Annunciation is not something that happened in the historical past, but is something that is happening within one’s soul. “If it is not happening within our soul, what good is it?”

Meister Eckhart

**Artist Statement:** “For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.”

*Eucharistic Prayer B, Holy Eucharist Rite II*
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 the clergy and people of St. Mark’s Cathedral in Salt Lake City. And for all people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the Church of Nigeria.

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), Jennifer++++ (Strachan), Randy & Dave++++ (brothers of Beckie Raemer), Jane++++ (friend of Leslie Wood) Julie++ (niece of Don Wood) Urs++++ (brother in law of Stacey Reko) Gabrielle++ (daughter of Bernadette Rothman), Fred++++ (brother in law of Linda Sears) Derrell++++ (Reeves), Melissa & Mike+++ (daughter and son-in-law of the Jennings) Beckie++ (Raemer)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
✝ 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 A Course in Miracles Study Group and thier families.

For those having Birthdays this week:
Peggy Hanson, Shawn Mick & Kim Svoboda today and Katherine Martz on Thursday.
The Scriptures
Advent 3a - December 15, 2019

COLLECT OF THE DAY: The choices we make with respect to the things to which we choose to pay attention determines the quality and direction of our lives. In this Advent Season we pray for the faith to choose to pay attention to the voices of Wisdom, Compassion, Forgiveness and Truth that whisper in our minds and hearts; with Jesus our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen.

FROM THE HEBREW TRADITION:
Our passage from the Hebrew tradition comes from the 146th Psalm. Please read with me by reading the parts in bold print.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! * whose hope is in the Lord their God; Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever; Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!
Here ends the reading.

FROM THE SHINTO TRADITION:
Please read with me by reading the parts in bold print.

I have no corporeal existence, but Universal Benevolence is my divine body. I have no physical power, but Uprightness is my strength. I have no religious clairvoyance beyond what is bestowed by Wisdom, I have no power of miracle other than the attainment of quiet happiness, I have no tact except the exercise of gentleness. Here ends the reading.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN GOSPELS: Matthew 11:2-11
Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES:
Priest: Now 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 you heart, soul and mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

[Hebrew & Christian scripture passages are reprinted with permission from the World Council of Churches. Passages and commentary from World Scriptures were edited by Andrew Wilson.]

Please Save The Date for Tuesday, January 21!
St Luke’s will be cooking and serving dinner at the Christian Center. It’s always a fun event to join together and feed the many seasonal employees that descend upon PC during the ski season. Details to follow.....
Linda Dugins
ldugins@gmail.com

Copies of the full text of the sermon are located on the Information Table in front of the sound booth [just in case your curiosity was piqued.] It will also be sent via the weekly St. Luke’s All Parish Email next Thursday. Please set your spam filter to allow emails from pastor@stlukespc.org  Thanks! : )
TWO MORE VESTRY NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED

As of December 1st, Don Wood volunteered to be nominated for the 1-year term vacated by Deb Walters and Kate May volunteered to be nominated for one of the 3-year terms. This leaves us in need to TWO more people to step up to be nominated for 3-year terms.

Here at St. Luke’s, we encourage each and every member of our congregation to take his or her turn in serving on our congregation’s “Board of Directors” or Vestry. The mission of the Vestry is to work cooperatively with the Rector and Church Staff to develop and grow our parish community. It is also to teach, practice and model the St. Luke’s Principles of Community.

What are the requirements for serving on the Vestry?
1. Be an official member of the Episcopal Church.
2. Have a history of making and fulfilling a commitment to support our parish community financially and with one’s time and abilities.
3. Attend worship regularly….well….at least as often as possible. : )
5. Attend most of the Vestry meetings throughout the year (usually about 6).
6. Be willing to be nominated and to stand for election at the next Annual Celebration (which will take place on Sunday, February 2, 2020).

Is it YOUR Time to Serve on the St. Luke’s Vestry?
To nominate yourself (i.e., volunteer to serve) or to nominate someone else, please contact either Charles+ or Beckie in the Church Office. Simple!

Annual St. Luke’s Parish Evaluation 2019
It’s that time of year. We will collect your thoughts, feedback and good ideas from now until January 1st. The survey has these 7 questions. It should take no more than 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

To fill it out, put this web address in your browser: https://www.surveymonkey.com/PMZW7HG

TWO VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR 10:30 ON DECEMBER 29TH:
The rector will be in California with his family on Sunday, Dec. 29th. The people of St. Luke's, therefore, will read Morning Prayer as the liturgy for both services on that day.

Ann Deyo and Mary McEntire have volunteered to read Morning Prayer for the 7:45 service, but we have no one who has stepped forward to say they will help with 10:30.
We need two people to volunteer to help lead the Dec. 29th 10:30 service of Morning Prayer.

It’s easy…….The rector will provide a script of the entire liturgy including the homily and all of the instructions for that day. All the leaders need do is read the script; one reads the liturgy and the other the homily. Any training that is needed will be provided.

Will you please volunteer to read Morning Prayer on the 29th? Please email the rector at pastor@stlukespc.org if you are willing to help. Thank you!!
WINTER SUPPLIES FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND ADULTS:

It's time for us to begin collecting clothing and supplies that will help little boys and girls and adult men and women survive the elements while living on the streets. Yes, many of the homeless are the age of your kids and grandkids.

Please set aside a portion of the money you would normally spend on Christmas presents and "other stuff" in order to be able to buy clothing and supplies that may make all the difference this winter for children and adults who are without stable, reliable shelter.

Here are some suggestions:
+ Buy a good-quality child's backpack and fill it with tooth-brushes, tooth-paste, other toiletries, socks (really warm socks), long underwear, regular underwear, winter shirts and pants, winter gloves, etc.
+ Go through your closet and donate the coats and winter apparel you and your kids will no longer be using.
+ Buy and donate a couple of heavy-duty sleeping bags: child-size and/or adult.
+ Snow-boots for children and adults - new or used in good condition.

What else can you think of that would be useful to you and your children or grandchildren if you were going to be sleeping in a park in January???

Bring all of your donations to St. Luke's in Snyderville anytime. If the front doors are locked and no one is in the Church Office, just leave your donations on the porch and we will take them inside later.

THE ROAD HOME

The Candy Cane Corner, a Christmas store that provides an opportunity for Road Home clients to obtain gifts for their family, is in need of the following FOR TEENAGERS.

Every item must be new, with price tags still attached, and nothing gift wrapped.

Ideas for TEENAGE gifts:
Sweaters, sweatshirts, boots, hats, gloves, scarves, underwear, bras, socks, jackets, pajamas/sleepers, dresses, jeans, electronic devices of any kind, i.e. (cases for mobile phones, ear buds, games, clock radios) backpacks, cosmetics and personal care items of any kind, i.e. (nail polish, hair dyers, curling irons, perfumes.) Gift Certificates to department stores for teenagers.

Monetary Donations are welcomed to help operate the store: Checks can be made out to the Candy Cane Store and mailed to the following address:
C/O The Road Home  
Attn.: Development  
210 S. Rio Grande St.  
SLC, UT 84101

Credit Card donations can be made online directly to the Candy Cane Corner at: www.candycanecornerslc.org

Between 2,500-3,500 kids and adults are served each year. The Candy Cane Corner partners with Volunteers of America and the YWCA.

There is a green trunk in the lobby to place your donations labeled Candy Cane Corner. For more information and volunteer opportunities google www.candycanecornerslc.org. The Road Home is always in need of volunteers.

For information contact Alexa or Rachel at volunteer@theroadhome.org. If you have any questions, please contact me at: teresa.b.mcmillan@gmail.com, or 678-575-3781. Thanks for your generosity, Teresa McMillan
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
You will find info about our church and what to expect when you visit. www.stlukesparkcity.org. There is information about our missions, finances and programs. You can view previous sermons through a link to You-Tube on your phone or home computer. Go to You Tube, St Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City, UT.

AUTUMN GOSPEL GROUP
FOR WOMEN 50ish & UP: Autumn Gospel meets the fourth Saturday morning of each month from 10 to noon, in members' homes. We use books as a springboard to share and discuss our own spiritual journeys at this stage of our lives. We are reading "Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others" by Barbara Brown Taylor. Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info please call Nancy Conrow, nancy.conrow@gmail.com or 435-640-0556.

SHOP AT SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG & FLOURISH BAKERY WILL RECEIVE A DONATION!
To participate in the program, visit the Smith's Food & Drug web site, log into your account, click on INSPIRING DONATION PROGRAM, search for Flourish Bakery SLCC by name (or use HE559, the Bakery’s nonprofit number with Smith's). Every time you use your fresh values card related to your account, Smith's will donate .5% of your purchase to Flourish Bakery. It's that simple! Flourish appreciates your support and this inspiring program.

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@stlukespcc.org or 435-901-2131.

CENTERING PRAYER:
Meets Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Library. Please join us in this contemplative practice of Holy Silence.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE CHOIR?
St. Luke’s Church Choir is looking for new members! A love of singing is the only requirement, although the ability to read music would be helpful. Whether you are a soprano, alto, tenor or bass, you’ll be most welcome! We meet to practice at 9am each Sunday, plus Thursdays at 6pm if you can make it. If you are interested, please see Manuel after the service, or email him at pianospecialists@gmail.com.

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, harrietmstephens@gmail.com, (435) 655-1888.

WOMEN'S GATHERING:
We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Bring an appetizer and a drink to share.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY:
The women's Wednesday night bible study will be using "Advent: The Weary World Rejoices" by Lifeway Women for our advent study. We will meet in the library Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:45 on December 4, 11 and 18 and January 8. We will not meet December 25th or January 1st due to the holidays.

If you would like to join us please get the book so you can do the 1st week homework (through page 30). We will do the group discussion on page 42 on December 4. Hope to see you then! For more information, please contact Mary Parsons at Mary.Parsons@hsc.utah.edu. All are welcome.

CHRISTIAN CENTER FOOD PANTRY:
Please bring canned goods and non perishables to St Luke's as we will be making regular donations to the Christian Center's food pantry. Please donate only the kinds of foods you would want to feed your own family. Let's fill the red wagon each week in the foyer! PCHS senior, John Reko, will be picking up our donations and making regular deliveries to the Christian Center. Thanks for supporting this important ministry!

TAI-CHI:
Tai Chi is over for this year and will resume in the spring. Watch for the announcement.

ROAD HOME - MEN’S RESOURCE CENTER:
3380 South 1000 West, South Salt Lake, UT, 84119
No food to prepare, meals are provided. Responsibility is to serve the food (cafeteria style.) Any individual, group of friends or organizations can signup for a time slot. Call me with any questions. Teresa McMillan, 678-575-3781.

PLEASE JOIN ONE OF THE ST. LUKE’S DINNER GROUPS (a.k.a. Shepherding Groups)
There are numerous dinner groups at St. Luke’s that meet a few times each year for conversation and friendship building. If you would like to participate in one of our parish’s dinner groups, please contact Beckie in the Church Office at 435-649-4900 Ext. 12 or at beckie@stlukespcc.org All are welcome!

You can now make a donation directly from your mobile phone, computer or a tablet.
Go to our new website: www.stlukesparkcity.org
to make a one time donation or set up a recurring donation from a credit card or checking account.
You can also text the word "Give" to 385-219-4489 to make a donation right from your phone.
Salt Lake City’s Flourish Bakery changes lives of recovering addicts, but it needs a new home

From the Salt Lake Tribune

After 40 years of addiction — and two rounds in prison — 52-year-old Dennis Sisneros has been sober 389 days.

Sobriety, the former heroin addict explains, may have come sooner, if not for a relapse in 2018 while waiting to get an internship at Salt Lake City’s Flourish Bakery.

Sisneros was finally able to enter the 12-month training program in August and is learning the art and skills of professional baking. In the kitchen — located at Salt Lake Community College’s South City Campus — he is surrounded by teachers and mentors who encourage physical, mental and spiritual growth as much, or more, than mastering new job skills.

“If you don’t have a support system after recovery,” Sisneros explains as he mixes a batch of dough, “you’re only going to be sober for so long. If there were more of these jobs for people, recovery would be a bigger success.”

Which is why Sisneros and the rest of the interns, staff and volunteers at Flourish Bakery have put out a call for help: They need to find a new home before year’s end.

SLCC notified the bakery in late October that it would not renew the lease for the commercial kitchen. The school needs the space for its own educational and catering programs, said Clifton Sanders, SLCC provost.

“We have appreciated our affiliation with Flourish Bakery for the last two years, and we’ve been pleased to be a part of their service to the community,” he wrote in an email to The Salt Lake Tribune. “Our South City Campus has increasingly become a center for community engagement activities and college-wide events, prompting us to use the kitchen facilities to support those activities and use the space to support our academic programs.”

Aimee Altizer, Flourish Bakery’s executive director, called it “a difficult piece of news,” which arrived at a particularly busy time for the bakery, with orders for 800 dinner rolls and more than 150 pies for Thanksgiving. It is expecting a similar rush in December for Christmas parties.

The bakery sells cookies, pies, tarts and breads — as well as soups, sandwiches and other savory items — for catered events, farmers markets and to the public through its website.

Altizer said the nonprofit program needs about 2,000 square feet, and it would be “a blessing” if it could find a commercial kitchen that already has a ventilation hood, a grease trap and walk-in coolers and freezers — large pieces of kitchen equipment that would cost money the bakery doesn’t have.

Adding to the challenge is the lack of commercial kitchen space in the Salt Lake Valley and the need to
be near public transportation. The interns — all recovering addicts who have been incarcerated — usually have lost their driver licenses or don’t have vehicles to get to and from work.

“We can’t just set up the kitchen anywhere,” said Altizer, a trained pastry chef who worked at several Utah restaurants and resorts before becoming an Episcopal priest. She combined her passions two years ago when she helped found Flourish Bakery.

She has faith that a space will present itself.

“Like our interns,” she said, “we are in a transitional time in life.”

Flourish Bakery started as a pilot project in January 2018 with five interns, two instructors and several volunteers.

Two of those interns successfully finished the program and have returned as employees, helping with operations and community outreach.

To be hired, interns must be in recovery and be attending therapy, addiction-recovery meetings and do the other hard work needed to remain sober.

In return, they work 32 to 40 hours a week at Flourish Bakery, earning $12 an hour. This allows them to pay rent, buy food and pay other expenses while also receiving job training.

After they complete the one-year program, interns participate in a three-month externship at a restaurant, bakery or ski resort. After the real-world experience, they are ready to get a job in the industry — which is desperate for trained employees.

Not surprisingly, there are more people in recovery applying for Flourish Bakery than revenue — from donations and sales — will allow.

Last November, when Tristan Arellano was charged with a drug possession and sent to the Utah State Prison, she lost everything, including custody of her five children — ages 18 years to 9 months. While in prison, she could have taken business courses, which she would have completed in a few months.

But she was drawn to the culinary program. “I grew up baking with my grandma,” she said, “so it’s nostalgic for me.”

After her release, she was hired as a Flourish Bakery intern.

“It’s an important steppingstone between treatment and society,” she said, “which can be scary and overwhelming.”

Earlier this week, she was navigating the transition well, making crusts and filling for pumpkin pies.

“The support here and the accountability,” she said, “make all the difference.”

Now the bakery itself needs someone to make a difference — and offer it a new home.