St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a Christian community composed of free thinkers who include conservatives, moderates, liberals, skeptics, believers & atheists. All are welcome!

St. Luke's Weekly Magazine
December 30, 2018

Please take this home with you today.

Love God….Think for Yourself!

TO OUR GUESTS - WELCOME - THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY!
All spiritual seekers who are searching for an approach to faith that makes the most sense to them personally are welcome here! PLEASE NOTE: During the 10:30 worship service, we normally video-record the sermon for posting on You-Tube. Your image may be captured during recording.
To view sermons, go to You-Tube and then search for “St. Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City.”

"Testify to the Light" ©Jan Richardson.
In Need of Prayer or 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 or someone who needs Home Communion, contact Beckie in the Church Office.

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

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY:
Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Scott, our Diocesan Bishop and for ALL the people and parishes in our diocese. Pray especially for Chapel of the Good Shepherd. And for all people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of the Falkland Islands.

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), Rita++++ (Baden), Emmy++++ (granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Jennifer++++ (Strachan) Tom++++ (brother of Joe Cordery) Kaylee++++ (friend of Beckie Raemer) (Giacoma) Randy++++ (brother of Beckie Raemer) Pam++++ (Bro), Sean & Jordan R.+++++ (family of Charles & Bonnie) Frannie+++++ (friend of Teresa McMillan) Laurie++++ (friend of Barbara Wine) Jane++++ (friend of Leslie Wood) Mary++++ (wife of Ray Freer) Steve++++ (husband of Beckie Raemer) Dick & Martha+++++ (friends of the Jennings) Jim & Jean+++++ (friends of Ed Fiscus)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
† Pray for the speedy release of the thousands of immigrant children who remain in federal custody.
† Pray for our nation and the whole human community that we may find the wisdom to live in greater respect and harmony with each other and our planet home.
† For safety and recovery for all people effected by natural disasters throughout the world.
† For healing for every soul captured by fear, bigotry and resentment. May we all develop the ability to see the Sacred in those most different from ourselves.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR…..
Our Altar Guild Members and their families.

For those having Birthdays this week:
David Fiscus on Monday;
Carol Skony on Tuesday;
Ralph Fiscus on Friday and Diego Ize on Saturday.
The Scriptures
1st Sunday after Christmas C - Dec. 30, 2018

The Collect of the Day: Certainly one of the secondary meanings of this season is to celebrate the passing of the Winter Solstice. With each new day now, we experience a bit more sunlight and a little less darkness. We pray for the wisdom and faith to bring about the same phenomena in our relationships with one another and the whole world; with Jesus our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen

From the Hebrew Scriptures:
Our first lesson comes from the 147th chapter of the Book of the Psalms. Psalm 147 is the second of five "Alleluia" hymns that close the Psalter. Each of the last five psalms starts and ends with the imperative, "Praise the Lord!" Together, these psalms put a final exclamation point on the book that the Jewish community calls, "Praises." In other words, the Psalter closes with an extended call to praise that is directed at the Psalter's audience. Please read with me from the Hebrew tradition by reading the parts in bold print…Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honor him with praise! The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.
Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom. The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp. He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind. He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry. He is not impressed by the might of a man; But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion.

Here ends the reading.

From the Christian Epistles:
Galatians stands as an eloquent and vigorous apologetic for the concept that people are justified by faith in Jesus Christ and that they are sanctified, not by legalistic works, but by the obedience that comes from faith in God’s work for them. It was the rediscovery of the basic message of Galatians (and Romans) that brought about the Protestant Reformation. Galatians is often referred to as “Luther’s book,” because Martin Luther relied so strongly on this letter in all his preaching, teaching and writing against the prevailing theology of his day.” Please read with me from the Christian epistles by reading the parts in bold print……. Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. Here ends the reading.

Form the Christian Gospels: John 1:1-18
Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
According to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The 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.

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