



***This Sunday at St. Luke's***  
**May 17, 2026**

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

**10:15 a.m. – Holy Communion with hymns and special music**

**Steven Cagle, organist**

## **The Sunday after Ascension**



### **The Waiting and Witnessing Church**

The ancient name for this Sunday was *Dominica Expectationis* – “Waiting Sunday”. This designation comes from Jesus’ command to His followers just prior to the Ascension to “wait for the Father’s promise” (Acts 1:40)

The Collect looks back to the Feast of the Ascension and forward to Whitsunday (Pentecost), and we pray that Christ by His Spirit may come to us and that we may at last go to Him.

Seeing that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Heb. iv. 14, 16.*

## **THE COLLECT FOR THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

## **THE COLLECT FOR ASCENSION DAY**

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

## **THE EPISTLE (H.C.) – 1 St. Peter 4:7-11 (J.B. Phillips)**

*Your attitude in these last days*

<sup>7</sup>We are near the end of all things now, and you should therefore be calm, self-controlled men of prayer.

<sup>8</sup>Above everything else be sure that you have real deep love for each other, remembering how ‘love will cover a multitude of sins’.

<sup>9</sup>Be hospitable to each other without secretly wishing you hadn’t got to be!

<sup>10-11</sup> Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you, as faithful dispensers of the magnificently varied grace of God. If any of you is a preacher then he should preach his message as from God. And in whatever way a man serves the Church he should do it recognising the fact that God gives him his ability, so that God may be glorified in everything through Jesus Christ. To him belong praise and power for ever, amen!

NOTE: The ‘end’ is always near for the Christian. The ‘last days’ are those days between our Lord’s two advents. Here in this reading we find Peter giving advice on how to live in these days. (William Sydnor)

## **THE GOSPEL – St. John 15:26-16:4 (J.B. Phillips)**

*Jesus speaks of the work of the Holy Spirit*

**15<sup>26-27</sup>** But when the helper comes, that is, the Spirit of truth, who comes from the Father and whom I myself will send to you from the Father, he will speak plainly about me. And you yourselves will also speak plainly about me for you have been with me from the first.

**16**<sup>1</sup> “I am telling you this now so that your faith in me may not be shaken. They will excommunicate you from their synagogues. Yes, the time is coming when a man who kills you will think he is thereby serving God! They will act like this because they have never had any true knowledge of the Father or of me, but I have told you all this so that when the time comes for it to happen you may remember that I told you about it.”

NOTE: The Spirit when He comes will bear witness to the power and glory of Him who is the Lord of all. (William Sydnor)

## LECTIONARY READINGS

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Isaiah 33:5-6,  
17, 20-22 (RSV)**

*Praise for the king*

**33**<sup>5</sup> The Lord is exalted, for he dwells on high;  
he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness;  
<sup>6</sup> and he will be the stability of your times,  
abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge;  
the fear of the Lord is his treasure.

<sup>17</sup> Your eyes will see the king in his beauty;  
they will behold a land that stretches afar.

<sup>20</sup> Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts!  
Your eyes will see Jerusalem,  
a quiet habitation, an immovable tent,  
whose stakes will never be plucked up,  
nor will any of its cords be broken.

<sup>21</sup> But there the Lord in majesty will be for us  
a place of broad rivers and streams,  
where no galley with oars can go,  
nor stately ship can pass.

<sup>22</sup> For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our ruler,  
the Lord is our king; he will save us. Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts!

NOTE: This is an abridged version of a longer poem (33:1-24). It is a hymn of praise to the King in his beauty. Ultimately, beyond the time of the psalmist, the king is Christ, whose kingdom is without end. (William Sydnor)

## **THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION**

**Preacher: The Rector**

### **THIS SUNDAY**

**Preacher: The Rector**

Lector (Old Testament) – John Kautz

Lector (Epistle) – Jordan Van Horn

Acolyte – Reed Ferrell

Verger – Dr. Alvin Cash

Ushers – Bob and Anna Bradley

#### **CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

##### **May**

- **REFRESH** – Genesis study, Charles Lutz – Thursday, May 17, 5:30 p.m. (second in a six-week study)
- **Eastern Orthodox Services** – May 24, at 2 p.m.
- **WSL Bi-Monthly Meeting** – Wednesday, May 13, at 9:30 a.m.
- **Ascension Day** – Thursday, May 14, HC Jennus Chapel at noon.
- **Vestry Meeting** – Sunday, May 24, following the 10:15 service.
- **Fellowship Luncheon** – Sunday, May 31, following the 10:15 service

##### **June**

- **HER HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER WALK FOR LIFE** – Saturday, June 6, (See Teresa Wankel)
- **SUNNY D THEATRE CAMP** – June 8-12, June 15-19.

### ***GENESIS AND CREATION CLASS CONTINUES***

#### **Synopsis:**

This class meets once a week for 6 weeks. It covers the entire book of Genesis, which is so foundational to an understanding of



and earth and civilization are contained in Chapters 1-11, and then the beginnings of the nation of Israel through the lives of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are covered in Chapters 12-50, the last several chapters of which is the story of Joseph, ending with the young nation residing

prosperously in Egypt, which is however, not their promised land.

### **The Instructor:**

Charles Lutz, 63 years old, lives in Blairsville, but is from Indiana. For the past 31 years, he has put his seminary training to use in a variety of Christian ministries. He currently is a visiting instructor at a Native American Bible college, and is a writer and musician. He loves teaching passionately about both books God has written: the Bible and Creation!

## **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.



**Tip of the Canterbury Cap** to Taylor Kilpatrick for being the newest member of the Altar Guild.



## JOIN THE CHOIR!

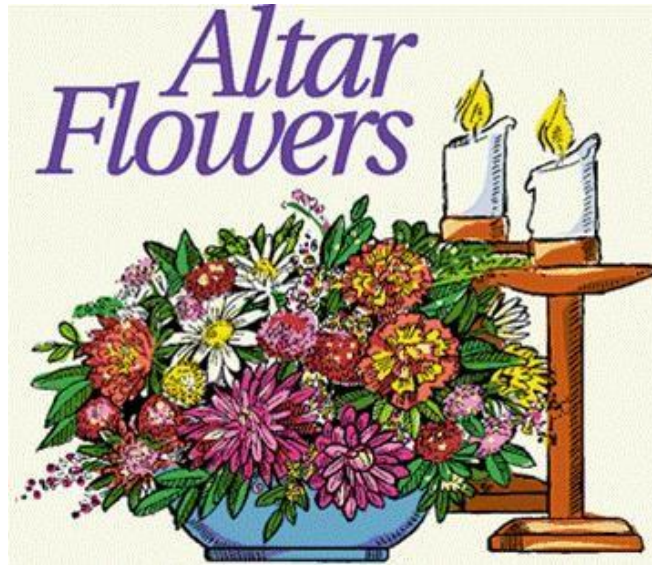


For information, contact, Diana Burden at 678-852-6907 or email [dburden6907@gmail.com](mailto:dburden6907@gmail.com).



### 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 2025*

Name

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Address

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Amount

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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;  
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