



*This Sunday at St. Luke's Blue Ridge
June 19, 2022*

8:15 a.m. – Holy Communion (said service)
10 a.m. – Holy Communion with organ and hymns
In-church, in-parking lot and online

The First Sunday after Trinity



A failure to love

Today's Gospel contains Jesus' parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus. Here is an illustration from life of words found in today's Epistle: "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

The Sundays after Trinity

The first half of the Christian year, with its succession of Festivals and Holy Days, deals mainly with what we believe – our Christian faith. The second half, which begins this Sunday, is concerned with living the Christian life – with Christianity in action. The chief characteristic of this life is love, both upward to God and outward to our fellow human beings. (H. W. Dobson)

THE COLLECT FOR TRINITY 1

O GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE – 1 St. John 4:7-21 (J.B. Phillips)

Let us love: God has shown us love at its highest

⁷⁻⁸ To you whom I love I say, let us go on loving one another, for love comes from God. Every man who truly loves is God's son and has some knowledge of him. But the man who does not love cannot know him at all, for God is love.

⁹⁻¹⁰ To us, the greatest demonstration of God's love for us has been his sending his only Son into the world to give us life through him. We see real love, not in that fact that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to make personal atonement for our sins.

¹¹ If God loved us as much as that, surely we, in our turn, should love each other!

¹²⁻¹³ It is true that no human being has ever had a direct vision of God. Yet if we love each other God does actually live within us, and his love grows in us towards perfection. And, as I wrote above, the guarantee of our living in him and his living in us is the share of his own Spirit which he gives us.

Knowing Christ means more love and confidence, less and less fear

^{14-16a} We ourselves are eye-witnesses able and willing to testify to the fact that the Father did send the Son to save the world. Everyone who acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God lives in him, and he lives in God. So we have come to know and trust the love God has for us.

^{16b-18} God is love, and the man whose life is lived in love does, in fact, live in God, and God does, in fact, live in him. So our love for him grows more and more, filling us with complete confidence for the day when he shall judge all men—for we realise

that our life in this world is actually his life lived in us. Love contains no fear—indeed fully-developed love expels every particle of fear, for fear always contains some of the torture of feeling guilty. This means that the man who lives in fear has not yet had his love perfected.

¹⁹⁻²¹ Yes, we love him because he first loved us. If a man says, “I love God” and hates his brother, he is a liar. For if he does not love the brother before his eyes how can he love the one beyond his sight? And in any case it is his explicit command that the one who loves God must love his brother too.

NOTE: Love comes from God. Through Christ our Saviour and Lord we have received the power to love. Our gratitude for His love is seen in our love for our fellow men. For us to live any other way is to invite God’s wrath and judgment. (William Sydnor)

THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Luke 16:19-31 (J.B. Phillips)

Jesus shows the fearful consequence of failing to love

¹⁹⁻³¹ “There was once a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and lead a life of daily luxury. And there was a poor man called Lazarus who was put down at his gate. He was covered with sores. He used to long to be fed with the scraps from the rich man’s table. Yes, and the dogs used to come and lick his sores. Well, it happened that the poor man died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And from among the dead he looked up and saw Abraham a long way away, and Lazarus in his arms. ‘Father Abraham!’ he cried out, ‘please pity me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham replied, ‘Remember, my son, that you used to have the good things in your lifetime, while Lazarus suffered the bad. Now he is being comforted here, while you are in agony. And besides this, a great chasm has been set between you and us, so that those who want to go to you from this side cannot do so, and people cannot come to us from your side.’ At this he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house for I have five brothers. He could warn them about all this and prevent their coming to this place of torture.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets: they can listen to them.’ ‘Ah no, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘if only someone were to go to them from the dead, they would change completely.’ But Abraham told him, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they would not be convinced even if somebody were to rise from the dead.’”

NOTE: In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus it is evident that selfishness is a barrier between man and God. The great reversal of which Mary spoke in the Magnificat is also illustrated: “He

[God] hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek.” (William Sydnor)

LECTIONARY READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Genesis 3 (RSV)

The first sin and its punishment

3 Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?’” **2** And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; **3** but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” **4** But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die. **5** For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” **6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” **10** And he said, “I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” **11** He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” **12** The man said, “The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” **13** Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent beguiled me, and I ate.” **14** The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all cattle,
and above all wild animals;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your seed and her seed;

he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
“I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children,
yet your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to Adam he said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ In the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰ The man called his wife’s name Eve, ^[a] because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins, and clothed them.

²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever”— ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

NOTE: Human sin is here described. It is man’s willfulness in doing what he wants (and not what God wants). The result is disastrous, resulting in separation from God. (William Sydnor)

Trinity Sunday

Preacher: The Rev. Fr. Louis Guerin

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.

* * * * *



Tip of the Canterbury Cap to those who assisted with providing breakfast for young people attending the Sunny-D Theatre Camp.

St. John Baptist Holy Communion

Holy Communion will be celebrated at noon on the Feast Day of St. John the Baptist, June 25.



Hymn Sing

SONGS OF FAITH

An old-fashioned Billy Graham-style hymn sing will be held at 5 p.m., Saturday, June 25. A retiring offering will be taken.



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

Address

Amount

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.

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.