



***This Sunday at St. Luke's***  
**October 12, 2025**

**8:15 Holy Communion (said service)**

**10:15 a.m. – Holy Communion with choir and hymns**  
**Dow Barton, pianist**

## **The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**



### **GOD CONTINUES FAITHFUL**

As the Moses saga continues, we find opposition from without and faithlessness from within. God, meanwhile, pledges to remain true to His promises and to bring His people out of slavery. God and His promises remain the rock on which our hope is built today. In the midst of opposition from without the Church and apostasy within, we cry out with the hymn writer:

“Great is thy faithfulness,  
Morning by morning new mercies  
I see.

All I have needed thy hand hast  
provided;  
Great is thy faithfulness.”

## **COLLECT FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

LORD, we pray thee that thy grace may always prevent [go before] and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **THE EPISTLE – Ephesians 4:1-6 (J.B. Phillips)**

*Christians should be at one, as God is one*

**4** <sup>1-6</sup> As God's prisoner, then, I beg you to live lives worthy of your high calling. Accept life with humility and patience, making allowances for each other because you love each other. Make it your aim to be at one in the Spirit, and you will inevitably be at peace with one another. You all belong to one body, of which there is one Spirit, just as you all experienced one calling to one hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, one Father of us all, who is the one over all, the one working through all and the one living in all.

NOTE: Notice that the ethical practices which Paul describes – lowliness, love, peacemaking, and so forth – are bracketed by words which suggest inescapable fetters – “prisoner of the Lord,” “Bond [that which binds or fetters] of peace.” By God's grace he has found a Lord and Saviour, forgiveness and new life. His daily living then reflects both the God-given power to serve and the inclination to strive to serve faithfully. (William Sydnor)

### **THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Luke 14:1-11 (J.B. Phillips)**

*A lesson in humility*

**14** <sup>1-3</sup> One Sabbath day he went into the house of one of the leading Pharisees for a meal, and they were all watching him closely. Right in front of him was a man afflicted with dropsy. So Jesus spoke to the scribes and Pharisees and said, “Well, is it right to heal on the Sabbath day or not?”

<sup>4-5</sup> But there was no reply. So Jesus took the man and healed him and let him go. Then he said to them, “If an ass or a cow belonging to one of you fell into a well, wouldn't you rescue him without the slightest hesitation even though it were the Sabbath?”

<sup>6</sup> And this again left them quite unable to reply.

<sup>7</sup> Then he gave a little word of advice to the guests when he noticed how they were choosing the best seats.

<sup>8-11</sup> “When you are invited to a wedding reception, don't sit down in the best seat. It might happen that a more distinguished man than you has also been invited. Then your host might say, ‘I am afraid you must give up your seat for this man.’ And then, with considerable embarrassment, you will have to sit in the humblest place. No, when you are invited, go and take your seat in an inconspicuous place, so that when your host comes in he may say to you, ‘Come on, my dear fellow, we have a much better seat than

this for you.’ That is the way to be important in the eyes of all your fellow-guests! For everyone who makes himself important will become insignificant, while the man who makes himself insignificant will find himself important.”

NOTE: The religious leaders took a superior and arrogant view of the Lord’s healing miracle. The person in the parable had a similar superior estimate of his own importance. Jesus identified Himself with human need and with lowliness. (William Sydnor).

## **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Exodus 5:1-9, 19-6:1 (RSV)**

### *Making bricks without straw*

<sup>5</sup>Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.’” <sup>2</sup> But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should heed his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover I will not let Israel go.” <sup>3</sup> Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us; let us go, we pray, a three days’ journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the Lord our God, lest he fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword.” <sup>4</sup> But the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people away from their work? Get to your burdens.” <sup>5</sup> And Pharaoh said, “Behold, the people of the land are now many and you make them rest from their burdens!” <sup>6</sup> The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen, <sup>7</sup> “You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as heretofore; let them go and gather straw for themselves.” <sup>8</sup> But the number of bricks which they made heretofore you shall lay upon them, you shall by no means lessen it; for they are idle; therefore they cry, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’” <sup>9</sup> Let heavier work be laid upon the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words.”

### *God promises deliverance*

<sup>19</sup> The foremen of the people of Israel saw that they were in evil plight, when they said, “You shall by no means lessen your daily number of bricks.” <sup>20</sup> They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came forth from Pharaoh; <sup>21</sup> and they said to them, “The Lord look upon you and judge, because you have made us offensive in the sight of Pharaoh and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

### *Israel’s Deliverance Assured*

<sup>22</sup> Then Moses turned again to the Lord and said, “O Lord, why hast thou done evil to this people? Why didst thou ever send me? <sup>23</sup> For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he has done evil to this people, and thou hast not delivered thy people at all.”

<sup>6</sup> But the Lord said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send them out, yea, with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land.”

NOTE: Here is another evidence in the Moses saga of God's concern for His people in spite of their unworthiness. His grace, rather than their works, was the reason for their deliverance from Egypt. (William Sydnor)

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON – Exodus 5:1-9, 19-6:1 (RSV)

*Moses a servant, Christ a son*

<sup>3</sup> Therefore, holy brethren, who share in a heavenly call, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession. <sup>2</sup> He was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in God's house. <sup>3</sup> Yet Jesus has been counted worthy of as much more glory than Moses as the builder of a house has more honor than the house. <sup>4</sup> (For every house is built by some one, but the builder of all things is God.) <sup>5</sup> Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, <sup>6</sup> but Christ was faithful over his own house as a son. And we are his house if we hold fast our confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

*Warning against unbelief*

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,

“Today, when you hear his voice,

<sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,  
on the day of testing in the wilderness,

<sup>9</sup> where your fathers put me to the test  
and saw my works for forty years.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore I was provoked with that generation,  
and said, ‘They always go astray in their hearts;  
they have not known my ways.’

<sup>11</sup> As I swore in my wrath,  
‘They shall never enter my rest.’”

<sup>12</sup> Take care, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. <sup>13</sup> But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup> For we share in Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end, <sup>15</sup> while it is said,

“Today, when you hear his voice,  
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

<sup>16</sup> Who were they that heard and yet were rebellious? Was it not all those who left Egypt under the leadership of Moses? <sup>17</sup> And with whom was he provoked forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> And to whom did he swear that they should never enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? <sup>19</sup> So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

NOTE: If God's graciousness to men is known through faithful Moses, God's servant, how much more is it revealed by Christ Jesus, God's Son. (William Sydnor

## THIS SUNDAY

**Preacher: The Rector**



**Tip of the Canterbury Cap** to Jordan Van Horn for replacing the church flag in front of the Parish House and for preparing the pavilion for last Sunday's animal blessing.

### CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Church picnic in pavilion, Saturday, Oct. 11, beginning at 11 a.m.** Everyone is asked to bring a toy for Toys for Tots (Marine League annual appeal) as well as a side dish. St. Luke's Men's Group will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. **Music will be provided by Ray LaBean.** *Bring a friend!*
- **WSL Fall Bible Study - "Bad Girls of the Bible"**, Wednesday, Sept. 24 - Oct. 29, 10 a.m. Yellow Room.
- **Christmas Bazaar Workshops** – Wednesdays at noon after Bible study. Bring your lunch. For information call Lauren Burgreen, 706-400-8761.
- **Young Harris College Music Dept, Concert** – Sunday, Oct. 19, at 5 p.m.
- **Vestry Meeting** – Sunday, Oct. 26, following the 10:15 service
- **The Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude the Apostles** – Tuesday, Oct. 28, HC Jennus Chapel at noon.
- **Eastern Orthodox Vespers** – Sunday, Oct. 12, and Sunday, Oct. 26, at 2 p.m.
- **AARP Smart Driver Class** – Saturday, Nov. 1, 8:30-3:30. For registration call or text Kelly Cherry 423-243-8146.





## **JOIN THE CHOIR!**



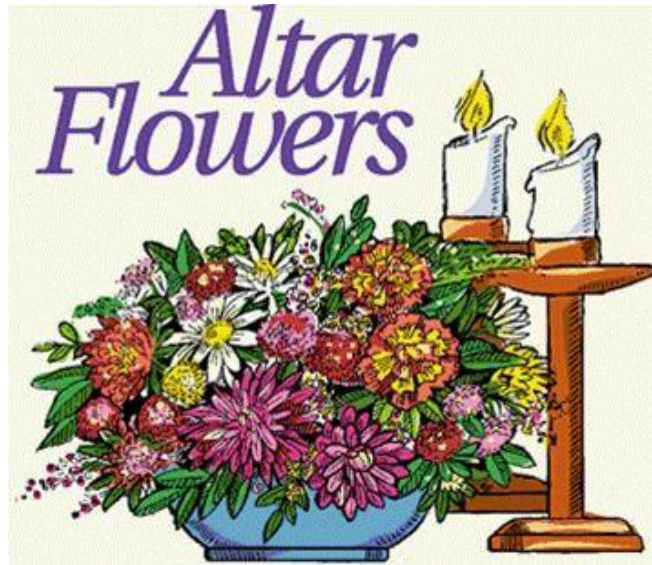
For information, contact, Diana Burden at 678-852-6907 or email [dburden6907@gmail.com](mailto:dburden6907@gmail.com).



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**

Please sign up for days you wish to commemorate.  
Flowers are needed throughout the end of the year. Please email  
or call Diana Burden 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

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Address

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Amount

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\_\_\_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_\_\_ Yearly

(Please tick the appropriate blank)



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