Let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.  

*The Letter to the Hebrews*

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**Kathy Thaden - Be Thou My Vision**  
(5”x 7” mini mosaic)  
[www.thadenmosaics.com](http://www.thadenmosaics.com)  
Episcopal Church in the Visual Arts (ECVA) Artist.  
*Millefiori, beads, glass fusing, vitreous tile, miscella-neous stained glass, tempered glass*  
*Used with Artist’s permission*

**Artist’s statement:**  
The swirling, growing tendrils reach for something beyond...the tension between light and dark are also present...but hidden treasures are also ready to be found and discovered. It is important to me in our 'throw-away' culture that nothing be wasted, and I find beauty in what was once broken - glass scraps and remnants that could have been discarded as unusable. Together they create something new. "Vision" beckons the viewer to see the world through God's eyes: to reach higher, to respect those around us, to be always faithful, and seek to be a better person.

Inspiration is from an ancient Irish hymn "Be Thou My Vision"  
*Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.*

**Reflection:**  
Our Eucharistic prayers speak of our worship as a “sacrifice of praise”. This sacrifice of praise continues in our lives as we live simply, sharing the abundance God has given. There is worshipful work in caring for our world, its environment and people. Our personal “sacrifice of praise” involves giving our very selves in compassion, mercy, and justice to all we encounter.  
*The Rev. Claudia Giacoma*
In Need of Prayer of Home Communion? St. Luke’s Prayer Ministers are available during the 10:30 AM service to pray with you. If you would like a name added to our Prayer Chain, contact Tami Wrice with your request at 435-901-1128 or t-wrice@hotmail.com. If you know of someone who needs Home Communion, contact our Lay Eucharistic Visitor Team by calling or emailing the Church Office. Blessings!

PLEASE PRAY FOR............

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:
✓ Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Diocesan Bishop and for ALL the people and parishes in our diocese. Pray especially for Spirit of the Desert in Ivans.
✓ All people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of Bermuda.

OUR NATION & ITS LEADERS:
✓ Our government leaders that they may live & work in a spirit of calm reason & cooperation on behalf of the common good.

THOSE WHO ARE FACING SUFFERING & HARDSHIP:
✓ Robert++++ (husband of Iris Thompson), Pat++++ (Sanger), Rita++++ (wife of Kevin Tischner), Alexa++++ (granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Gerry++++ (wife of Jim Brooks) Mildred & Tom++++ (mother and brother of Cheryl Popple) Cassie & Gabrielle++++ (daughters of Richard & Bernadette Rothman) Tom++++ (brother of Joe Cordery) Kelle++++ (mother of Aimee Altizer), Aone+++ (sister of Teddi Reeves) Mary Gene++++ (mother of Bernadette Rothman) Jill++++ (friend of Susan Brewer) Sandor++ (friend of Harriet Stephens) Shelle+ (wife of Jim Jennings) Joan+ (friend of Barbara Wine) Maguel+ (father of Bernadette Rothman) Ty+ (friend of Ann Deyo)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
✓ The victims of the earthquake in Italy,
✓ Those effected by the flooding in the Southern states and the fires in the West.
✓ An end to the conflicts in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan and healing for all victims.
✓ A lasting, permanent peace between Israel & her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……
Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Ron Beaver
Friend of Beckie Raemer

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR......
✓ For our Altar Guild Leaders, Iris Thompson and Janet van Hartesvelt, and their families.
✓ And for those having birthdays this week: Scott Henders- son today; Lou Giacoma on Monday; Pete Reko on Tuesday and Mike Andrews on Saturday.
The Scripture Passages
Proper 17c - August 28, 2016

Collect of the Day: Lord of all love and gentleness, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts your enduring love and patient compassion; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord. AMEN.

The Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Today’s reading from the Hebrew scriptures comes from the 10th chapter of The Wisdom of Sirach. The Wisdom of Sirach is a collection of ethical teachings. Thus it closely resembles Proverbs, except that, unlike the latter, it is presented as the work of a single author, not an anthology of maxims drawn from various sources, presented in verse form. Please read with me by reading the parts in bold print…..

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.
For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.

Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely.
The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place.
The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place.
The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.
He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

Here ends the reading.

The Muslim Scriptures:

Humility is an essential attitude for success in the spiritual life. Any self-conceit, whether nurtured by superior intelligence, wealth, a high position, or the praise of others, is an obstacle on the path. Please read with me from the Hadith of Bukhari by reading the parts in bold print…….
Harithah tells how he heard the Prophet say,
"Have I not taught you how the inhabitants of Paradise will be all the humble and the weak, whose oaths God will accept when they swear to be faithful? Have I not taught you how the inhabitants of hell will be all the cruel beings, strong of body and arrogant?"

Here ends the reading.

The Christian Gospels: Luke 14:1, 7-14
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Offertory Sentence:
Priest: My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, when you come to the Table of the Lord, come not only to receive the presence of the Lord, but also to give your life completely to Him. As Jesus said, the Greatest Commandments are these:
People: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

[Hebrew & Christian scripture passages are reprinted with permission from the World Council of Churches. Passages from extra-biblical sources are reprinted with permission from World Scriptures.]
Fake It Until You Make It!
Proper 17c - August 28, 2016
The Wisdom of Sirach 10, The Hadith of Bukhari, Luke 14:1, 7-14

Today’s scripture passages all relate to the virtue known as humility. Professor William M. McClay, in his article entitled “Humility: Vice or Virtue,” notes that humility has always been granted a particularly high standing in the great religions of the world, particularly Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. “Even in places where the authority of such religious traditions has waned, the virtue of humility is still held in high regard.

One can define it in various ways. The humility of the ancient Greeks, who feared that excessive pride or “hubris” would attract the vengeance of the gods, was something quite distinct from the humility of the Jews, who not only feared their God but also loved that same God for God’s attributes of justice and graciousness. Christians added to Judaism the astounding belief that humility is inherent in the very nature of God.” This idea was expressed most vividly in the ancient christological hymn found in the Book of the Philippians: “Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.” This is an image of a perfect-complete love that is capable of yielding the fruit of a perfect-complete humility.

But is humility really a virtue like the four cardinal virtues: justice, temperance, fortitude and prudence? Aristotle suggested that humility, rather than being a typical virtue, was a type of “greatness of soul” or “megalopsychia” (Gk). In other words, humility represented the convergence of a number of moral virtues; a mean, a blending, a middle ground between the extremes of vanity and arrogance on one end and cowardice and an absence of determination on the other.

If humility is a virtue, it is unique. First, it is an attitude that seems to push against the quest for human flourishing and excellence. As we become more accomplished in something, we tend naturally to take pride in our advances and growing mastery, particular-
When you throw a dinner party, don’t act by focusing on inviting the “who’s who” of the community even if that is the temptation. Instead, deliberately choose to invite some of those in your neighborhood or town who may be poor or without fancy titles. Act in this way even if it is not your first choice; even if it brings some measure of discomfort. And I would add: the next time you go to dinner in a restaurant, treat the staff of that restaurant with respect. Make eye contact with them whenever you are talking with them. Do not make demands, but rather ask with kindness and gentleness. And even if somewhere in your brain there exists the judgment that you are smarter, richer or better than your waitress, speak to her as if you work for her. When it comes to the practice of humility, sometimes we have to fake it until we make it, that is, sometimes we are called to act humbly even if we see ourselves as superior. With enough practice, our thoughts may begin to more closely match our actions.

To close, allow me to tell you a cute story about humility…A newly discovered chapter in the Book of Genesis has provided the answer to "Where do pets come from?" Adam said, "Lord, when I was in the garden, you walked with me everyday. Now I do not see you anymore. I am lonesome here and it is difficult for me to remember how much you love me." And God said, "No problem! I will create a companion for you that will be with you forever and who will be a reflection of my love for you, so that you will love me even when you cannot see me. Regardless of how selfish or childish or unlovable you may be, this new companion will accept you as you are and will love you as I do, in spite of yourself."

And God created a new animal to be a companion for Adam. And it was a good animal. And God was pleased. And the new animal was pleased to be with Adam and he wagged his tail. And Adam said, "Lord, I have already named all the animals in the Kingdom and I cannot think of a name for this new animal." And God said, "No problem! Because I have created this new animal to be a reflection of my love for you, his name will be a reflection of my own name, and you will call him DOG." And Dog lived with Adam and was a companion to him and loved him. And Adam was comforted. And God was pleased. And Dog was content and wagged his tail.

After a while, it came to pass that Adam’s guardian angel came to the Lord and said, "Lord, Adam has become filled with pride. He struts and preens like a peacock and he believes he is worthy of adoration. Dog has indeed taught him that he is loved, but perhaps too well." And the Lord said, "No problem! I will create for him a companion who will be with him forever and who will see him as he is. The companion will remind him of his limitations, so he will know that he is not always worthy of adoration." And God created Cat to be a companion to Adam. And Cat would not obey Adam. And when Adam gazed into Cat’s eyes, he was reminded that he was not the supreme being. And Adam learned humility. And God was pleased. And Adam was greatly improved. And Dog was happy. And the Cat didn't give a hoot one way or the other.

Blessings,
Charles+

A HUGE THANK YOU to Deedee Sihvonen and her granddaughter Emmy Kanarowski and friend Bella for their tireless hard work. They have spent many many hours and days cleaning the upstairs.

They have sorted through the many piles of items that have accumulated over the years and they are organizing them.

Nancy Conrow and Leslie Wood have also jumped in and are organizing the many seasonal decorations and flowers that are used at both the Church and Chapel. Not an easy feat! Thank you for taking the time to take on these huge jobs!!!!
Charles+ invited the group to perform the Opening Litany and share personal reflections. Beckie did so.
The May minutes were approved.

Finance Report - We are doing better. We have a cash balance of $19,000. We have been doing well at keeping expenses down. Our relationship with the latino community is going well. The only caveat is that we are going through 3 times more paper products than we once did. Beckie will look at the numbers on this.

Progress on Goals:

1. Sanctuary Donation Kiosk - Beckie. The Episcopal Church Stewardship Network has a program called “Tithely.” This allows someone to donate from their phone using a text message and it will work with our parish website. The website is www.tithe.ly. The only thing she has not figured out how to integrate into the system is how we would have a kiosk. A kiosk will really not be needed. Tithely works with both Apple and Android phones. When a person makes a donation via phone, there will be a two day processing window. We will have to educate our congregation about this and have instructions in the Weekly Magazine and the projector. There are normal bank fees associated with the program similar to what we are already paying by using our website for donations, but the program itself is free.

Decision: The vestry approved Beckie proceeding with Tithely.

2. Not much progress on the photo directory. Beckie said the most popular company is Life-Touch (which used to be Olin-Mills). We need a coordinator to arrange appts for everyone in the parish to have their photos taken. There are some online programs.

Decision: The vestry approved using Life-Touch. We will try to recruit a coordinator through the “Weekly Magazine.”

3. Karl reported on pollution reduction and increasing our solar panels…..AT&T uses most of our electricity and we charge them accordingly. Given this reality, it may not be feasible for us to add panels unless AT&T would be willing to pay for most of them. Prices are coming down. DwellTek will give us an evaluation.

Karl recommends we wait until we get the feedback from DwellTek and he has a chance to see if AT&T will pay their fair share.

4. Marketing - Charles and Ted - The Marketing Team (Pamela, Ted, Aimee and Charles) are working well together. They have not yet addressed marketing in Heber, but this will need to be addressed in the future.

Recommendation - Look into the cost of programs that will tell us whenever someone moves into one of the surrounding area codes.

5. Spiritual Vitality Program - Christine talked about asking the women’s group about this. Feedback: Having spirituality and the arts program of some sort….we could think about how to enhance the sanctuary through art….Having services outdoors was a popular idea…a sculpture garden would be welcome….Susanne suggested promoting Cursillo and also small group ministry….We could support Jan’s centering prayer group….EFM (Education for Ministry) program is another possibility - a 4 year study in which you meet once a week and study the Old Testament, New Testament, Church History and Theology….perhaps we could do something with Temple Har Shalom….

6. Ted - no real progress on the empty lot question. Sharon - can we plant wild-flowers during the interim? Beckie said she talked with the people who do our lawn-care and they recommended we not plant wild-flowers because of the need to do weed control. They are working on the weed control, but it may be a few years before it is under control.

Charles recommended that Sharon gather a group of volunteers and work a small patch of the lot to see how it goes. If it goes well, we can build on this.

7. Susan - Parish Communications - We need to work on a Church Calendar so that events do not get double-booked….Beckie has started a Google Calendar….Anyone planning an event should let Beckie know so that she can place it on the calendar. Ted - Is there a way to subscribe to the Church Calendar so that people are automatically notified whenever an event is added? Beckie referred him to Andrew Pratt for the technical question.
8. **Painting the Chapel** - Leslie - The Chapel is still on the schedule to be painted in late September or early October. Ed asked about the rust on the Chapel steps. Leslie will consult with the painters about this problem.

9. **The Endowment Fund** - Sharon and Christine - Sharon passed out a handout from the Episcopal Church Foundation that describes setting up an endowment fund. The Foundation is also a fund management institution. We need an “Enabling Resolution” through which the Vestry authorizes the establishment of the fund. An endowment fund is a planned giving fund. The money would be managed by money managers. The rules of the fund would be designed according to our specifications. We should put together a team with Sharon and Christine as leaders to develop the structure of the fund. The fund could be initiated at the Annual Celebration in Feb. 2017.

**Decision** - We want more time to study the subject. Christine will contact New York about having one of the Foundation consultants meet with the Vestry. Charles recommended that Christine and Sharon begin recruiting their team. In the meantime, each Vestry member will do their own research including emailing questions to Christine and Sharon.

10. **Leslie reported on the Pledge Drive** – Much of the prep work has already been done…we are ahead of schedule….Kick off Sunday is October 16th. On that day all of the “dealers” meet for breakfast. **A volunteer is needed to do the breakfast…pastries and coffee.**

**NEXT MEETING = Monday, November 7th**

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**Help!!! The Ministries of St. Luke’s Needs Your Involvement:**

**These 4 Positions Need to be Filled as Soon as Possible**

**OUR PARISH WEBSITE:** With new events and classes coming online at St. Luke’s frequently throughout the year, we need someone who would be willing to work with Charles+ and Beckie to keep our parish website dynamic, interesting, current and helpful. This work could be done from home. For more information, please speak to either Charles+, Beckie beckie@stlukespc.org or Pamela Davey (Marketing Team) pmdavey101@gmail.com. Thanks!

**ESTABLISHING AN ENDOWMENT FUND:** The St. Luke’s Vestry is seriously considering launching a St. Luke’s Endowment Fund next year. A team is needed to structure the fund and decide how it will work. Christine Munro and Sharon Christiansen will be co-charing this team, but they need others who have experience with endowment funds and long-term financial planning. If you are interested in helping, please speak to either Christine christ@torchlightinn.com or Sharon, sharone435@gmail.com

**LEADING ART & SOUL:** Are you passionate about spiritual exploration and growth? Do you love creativity? Claudia+ is in need of an apprentice-partner who will help her this fall with Art & Soul and learn how to use creativity and the arts to help people explore their spirituality. If you are interested in this important ministry opportunity, please call Claudia+ at 435-513-0441.

**PHOTO DIRECTORY COORDINATOR:** It’s time to update our parish photo directory. The company that will be doing most of the work for us will be Life-Touch, but a Photo Directory Coordinator will be needed to work with the photo company and to arrange for parish members to meet with the photographer. If you enjoy organizing events and accomplishing administrative tasks, you will enjoy this service opportunity. For more information, please speak to Beckie at beckie@stlukespc.org or Charles+.
CENTERING PRAYER:
Meets Monday mornings at 9:30 AM & Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Jerusalem room. Please join us in this contemplative practice of Holy Silence. For any questions contact Jan at jan.e.hafner@gmail.com

CONSIDERING JOINING THE ST. LUKE’S COMMUNITY? JUST WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH?
Our rector would be delighted to make an appointment to meet with you. He will do his best to answer your questions and to help you to feel welcomed and included at St. Luke’s. When you are ready to have a conversation, just let him know at either: pastor@stlukespc.org or 435-901-2131.

AUTUMN GOSPEL GROUP FOR WOMEN 50ish & UP: FOURTH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:00 AM
Meets on the fourth Saturday of each month, 10:00-NOON. We are beginning a new book, "A New Harmony: The Spirit, The Earth, and The Human Soul” by J. Phillip Newell. Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info. please call Dyan Pignatelli, 435-782-3330 or Joyce Pearson, 435-659-0724.

TAI-CHI Is taking the month of August off. Classes will resume in September.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES
Our A Course in Miracles study group will continue to meet during the summer. Please join us at 4:00 each Wednesday in the St. Luke’s library to read and discuss theory and practice of this thought system based on non-judgment and love. For information call Ann Fiery, 304-617-5714, or visit www.acim.org.

WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER Please join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. We gather to get to know and support one another. The September ladies night, Tuesday, September 13th, is the same night as Aimee Altizer’s ordination at St. Luke’s. We will plan to attend that ordination for our September ladies gathering instead of having a separate event.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! ST. LUKE’S IS CELEBRATING FAITH, LOVE, CHILDREN!
St. Luke’s is having a special Back to School Sunday on September 11th. This is a great way to invite your neighbors, family and friends to attend church with you that day. We want to spread awareness to the greater community that St. Luke’s loves and welcomes the youth of our community and their families. As part of the festivities, we will have a special Sunday School that day. Also, the children will participate in communion with Fr. Charles.
After the service, for coffee hour, we will have a tailgating party in the parking lot. The church will provide hot dogs, buns and condiments and the various shepherding groups will provide drinks and sides. It is sure to be a great time and for it to be successful, we need everyone to participate. Please think of someone you know who can attend services with you that day and then invite them. If you have any questions, please contact Ted Clayton, Linda Dugins or Katherine Martz.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Resumes in the Fall. Our tradition is to pick a book to read over them summer and get together for a Sunday brunch, hike, and discussion of the book. Our book this summer is "Crazy Christians-A Call to follow Jesus" by Michael Curry.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE: WWW.STLUKESPARKCITY.ORG
It’s not completely finished, but there is enough content to make it worth a visit. On the website newcomers will find info about our church and what to expect when they visit. In addition, there is information about all of our missions, finances and programs. You can view previous sermons through a link to You-Tube on your phone or home computer. Happy exploring!!!

ST. LUKE’S CARE GUILD
If you or someone you know has any requests or needs, please contact Katherine at katherinemartz@comcast.net or Harriet, harriettmstephens@gmail.com, (435)655-1888.

REMEMBER that you can now donate online through our website to contribute to our church and its missions. Click in the “Make an online donation” button and you’ll be able to use your credit or debit card. www.stlukespc.org You can also fill out an offering card found in the pews to make a Credit Card donation.