**Jesus Rafael Soto** was a Venezuelan artist known for his kinetic sculptures and large-scale installations. Soto’s delicate and responsive constructions move in response to external stimuli and changes in the atmosphere. Part of the Kinetic Art movement, his geometric abstractions using industrial materials and synthetics put him at the forefront of Op Art.

From Artist Soto:
"The function of any work of art is to stimulate reflection"….

"In the future as in the past, my art will remain linked to the uncertain, taking care not to try to express the permanent and the unchangeable. For I have never sought to show reality caught at one precise moment, but, on the contrary, to reveal universal change, of which temporality and infinitude are the constituent values. The universe, I believe, is uncertain and unsettled. The same must be true of my work."

**For Reflection**
Today’s Gospel invites us to reflect on the value of self-awareness while seeking relationship with God. I suspect that the experience of being within one of Soto’s 3-D kinetic art installations might invite a similar kind of self-awareness as walking in and with The Cloud of Unknowing, which some call The Sacred.  

Mother Claudia Giacoma

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**TO OUR GUESTS - WELCOME - THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY!**
St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a Christian community composed of free thinkers who include: conservatives, moderates, & liberals; agnostics, skeptics & atheists. 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.
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 St. Paul’s Church in Salt Lake City.
✓ All people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of Sudan.

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 Poppel) Gabrielle++++ (daughter of Richard & Bernadette Rothman) Tom++++ (brother of Joe Cordery) Kelle++++ (mother of Aimee Altizer), Aone+++ (sister of Teddi Reeves) Mary Gene++++ Scott+++ (mother & brother of Sharon Christiansen) Sandor++++ (friend of Harriet Stephens) Joan++++ (friend of Barbara Wine) Ryan++++ (son of Christy Bergin) Rick & Craig++++ (sons of Neil & Theresa Wilcox) Jeff+++ (Volmrich) Jill+++ (friend of Susan Brewer) Molly++++ (sister of Julie Crittenden) Linda++++ (friend of Shelle Jennings) Jeff++ (son in law of Maureen White) Brad+++ (friend of Jim & Shelle Jennings)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
✓ An end to terrorism and the wisdom to find a way to live together in peace.
✓ An end to the conflicts in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan and healing for all victims.
✓ A lasting, permanent peace between Israel & her neighbors.

THESE WHO HAVE DIED…….
✓ For our Usher and Greeter Ministry Leaders, Ed & Julie Fiscus and their family.
✓ And for those having birthdays this week: John Swanger on Monday and Teddi Reeves on Thursday.

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.

Our Staff is There for You!
Please do not hesitate to contact us.
A full listing of all positions and ministries is available on the information table at the church.

The Rev. Charles Robinson, Rector
Cell Phone: 435-901-2131 Email: pastor@stlukespc.org

The Rev. Claudia Giacoma, Asst. Priest
435-513-0441 Email: giacomclaudia@gmail.com

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.
Collect of the Day: Everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you love; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord. Amen

The Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Today’s reading from the Hebrew scriptures comes from the 2nd chapter of the Book of the Prophet Joel. The prophet Joel is a slippery little book. It is three chapters in our English translations, but four in Hebrew. It begins with a potent description of a plague of locusts and the results of their inexorable assault on the fields and trees of the land, followed by an abject cry to YHWH for relief through fasting, weeping, and mourning, concluded with God’s rich response to their pleas, making their land once again fertile and abundant. The final chapter is a raw prayer for revenge against some of the enemies of Israel, especially Egypt and Edom whose doom is assured because of the “violence” they brought to the “people of Judah.” Please read the passage with me by reading the parts in bold print…..

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Here ends the reading.

The Sikh Scriptures:
The correlate of ignorance about Absolute Reality is pride and the inordinate preoccupation with one’s own self. Pride and egoism blind one to recognizing transcendent Reality, or even to taking an accurate measure of oneself. Please read with me from the Adi Granth by reading the parts in bold print……Like a traveler on earth, overstuffed with pride, committing innumerable sins;

Sunk in avarice, attachment, and pride are ruined. Forgetful of death, involved with progeny, companions, and worldly transactions

Is their life passed.

Here ends the reading.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
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.]
Q&A with Bishop John Spong

Ennio Palozzo from Australia, writes:

**Question:**
How do you deal with the question that the universe is so old compared to our recent appearance on the scene? We seem to be very late in God’s creation. Secondly, if God loves all of us indiscriminately, why was there no great desire to communicate “His” words to all from the very beginning? Perhaps God has spoken to us all – to all cultures and we just need to look and come together to best “work out our own salvation.” I would appreciate your views.

**Answer:**
Dear Ennio,

First of all, you have applied the categories of time and space to God. It was Albert Einstein who taught us that time and space are properties of the universe. Neither existed before the big bang. We cannot bind God with the categories of existence. Whatever else we might say, God is God and God does not live within the boundaries of time and space, so there is no such thing as before and after, young and old in the being of God.

Second, how does anyone of us know what God communicated to the original human species, I suspect that every tribe of human beings believed that they were “God’s Chosen People.” We today attribute this title primarily to the Jews, but that is because we have adopted their story as our own. So, when we talk about God revealing the divine will in the law, or God being experienced as present in the person of Christ, all we are doing is seeking to validate our own God understanding. We cannot bind God inside our limited convictions.

Most of the claims that various religious groups or churches make, of possessing the ultimate truth in some human form, is little more than idolatry. There is not, never has been and never will be something called “The One True Church.” There is not, never has been and never will be anything that could be called “an infallible Pope” or “an inerrant Bible.” Our belief system is always a journey in process. We do not know our destiny and we certainly do not know the origins of our faith story.

So, Ennio, learn to walk into the infinite mystery of God - there are no guide posts. We walk in a community of faith and the job of the community is to challenge our excesses, which the religious life always seems to produce.

My best,

John Shelby Spong
The Importance of Being a 'Learning Church' willing to Listen to Others
by Pat McCaughan - Episcopal Church Archives

San Francisco author and essayist Richard Rodriguez challenged a gathering of 132 Episcopal bishops to think "brown," as they met to discuss reconciliation and communion. The story of Christianity is the story of brown, the story of melded cultures and blended traditions, he said. An amazing array of racial and generational complexities challenge the world and the church today, Rodriguez told the bishops, who are discussing ways to deepen collegiality and hospitality.

"There is nothing browner in the history of time than the mystery of the Incarnation, of God, intruding into history, God entering history, in Jesus Christ, true God, true man, that's very brown, I think," Rodriguez said. "Brown is everywhere in the Christian tradition, Christ was the great experimenter who dared to come to love us in ways that frighten us. Love turns out to be the stumbling block in the church right now. "It's a scandal, that the church is having difficulty loving," he said.

Rodriguez, a frequent PBS essayist on the Lehrer News Hour and a Pacific News Service editor, said the history of our nation and our lives are filled with brown, yet we struggle with its definition and description. His book, "Brown: The Last Discovery of America," grew out of his agent's suggestion that he write about Hispanics as the fastest growing ethnic group in the country. After traveling to Chile and Ecuador and to Latin America many times, he concluded: "there are no Hispanics in Latin America. I had to go to Dallas, Texas to meet one."

He said former President Richard Nixon invented the racial category in 1972, along with another category, Asian/Pacific Islander, for use on government forms. "Hispanic" appears between white and black on those forms. "We appear as people in the middle which, logically, would make us grey," Rodriguez said. "We can't compare to black and white. Hispanics don't constitute a race. There is every racial group in Latin America: white, black, indigenous, Asian, Lebanese, Thais, and a vast population of mixed-race people who are not properly described."

"Brown is a color we're afraid of; we can't deal with brown. There are more than 300 words in Brazilian Portuguese for brown. In America, we are between white and black. "It's too much of a complication, too embarrassing. We give Pulitzer prizes to people at Yale and Harvard who wear bowties and write dreadful histories and leave out Thomas Jefferson's relationship with his slave Sally Hemmings. We don't ask who are the brown children playing outside Monticello? Who are the brown children?"

He cites other examples, like U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell who says he is "Caribbean African, Scots Irish and Native American, but every newspaper in the country identifies him as the first black secretary of state." Or, a friend who identifies himself as black but admittedly has Native American ancestry. "Then you're not black, you're brown," I told him," Rodriguez said. "He replied, 'I'm black as long as that's what a policeman sees when he pulls me over. 'Touche, I said.'"

"The world is so different. We are living in an age of brown synchronism. There are brown children in this world, there are brown children in this city and we don't know what to say to them. It's unprecedented. It's a mystery. And yet we approach them with a 19th century construction, as though we were explorers in the African jungle, coming upon natives who speak a language we don't understand. They have taken language to a place we have yet to go."

"Religious fundamentalism is also on the rise, in proportion to the browning of the world," Rodriguez said. "Fundamentalists have overcome tribalism with faith. As brown rises, as this melting goes on, there is a need to clarify, to cleanse. Mixed meaning gives rise to ultimate meaning of clarity."

"The challenge for the church," Rodriguez said, "is to become a 'learning church' and to find a way for reconfiguration of the way we imagine priesthood. For so many years now, we've gone all over the world teaching others. Now, can we learn from them? We must become familiar with others' traditions, their saints who aren't part of our tradition. There's no map, just lead me."
Our Annual Pledge Drive
(“The St. Luke’s Poker Run”)
in Support of Our 2017 Operating Budget
Is In Progress!!!

What is an “operating budget?”
It’s the family’s bills: utilities, insurance, maintenance, salaries and benefits, supplies, etc. Just like your household, St. Luke’s has bills to pay each month….about $35,000 each month. Our operating budget does not include the money we need for our community outreach missions. We try to raise that money during our Annual Lenten Campaign for missions.

What is the St. Luke’s Poker Run?
It’s our fun way of getting everyone involved in the financial support of their parish church and its operations and ministries.

What is our participation goal?
100%, that is, our goal is to have every household in our parish submit a 2017 Estimated Giving Card during our Poker Run - October 16th through November 13th. An”Estimate of Giving” reflects your intention and your best guess for 2017.

Why should you participate?
Because St. Luke’s is your parish community. Because our congregation makes a difference in the lives of people in our town, state, nation and world. Because Summit & Wasatch Counties would be diminished if our parish became too financially impaired to carry out our work.

How much do we need?
We will need about $270,000 in operating budget donations from our parish households during 2017. We have other sources of funding that help out (such as the many 12 Step Groups and other congregations who use our buildings), but the bulk of our operating funds come from our parish’s approx. 110 households.

I know you get a hundred requests for a donation each week from all kinds of nonprofits. It can be exhausting. I just ask that you remember that the ongoing health, success and well-being of our parish church depends on each of us to do our part. If you are already tithing, I hope you will continue….If you are currently giving 2 % of your income, I hope you will try to allocate 3% for St. Luke’s during 2017….If you are currently giving 5%, please commit to 6% for next year….etc. Your generosity will be deeply appreciated.

With Gratitude,
Charles+
The Jesus Seminar is Coming to Salt Lake City!!!
Utahns for Religious Scholarship
presents
A “Jesus Seminar on the Road” Event
5 Lectures Each followed by Audience Q & A
on
The Historical Jesus and Early Christianity

Arthur J. Dewey (Th.D., Harvard University) is Professor of Theology at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. A regular on PBS’s Saturday Morning Edition (WVXU, 91.7 in Cincinnati), he is the author or editor of many works including Wisdom Notes (2016), The Gospel of Jesus (2d ed., 2014) and The Complete Gospel Parallels (2012).

Nina E. Livesey (Ph.D., Southern Methodist University) is Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Studies at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. She is the author of Galatians and the Rhetoric of Crisis (2016) and Circumcision as a Malleable Symbol (2010).

Friday Evening and All Day Saturday - February 24 & 25, 2017
Location: Westminster College - Gore Auditorium - 1840 South 1300 East - SLC
Tuition: All Sessions - Pre-registration Rate (by Feb 10th) $60 - Individual Rate $75 at the Door
See Registration Website at Link Below for Pricing on Single Lectures
Refunds are available until two weeks before the event if requested in writing, minus a $10 administrative fee. No refunds will be given after that date.

TO REGISTER ONLINE:
https://www.westarinstitution.org/regional-programs/jsor-registration/
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.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE: WWW.STLUKESPARKCITY.ORG
We are still working on a few sections, 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!!!

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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
We are doing the Priscilla Shirer study "Breathing Making Room for the Sabbath". We have a total of 7 books and will bring them to the 1st session. If we need more later they are available at Life-way in SLC or on Amazon. Hope to see you there!

WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER
Please join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Come and enjoy the fellowship. We gather to get to know and support one another.

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

TAI-CHI
Tai Chi will meet on Wednesdays at 5:10. However, registration is closed until next round. Many thanks to those who have shown interest.

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