



This Sunday at St. Luke's
June 9, 2024

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

**10:15 a.m. – Morning Prayer and Sermon together with
Shortened Holy Communion**

Steven Cagle, organist

The Second Sunday after Trinity



“Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.”

The Parable of the Great Supper

Today’s Gospel records Jesus’ Parable of the Great Supper. The master is not satisfied with a partially full banquet hall; he wants every place at the table to be filled. “God is more willing to save sinners than sinners are to be saved,” one commentator is quoted saying. This parable proves the validity of this saying.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

O LORD, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy stedfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE – 1 St. John 3:13-24 (J.B. Phillips)

Living in love means confidence in God

¹³Don't be surprised, therefore, if the world hates you.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵We know that we have crossed the frontier from death to life because we do love our brothers. The man without love for his brothers is living in death already. The man who actively hates his brother is a potential murderer, and you will readily see that the eternal life of God cannot live in the heart of a murderer.

¹⁶⁻¹⁸We know and, to some extent realise, the love of God for us because Christ expressed it in laying down his life for us. We must in turn express our love by laying down our lives for those who are our brothers. But as for the well-to-do man who sees his brothers in want but shuts his eyes—and his heart—how could anyone believe that the love of God lives in him? My children, let us not love merely in theory or in words—let us love in sincerity and in practice!

¹⁹⁻²⁰If we live like this, we shall know that we are children of the truth and can reassure ourselves in the sight of God, even if our own hearts make us feel guilty. For God is infinitely greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

²¹⁻²³And if, dear friends of mine, when we realise this our hearts no longer accuse us, we may have the utmost confidence in God's presence. We receive whatever we ask for, because we are obeying his orders and following his plans. His orders are that we should put our trust in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another—as we used to hear him say in person.

²⁴The man who does obey God's commands lives in God and God lives in him, and the guarantee of his presence within us is the Spirit he has given us.

NOTE: God loves us, and His love makes demands on us. We are expected to respond both by faith and by action. "This is His commandment, That we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another" (v.23). (William Sydnor)

THE GOSPEL – St. Luke 14:16-24 (J.B. Phillips)

Men who are "too busy" for the kingdom of God

¹⁶⁻²⁴But Jesus said to him, "Once upon a time, a man planned a big dinner party and invited a great many people. At dinner-time, he sent his servant out to tell those who

were invited, 'Please come, everything is ready now.' But they all, as one man, began to make their excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought some land. I must go and look at it. Please excuse me.' Another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen and am on my way to try them out. Please convey my apologies.' Another one said, 'I have just got married and I am sure you will understand I cannot come.' So the servant returned and reported all this to his master. The master of the house was extremely annoyed and said to his servant, 'Hurry out now into the streets and alleys of the town, and bring here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' Then the servant said, 'I have done what you told me, sir, and there are still empty places.' Then the master replied, 'Now go out to the roads and hedgerows and make them come inside, so that my house may be full. For I tell you that not one of the men I invited shall have a taste of my dinner.'"

NOTE: The parable of the great supper is the story of men who took lightly their promises to attend. The Lord was probably saying that the religious leaders had failed their obligations and would be replaced in the kingdom by those whom they despised. (William Sydnor)

LECTIONARY READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Deuteronomy 20:1-9 (RSV)

Rules of warfare

20 "When you go forth to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, you shall not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. ² And when you draw near to the battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the people, ³ and shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel, you draw near this day to battle against your enemies: let not your heart faint; do not fear, or tremble, or be in dread of them; ⁴ for the Lord your God is he that goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.' ⁵ Then the officers shall speak to the people, saying, 'What man is there that has built a new house and has not dedicated it? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man dedicate it. ⁶ And what man is there that has planted a vineyard and has not enjoyed its fruit? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man enjoy its fruit. ⁷ And what man is there that has betrothed a wife and has not taken her? Let him go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another man take her.' ⁸ And the officers shall speak further to the people, and say, 'What man is there that is fearful and fainthearted? Let him go back to his house, lest the heart of his fellows melt as his heart.' ⁹ And when the officers have made an end of speaking to the people, then commanders shall be appointed at the head of the people.

NOTE This proclamation before a battle is, in a sense, the converse of the parable found in today's Gospel. Those who have commitments they have not fulfilled are urged to leave the fighting line and go carry them out. (William Sydnor)

THIS SUNDAY

Preacher: The Rector, 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship Options

In-church.

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.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Sharing Tuesday – Bible Study continues on Tuesdays at 9:45 a.m. downstairs in the Yellow Room.



St. Barnabas' Day, Wednesday, June 11– Holy Communion will be celebrated at 12 noon in the Jennus Chapel. Barnabas was one of the very earliest followers of Jesus and a leader of the early church. His story is told in the Acts of the Apostles, and he is also mentioned in some of Paul's letters. Originally called Joseph, he was given his new name of Barnabas by those who knew him well, it means 'son of encouragement'.



Come one, come all!

A Pre-July 4 BBQ
extravaganza is planned
following a combined
9:30 a.m. service on

Sunday, June 30. Please mark your calendar and invite a friend to come with you. Jodi and Dennis are bringing a barbecued Boston butt. Others are asked as to use the sign-up sheet in Thomason Hall to indicate items they are planning on bring. Need: fried and barbecued chicken, potato salad, Cole slaw, baked beans, salads, fruit dishes, side dishes, rolls, tea, water and lemonade and deserts. The dress is red, white and blue.

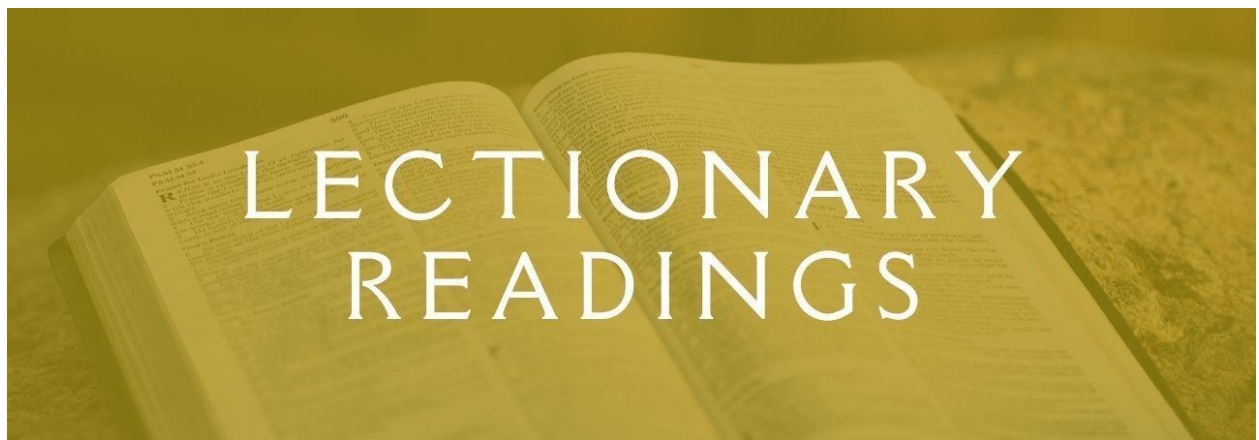


FUTURE FIFTH SUNDAY POTLUCKS DATES

St. Luke's will have one service at 9:30 a.m. on Fifth Sundays with a potluck lunch following. Dates for future events are June 30; Sept 29; and Dec. 29.



Tip of the Canterbury Cap to Roger Johnson for refinishing the bell in Thomason Hall.



Sharing Tuesdays

A Preview of Sunday's Readings

9:45 a.m. Sharing Tuesdays is your turn !!!
There are no teachers; no leaders; no presentations;
no videos; no homework; no assignments. Just
COME and read the Bible together with your
brothers and sisters in Christ and share from your
heart. All thoughts, questions, uncertainties, feelings
are welcome.

CHOIR PRACTICE

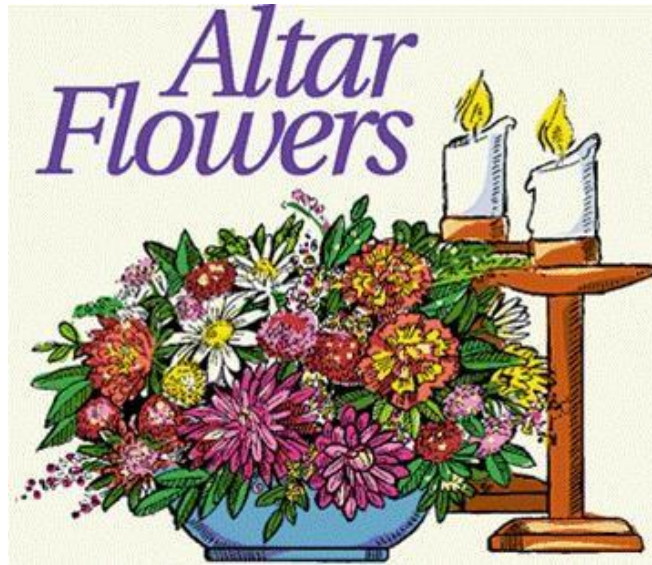


For information, contact, Diana Burden at 678-852-6907 or email
dburden6907@gmail.com.



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 2024.

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 2024

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 2024

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.