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
June 17, 2018
Please take this home with you today.

Jesus said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."  Mark 4: 33

This image is one in Jim Janknegt's series based on The Parables of Jesus. The painting shows a wide variety of "birds" resting on the branches of a strong tree springing from a tiny mustard seed.

Blessing that Holds a Nest in Its Branches

The emptiness that you have been holding for such a long season now

that ache in your chest that goes with you night and day in your sleeping, your rising:

think of this not as a mere hollow, the void left from the life that has leached out of you.

Think of it like this: as the space being prepared for the seed.

Think of it as your earth that dreams of the branches the seed contains, and of the nest the branches will hold.

The World's Smallest Seed
Jim Janknegt, Episcopal Church in Visual Arts

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.”
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 St. James’ Church in Midvale. And for all people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of North India.

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), Judy++++ (Hanley) Alexa++++(granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Jennifer++++(Strachan) Tom++++(brother of Joe Cordery) Sue++++ (sister of Teddi Reeves) Kaylee & (friend of Beckie Raemer) Tom++++ (nephew of Barb Wine)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
† Pray for peace between the United States, Iran, North Korea, Syria and Russia.
† Pray for the human community that we may find the wisdom to live in greater respect and harmony with 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.
† For a lasting and permanent peace between Israel and all of her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR.....
Members of our Marketing Committee and their families.

For those having Birthdays this week: Pam Archbold on Tuesday and Mary McEntire on Thursday.

If your birthday does not appear on our list, please notify Beckie in the office so that she can add it.
The Scriptures
Proper 6 Yr. B: June 17, 2018

The Collect of the Day:  It’s easy for us to think that our capacity to love and give ourselves to others is insufficient to make a difference in this world. We pray, therefore, for the wisdom to see what Jesus understood; a small amount of love and compassion can plant the kinds of seeds that have the power to heal and renew the world; with Jesus our Brother, Teacher and Lord.

From the Hebrew Scriptures:
Our first lesson comes from the 15th chapter of the First Book of Samuel. Please read with me from the Hebrew tradition by reading the parts in bold print…Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. Here ends the reading.

From the Hindu Tradition:
In Hinduism, spiritual aspirants are advised to overcome their selfish desires, cultivate detachment, renounce worldly pleasures, absorb their minds in the contemplation of God or the Self, and cultivate oneness as part of their self-realization. The presence of compassion is indicative of the person's spiritual growth, inner awakening and discriminating intelligence. Please read with me from the Hindu tradition by reading the parts in bold print….Everything in the manifested universe is an aspect or form of one ultimate Reality, who goes by many names. To experience that absolute and undeniable Truth "in all and all in oneself," this is the highest realization and ideal state to which one has to advance on the path of liberation. When one cultivates that vision of oneness, one is forever established in the universal love, the love of God, from which flows the heavenly compassion just as the River Ganga flows downward from the head of Shiva and purifies everyone in its path.

Love, kindness, sameness, nonviolence, non-stealing, charity, selfless service, equanimity, discriminating intelligence, devotion and other virtues are its outpourings only.

Showing mercy to others is an important virtue and part of a householder’s obligatory duty. It is out of mercy that the householders are obliged to perform the five daily sacrifices. Here ends the reading.

Form the Christian Gospels:  Mark 4:26-34
Priest:  The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
According to Mark.

People:  Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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.

[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.]
Exciting Happenings

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: Newcomers will find info about our church and what to expect when they visit. www.stlukesparkcity.org. In addition, 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.

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

TAI CHI: Registration is again open for two weeks for tai chi beginners. Whether you are in peak shape or haven't done much physical exercise other than lifting the remote, Tai Chi for Health and Arthritis for Fall Prevention is something you should consider, especially if you are concerned about falls and/or high blood pressure, to name just two. Registration will remain open through June 27. Classes are held at the church each Wednesday from 5:10 to 6:00. A donation of $30 is requested for six classes. We have instructors there to assist beginning students along with our continuing ones. We can accommodate for most mobility issues. If you have questions, please email Bob Casey at bob@journey4healthnow.com or call him at 740-398-0489

CELEBRATE WITH US: Invite your friends, family and neighbors. The Salt Lake Men’s Choir will be performing at St. Luke's 10:30 AM service on June 24th as we continue to celebrate Pride Month and the LGBTQ community. This will be a great opportunity to hear the men's choir. They have graciously offered to sing for us at no charge. However, we will have a special offering that day to benefit them. The service will be followed by a catered brunch provided by Flourish Bakery. Please come, bring guests and celebrate with us.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES: Our ACIM (A Course in Miracles) Study Group meets in the St. Luke’s Library at 4:00 on Wednesday afternoons. If you would like to join us, call or text Ann Fiery for additional information, 304-617-5714.

HOW JESUS BECAME GOD: This is a class about the world into which Christianity was born and grew during its first 500 years. The class is free, open to all at all times and meets each Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 in the church sanctuary. For more info, contact Charles+

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.