entitled "Perseverance" and will feature award-winning opera and contemporary singer Kevin Garland. He is a graduate of Young Harris College. It is set for 5 p.m. on Sunday, August 21.



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

## Financial Pledge for the Year of our Lord 2022

*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 2022.*

Name

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Address

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Amount

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Weekly  Monthly  Yearly

(Please tick the appropriate blank)

### **SIGN-UP FOR FLOWERS**

A sign-up sheet for Altar flowers is available in Thomason Hall for 2022.

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.

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