In today’s Gospel of John, Jesus says, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes (i.e., trusts) in him may have eternal life.”

This reference to Moses’ echoes both Greek and Egyptian use of the serpent as a symbol of healing and transformation. In modern day, the serpent remains a symbol of healing in the medical profession’s caduceus, two serpents entwined around a staff topped by wings. In John’s Gospel, Jesus’ coming death on the cross is a metaphor for God’s self-sacrificing, healing and transforming love. And Jesus’ cross itself is transformed metaphorically into a tree of life.
If you need pastoral support or know someone that does, please call Fr. Charles+, at 435-901-2131. Remember, Charles+ still can’t read minds so he will not know unless you tell him. Calls will be kept confidential.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE’S**

**Sunday - March 11th - Bishop’s Visitation**
- 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist at the Chapel
- 9:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist at the Church
  Children’s Church School

**Monday - March 12th**
- 10:00 AM Centering Prayer

**Wednesday - March 14th**
- 4:00 PM Beer & BS - Economics
- 6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study

**Friday - March 16th**
- 10:00 AM Centering Prayer

**Sunday - March 18th**
- Normal Sunday Schedule

**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. David’s Church in Page, AZ. And for all people within the worldwide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of England.

**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)
- Alexa++++ (granddaughter of Deedee Sihvonen), Jennifer+++ (Strachan)
- Tom++++ (brother of Joe Cordery)
- Richard+++ Lori++++ (brother in law and sister of Krisa Bolton)
- Peggy++++ (Bergmann) Sue++++ (sister of Teddi Reeves)
- Kaylee++++ (friend of Beckie Raemer)
- Robert & Emily+++ + (father and daughter of Jane Hamilton)
- Laurie+++ (friend of Barbara Wine)
- Alan++++ (husband of Deedee Sihvonen)
- Ralph++++ (friend of Cheryl Popple)
- Victoria & Christopher++++ (friends of Manuel Clayton)
- Tom++ (nephew of Barb Wine)
- Pam++ (Bro)

**THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:**
† 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 an end of mass shootings and the collective wisdom and will to accept sensible gun control legislation.
† For healing for every soul captured by fear, bigotry and resentment. May we all develop to 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.....**
And for our Usher and Greeter Ministry Leader, Lee Osborne.

For those having Birthdays this week:
- Dick Walter on Tuesday; Diego Ize on Thursday and Leslie Wood on Saturday.

If your birthday does not appear on our list our list, please notify Beckie in the office so that she can add it.

Our Parish Community Prayer list: ++ Please note that we will place a + after each name for each week the name is on our prayer list. After four weeks (+++) the name will be removed unless otherwise requested.
The Scripture Passages
Lent 4b - March 11, 2018

The Collect of the Day: As St. Paul once noted, “We see through a glass darkly” and only “in part.” There is much we do not see and understand. We pray, therefore, that our lives may more and more be filled with the Light that enables us to see, to understand, to be healed and to heal; with Jesus our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen.

From the Hebraic Tradition:
Our first passage is found in the 21st chapter of Numbers. Dr. Elizabeth Webb explains, “It would be fairly easy to gloss over the aspects of this passage that we find troubling, and focus on God sending healing right where we need it. There’s no doubt that such is a part of the meaning of this text. But it’s not all of it, and it doesn’t recognize the harsh realities that the text holds up for our attention. What’s happening in this passage is that the exodus generation is being weeded out and replaced by a new generation. The book of Numbers is coming to terms with the fact that the old generation will not see God’s promises come to fruition. On this long, dangerous journey, some simply will not reach the destination.” Please read with me from the Hebrew tradition by reading the parts in bold print…..From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses,

“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.”

Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said,

“We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.”

So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses,

“Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live. Here ends the reading.

From the Muslim Tradition:
One of the most intricate verses of the Qur’an is the “Verse of Light” which exegetes, mystics and philosophers have all discussed, and about which they have offered opinions according to their respective inclinations. It seems to suggest that even though our intellect and thought are not yet fully developed to our highest potential, we are still able to use the power of contemplation with our capacity for reason and logic to acquire some understanding of the Eternal Being. In this way, we may fully realize the existence of that Ultimate Reality whose will is mirrored throughout the breadth of existence and creation, behind everything that we observe. Please read with me from the Muslim tradition by reading the parts in bold print…….Allah is the light of the heavens and the earth; a likeness of His light is as a niche in which is a lamp, the lamp is in a glass, (and) the glass is as it were a brilliantly shining star, lit from a blessed olive-tree, neither eastern nor western, the oil whereof almost gives light though fire touches it not – light upon light – Allah guides to His light whom He pleases, and Allah sets forth parables for men, and Allah is cognizant of all things. Here ends the reading.

From the Christian Gospels: John 3:14-21
Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ
According to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Jesus said, “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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.

Project for Deeper Understanding Forum
IS MEDICAID EXPANSION RIGHT FOR UTAH?
Thursday, March 15th at 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Medicaid is taxpayer-funded health insurance for the poor. Tens of thousands of Utahns in need have no health insurance while the Utah legislature has consistently declined to participate in Medicaid expansion. Will 2018 be the year expansion finally happens?

Conservatives, liberals and people of all points of view on this subject will gather for a free public forum to discuss the pros and cons of Medicaid expansion in Utah. An hour of panel discussion followed by an hour of audience Q&A. Hosted by the Project for Deeper Understanding. For more info, contact Charles at 435-901-2131.
NEW WAY TO MAKE A DONATION: You can now do it 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.

SUPER BOWL OF CARING:
St. Luke’s exceeded all expectations in its participation with the Episcopal Diocese of Utah in this year’s Souper Bowl of Caring (ending February 4). We collected $4,099.25 which will go into our Missions Fund. We also received items of food for the food pantry. The results have been reported to the Diocese, and we will receive additional funds up to $2,500 (depending on results from other congregations) for our Missions Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

WOMEN'S GATHERING:
We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Please bring a drink or a dish to share. These have been a lot of fun in the past, so we’re hoping to have a large attendance. Please join us! On March 13th gathering will be at the home of Theresa Wilcox, 190 Starview Dr. in the Highland Estates area.

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 starting to read “The Book of Joy” by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Please join us for coffee, fellowship and a lively discussion! For more info please call Ann Deyo, 435-615-7478 or Judy Hanley, 435-649-7607.

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.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES:
Our ACIM (A Course in Miracles) Study Group will be resuming on March 7. If you would like to join us, we will be in the St. Luke's Library at 4:00 on Wednesday afternoons. Call or text Ann Fiery for additional information, 304-617-5714.

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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:
We are reading Anne Lamott's new book "Hallelujah Anyway". We meet Wednesday's in the library 6:30-8 pm. Please feel free to get a book and join us! Please contact Mary Parsons at Mary.Parsons@hsc.utah.edu if you have questions.

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.

TAI CHI:
A new round of Tai Chi will resume on Wednesday, March 21, starting at 5:10 PM. We need at least six students to have a class. If interested please email Bob at bob@journey4healthnow.com. His class on Tai Chi for Health and Arthritis and Fall Prevention is open to almost anyone at any ability level. This is the only form of tai chi to receive the endorsement of the National Arthritis Association and the National Center for Disease and Control. Classes will last approximately an hour. A donation of $30 is requested for a six-week series. If you have questions, you can also email him at the same address, bob@journey4healthnow.com.

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