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.

To view sermons, go to You-Tube and then search for “St. Luke’s Episcopal Church Park City.”

The Hardest Blessing
If we cannot lay aside the wound then let us say it will not always bind us.

Let us say the damage will not eternally determine our path.

Let us say the line of our life will not forever follow the tearing, the rending we have borne.

Let us say that forgiveness can take some practice, can take some patience, can take a long and struggling time.

Let us say that to offer the hardest blessing we will need the deepest grace, that to forgive the sharpest pain we will need the fiercest love, that to release the ancient ache we will need new strength for every day.

Let us say the wound will not be our final home; that through it runs a road, a way we would not have chosen but on which we will finally see forgiveness, so long practiced, coming toward us shining with the joy so well deserved.

When we find ourselves feeling wounded by the words or deeds of another and realizing the need for forgiving the other or ourselves, many of us find we have false beliefs about what it means to forgive:

- Forgiveness means excusing or overlooking the harm that has been done to us and saying that everything is okay.
- Forgiveness means allowing those who have hurt us to persist in their behavior.
- Forgiving requires forgetting what has happened.
- Forgiveness is something we can do at will, and always all at once.

However the heart of forgiveness is not to be found in excusing harm or allowing it to go unchecked. It is to be found, rather, in choosing to say that although our wounds will change us, we will not allow them to forever define us.
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.

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

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, 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.

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. Paul’s Church in Vernal. And for all people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of Tanzania and The Province of Uganda.

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:

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
† Safety and a speedy recovery for all those affected by the earthquakes and hurricanes.
† 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.
† An end to terrorism and the wisdom to find a way to live together in peace.
† A lasting and permanent peace between Israel and all of her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED……

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR……..

For All of Our Volunteers and thier families.

For those having Birthdays this week: Tim Ramsey, Mary Swanwick today; Nancy Conrow on Tuesday; Harriet Stephens on Thursday; John Hoener and Craig Stevens on Friday.

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: giacomaclaudia@gmail.com

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THOSE SERVING TODAY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Altar Guild</td>
<td>Janet van Hartesvelt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Layreaders</td>
<td>Janet van Hartesvelt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crucifer</td>
<td>Iris Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Torch Bearers</td>
<td>Colin Bergin, Ralph Fiscus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chalice Bearers</td>
<td>Karl Sears, Teddi Reeves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prayers of the People</td>
<td>Julie Fiscus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ushers/Greeters</td>
<td>Pete &amp; Stacey Reko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee Hour</td>
<td>Susan Meyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vestry Person</td>
<td>Linda Dugins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tellers</td>
<td>Linda Dugins, Mike Fiery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
Proper 20a- September 24, 2017

Collect of the Day: Each of us holds the potential to be channels of grace, acceptance, forgiveness and healing for a wounded and suffering human community. We pray for the wisdom to recognize the many times we have been blessed by a forgiving and generous person so that we may act likewise in all our affairs; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord.

From the Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Our first text is from the 3rd chapter of The Book of Jonah. It is a story of a man so blinded by his own petty resentments that he is unable to see how he has benefited from the grace, forgiveness and kindness that he would withhold from others. Please read with me by reading the parts in bold print…..When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, ‘O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning;

for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.

And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the Lord said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’

But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’

Then the Lord said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

From the Muslim Tradition:
The great wisdom traditions of the world each, in their own way, teach that God’s grace is sufficient support for people on the journey of faith. The scriptures often emphasize the priority of divine grace; it is present even before a person responds, eliciting faith in those who otherwise would have no clue of how to escape their mean lot. Please read with me from the Muslim scriptures by reading the parts in bold print….God promises you His forgiveness and bounties; and God cares for all and He knows all things.

He grants wisdom to whom He pleases, and he to whom wisdom is granted receives indeed a benefit overflowing; but none will grasp the Message but men of understanding.

Here ends the text.

From the Christian Gospels: Matthew 20:1-16
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”


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.]
Grace: Another Word for Love
Proper 20a - Sept. 24, 2017


Today’s Gospel story in Matthew and the Old Testament story in the Book of Jonah are both stories about grace and generosity. “Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ‘Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me’” (Jonah 1:1). When Jonah gets called into God’s service, he isn’t just reluctant or hesitant like most of the other prophets; he thinks he can outrun God and gets himself on a ship to Tarshish. Doing the opposite of what he’s supposed to do, he wants to go as far away as possible. God sends a bad storm that endangers the ship. Finally, the sailors resort to casting lots to determine whose fault it is. When the lot falls on Jonah, he confesses to them that he is on the run. As they throw him overboard, the prophet is swallowed by that great fish, often depicted as a whale. As he prays, Jonah thanks God for the rescue and perhaps realizes that running from God is not an option. God then frees him from that dark prison cell inside the belly of the great fish and Jonah then does as told and preaches to the city of Nineveh.

He preaches to this city that has run away from God, and, to his great shock, they actually listen. God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it (3:10). Jonah’s response to God’s kindness is anger: “Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there” (4:1-5a). The author of the story makes it clear that, while Nineveh repents and experiences conversion, the prophet himself does not. Instead, the angry man of God sits and sulks. “God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush” (4:5b-6). It is now that Jonah receives his own lesson: “But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint.”

Jonah is angry again. God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die” (4:8b-9). In a dialogue somewhat reminiscent of that between God and Elijah, God shows a wry sense of humor. In essence he says, “So, Jonah, I get the sense you didn’t enjoy my practical joke with the plant. But I was trying to show you that I gave that plant to you because I wanted to—you didn’t earn it. But you are angry about the many people in Nineveh because I let them live; I gave them their lives back because I wanted to.”

This story is about the nature of God: “I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing” (4:2). It’s about the love, patience and forgiveness that already lives in and through and all around you. It’s a story about your potential to practice grace-filled living in all of your relationships and daily interactions.

Paul Tillich, the German-American philosopher and theologian, wrote this: “Grace strikes us when … year after year, the longed-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign within us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage. Sometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: ‘You are accepted. You are accepted, accepted by that which is greater than you, and the name of which you do not know.’ Of course, finding acceptance is not always easy. …The Reverend Billy Graham told of a time early in his ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to mail a letter, he asked a young boy where the post office was. When the boy had told him, Dr. Graham thanked him and said, "If you'll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven." The boy replied, "I don't think I'll be there... You don't even know your way to the post office."

There are brief moments in our lives when we glimpse the insight that we are accepted and loved just as we are. Such moments never last long, but their healing power is unmistakable. These are moments of grace. Let me close with a story from the Japanese wisdom tradition….Zenkai, the son of a samurai, journeyed to Edo to become the assistant of a high official. He fell in love with the official’s wife and was discovered by him. In self-defense, he slew the official and ran away with the wife. Both of them later became thieves, but the woman was so greedy that Zenkai grew tired of their life together. He finally left her and journeyed far away to the province of Buzen, where he became a wandering mendicant.

To atone for his past, Zenkai resolved to accomplish a good deed. Knowing of a dangerous road over a cliff that had caused the death and injury of many people, he decided to cut a tunnel through the mountain there. Begging for food during the day, Zenkai dug his tunnel at night. When thirty years had gone by, the tunnel was 2,280 feet long, 20 feet high and 30 feet wide. Two years before the work was completed, the son of the official he had slain, who was a skillful swordsman, found Zenkai out and came to kill him in revenge. “I will give you my life willingly,” said Zenkai. “Only let me finish this work. On the day it is completed, then you may kill me.” So the son waited to get his revenge. Several months passed and Zenkai kept on digging. Eventually the son grew tired of doing nothing and began to help with the digging. After he had helped for more than a year, he came to admire Zenkai’s strong will and character. At last the tunnel was completed and the people could use it and travel in safety. “Now cut off my head,” said Zenkai. “My work is done.” “How can I cut off my own teacher’s head?” asked the younger man with tears in his eyes. When the son of the man he killed didn’t take his revenge and let him live, Zenkai was given an unexpected gift, one he was sure he didn’t deserve. Zenkai experienced grace.

Every time you forgive someone who hurt you, you become an expression of grace. Every time you accept another person as they are instead of insisting they be as you want, you become a source of healing grace. And every time you choose to resist the temptation to think and speak in negative, critical and judgmental ways of others, you become a channel for acceptance, love and grace to enter the world. Blessings!
Over the past two weeks, U.S. Senators have worked transparently and diligently on bipartisan legislation to improve health care for Americans. Yet now, Senate leaders are risking undermining progress in their own bipartisan reform process with a new attempt to repeal health care for tens of millions of Americans. The legislation, known as the Graham-Cassidy bill would reduce the scale and impact of Medicaid and make it harder for millions of Americans to access affordable health care. The Graham-Cassidy bill lacks the benefits of informed public hearings with experts and thoughtful bipartisan compromises, and does not address the concerns highlighted in earlier ACA repeal efforts.

Call the Senate switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and urge your senators to oppose Graham-Cassidy!

Sample Call Script:

"Hello, my name is ___. I am your constituent, a person of faith, an Episcopalian, and I am calling to urge Senator ___ to oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill which would devastate millions Americans. A reform of this magnitude needs bipartisan fixes and transparent evaluation. I'm concerned that a bill this important would be considered when it is not public and has not had serious vetting, analysis, and comment from the people it will impact. Over the past months, our nation has suffered from the division, fear, and confusion created by rushed consideration of secret partisan proposals on health care. I have been encouraged by the recent bipartisan agreement to secure the future of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and hearings and negotiations on practical steps to stabilize the affordability of health insurance for example, and I urge the Senator to focus on supporting these types of measures. I am praying for you, and I hope you will oppose the Graham-Cassidy bill.

Call today! Thanks for caring enough about those who will be hurt to take action and get involved."
**FAKE NEWS v. AUTHENTIC JOURNALISM:**
On Thursday evening, October 5th the Project for Deeper Understanding will host a public forum dealing with the issue of fake news and its relationship to journalism, journalistic standards and free speech. There will be an hour of panel discussion followed by an hour of audience Q&A.

When:  Thursday - October 5th
7:00 to 9:00 PM
Where:  St. Luke's in Snyderville
The forum will be simulcast on KPCW.

**PROGRESS IN GENETIC SCIENCE AND THE ETHICAL PROBLEMS SUCH PROGRESS RAISES:**
This is a conference on the ethical challenges progress in the genetic sciences present. Scientists and religious leaders will discuss a variety of relevant topics. What should be the boundaries governing genetic experimentation and manipulation? We have the scientific power to alter the human DNA to eliminate certain diseases and human "weaknesses," but should we? What if our perceived weaknesses are a source of strength, wisdom and vitality? Who is going to decide? How will they decide?

When:  Friday evening and Saturday - October 6th and 7th
Where:  The Episcopal Church Conference Center in SLC

To register, go to the following link...

Co-sponsored and supported by Utahns for Religious Scholarship, a partner organization of St. Luke's Episcopal Church.
News from the Community of Hope

The Community of Hope has been meeting at the Cathedral Church of St. Mark for over a decade. This diocesan-wide ministry consists of lay people serving in all forms of Pastoral Care. They are present to others in a compassionate, listening, non-controlling manner to make a difference in the health and well-being of those in need.

Community of Hope’s in-depth training and formation, based on Benedictine Spirituality, prepares individuals for a special ministry and contributes to their spiritual development. You are invited to an introductory meeting to learn more about this wonderful opportunity. The meeting is part of the application process and provides an opportunity for prospective members to learn more about the program and discern if they want to become part of the community.

Introductory Meeting

DATE: October 14, 2017  TIME: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Cathedral Church of St. Mark
231 East 100 South – SLC UT 84111

MORE INFORMATION:
Chris LeCluyse: 801-660-9124 clecluyse@westminstercollege.edu,
Carolyn Ershler: 801-201-0814, cershler@icloud.com.

---

Fall into Faith with Fun!
Fall Retreat 2017

Join us for a fun-filled weekend in the mountains to enjoy the changing colors of the season with each other through love and faith. We will celebrate with a Halloween party and decorating pumpkins! Bring a small pumpkin to decorate, and your costume! No weapons or scary costumes please.

WHAT: Diocesan Fall Youth Event
WHEN: Friday, October 6th, 7:00pm to Sunday, October 8th, 2:00pm
WHERE: Camp Tuttle, Big Cottonwood Canyon
WHO: Junior and Senior High youth (Grades 6-12)
COST: $60 per participant, $75 if registered after October 2nd
REGISTER: Online at camptuttle.org under registration tab, or https://ecu.wufoo.com/forms/zybp5lv1enmgc7/

*Faith does not make things easy, it makes them possible.*
Luke 1:37

Sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Utah Office of Youth Ministry

*For questions or scholarship requests, please contact Karen Gleeson, Youth Coordinator, kgleeson@episcopal-ut.org or 801-322-4131

---

Happening High School Event!!

This retreat is for high school youth in grades 9-12 and graduates from 2017!
November 17-19
Friday at 7pm - Sunday at Noon
at All Saints Episcopal Church in Salt Lake City, Utah
Cost is $60
Please register for this event at www.camptuttle.org

What is “Happening - A Christian Experience”?

Happening, is a renewal weekend for high school youth. It is unique because it is a retreat primarily led by teenagers for teenagers with help from some of camp counselors, and clergy. It is an inspirational retreat, full of music, discussion, surprises, laughter and new friends. If you have any questions, or scholarship inquiries, please contact Karen Gleeson at kgleeson@episcopal-ut.org.

Sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Utah
Office of Youth Ministry
CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE:
www.stlukesparkcity.org Newcomers will find info about our church and what to expect when they visit. 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.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES: Join us in the St. Luke's Library on Wednesdays at 4:00 to read and discuss this spiritual mind-training course. It is not necessary to have been attending in the past, you are welcome to join this fun and lively group anytime. For more information, call or text Ann Fiery at 304-617-5714. Or visit www.acim.org

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY: The Women’s Bible study group meets in the library, 6:30 - 8:30 pm on Wednesdays. We are doing the Beth Moore study, “Entrusted: A Study of 2 Timothy”. It is a Six Session Study with a workbook for weekly homework. If you would like to join us please contact Mary Parsons at Mary.Parsons@hsc.utah.edu.

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

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, and are currently reading "Two Dogs and a Parrot" by Joan Chittester. 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.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU: Please extend a special thanks to Barbara Wine, Anne Bransford, Linda Sears, Kathryn and Rusty Martz for all of their help in making our Pot Luck a success. You guys are amazing!

WOMEN’S GATHERING: Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30. Our October 10th gathering will be at the home of Theresa Wilcox, 190 Starview Dr. in Highland Estates. Wear your favorite costume of hat! Please bring a dish or drink to share.

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.

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING THE CHALICE BEARER MINISTRY: We need additional help with the chalice bearer ministry at the church. We schedule 5 chalice bearers each Sunday to help with the wine, grape juice, and gluten free wafers. Brief training is done at St. Luke’s before your first Sunday. Please contact Mary Parsons if you would like to join our team!

TAI-CHI: Tai Chi for this round is closed. The next round will begin in early October. If interested or have questions, please email Bob at 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.

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.