As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The First Letter to Timothy

For Reflection:
How do you experience God’s generosity in your life? In what ways do you share that generosity with others? What is the impact of those experiences?

Image: The Lord’s Prayer

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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.

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. Peter’s Church in Clearfield.
✓ All people within the world-wide Anglican Communion; pray for the people & leaders of The Church of West Africa.

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), Anne (sister of Teddi Reeves) Mary Gene (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)

THE HUMAN COMMUNITY AROUND THE WORLD:
✓ For the many people affected by the recent bombings in New Jersey and New York.
✓ Comfort and peace for the families and friends affected by the recent deaths of two teenagers in Park City.
✓ An end to terrorism and the wisdom to find a way to live together in peace.
✓ Safety and recovery for those affected by the typhoon that hit Taiwan and China.
✓ An end to the conflicts in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan and healing for all victims.
✓ A lasting, permanent peace between Israel & her neighbors.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED.........
✓ For our Chalice Bearer Leader, Mary Parsons and her family.
✓ And for those having birthdays this week: Nancy Conrow on Monday; Harriet Stephens on Wednesday; John Hoener and Craig Stevens on Thursday and Brad Kuhn on Saturday.

If your birthday does not appear on the list, please contact Beckie in the office, 649-4900 ext. 12.

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 21c - September 25, 2016

Collect of the Day: O God, you manifest your nature in showing mercy and justice; Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to fulfill the work of your Kingdom in this world, may live as effective partners in your love and compassion; with Jesus, our Brother, Teacher and Lord. AMEN.

The Hebrew Scriptures:
Reader: Today's reading from the Hebrew scriptures comes from the 146th Psalm. As James Mays wisely notes, "This hymn does not say that worldly leaders are unnecessary or not useful. It does warn against trusting them for salvation." Please read the psalm with me by reading the parts in bold print…..Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
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.

The Christian Gospels:
Reader: Today's reading from the Christian Gospels comes from Luke 16:19-31. As James Mays wisely notes, "This hymn does not say that worldly leaders are unnecessary or not useful. It does warn against trusting them for salvation." Please read the psalm with me by reading the parts in bold print…..Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
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.

The Hindu Scriptures:
Reader: Today's reading from the Hindu scriptures comes from the 21st century. As James Mays wisely notes, "This hymn does not say that worldly leaders are unnecessary or not useful. It does warn against trusting them for salvation." Please read the psalm with me by reading the parts in bold print…..Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul! *

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
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.

[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.]
Baptism: a Commitment to Living Large!
Proper 21c - Sept. 25, 2016

Today, we are going to baptize four young people. Given the central principle of generosity in each of today’s scripture passages, I suggest we think about the possibilities of finding generosity in Christian baptism. In what ways does baptism express and support an expansive generosity?

Edward Dryfus, Ph.D. offers the following explanation and description of “generosity of spirit.”

“The concept of generosity has many meanings, most often connoting giving of money or gifts to charities or other people. Other definitions of the word include: (1) showing a readiness to give more of something, as money or time, than is strictly necessary or expected; (2) showing kindness toward others; and (3) liberal in giving or sharing; unselfish; free from meanness or smallness of mind; magnanimous.”

When these three are put together, we have ‘generosity of spirit.’ The concept of being generous of spirit fits within the broader context of living life from the inside out, that is, living from a core set of values. It is an attitude that one can adopt and can become a way in which one engages the world. Being generous of spirit does not depend upon how one is treated; it can be adopted irrespective of circumstances. The concept suggests that one engages others with an open heart and mind. It presupposes a nonjudgmental attitude along with a high level of tolerance for different beliefs, values, and behavior. Generosity of spirit requires that one spend more energy looking at what is good and positive in someone than at what one thinks is bad or negative. Generosity of spirit embraces differences with acceptance. It is free of any kind of intense concern or fear that there will not be enough; that my personal security is at risk unless I try to keep as much for myself as possible.

Dryfus: “I know a 68 year old widower who has undergone several organ transplants, several career changes, went from wealth to basic survival, lives on $1000 per month, and economic necessity required him to move to another state where the rents are cheaper in order to sustain himself. Despite his circumstances, he never fails to be ecstatic over the successes of his friends, their luxury vacations, and their affluent lifestyle. He takes genuine pleasure in their good fortune.

“And there is a 61 year old, single woman who suffered traumatic brain injury, not once, but twice! She spends a lot of her time either in bed or shuttling between health care providers. She struggles to hold down a job when she is able and to pay her bills. She experiences vertigo, cognitive impairment, and a variety of other symptoms. Yet, she is able to greet each day with hope. She relishes the stories from her friends’ adventures and successes; she vicariously experiences their vacations. She is empathic, warm, sympathetic, as she engages the people in her life.”

These two individuals embody generosity of spirit. They think and live in contrast to those men and women who live in multimillion dollar homes, have substantial money in the bank, a lovely family and all the material comforts that can be purchased, but, perhaps because of early painful childhood experiences or the ideas and attitudes they learned from family, they suffer unhappiness from frequent bouts of envy, resentment over the happiness of others, and continuous worry that someone may take something from them. Living life with a generous spirit is expansive, joyful, non-anxious and happy. Reducing one’s life to the size of a postage stamp through fear, envy and resentment may mean you will remain rich in money and things, but it guarantees you will be impoverished in your relationships and in your soul. This is the fundamental teaching of all great wisdom traditions; the teaching our society rebels against.

Continue next page………..
I would like to suggest that the real meaning of Christian baptism includes a commitment to cultivate a life of generosity of spirit. Let’s look at the baptismal rite together. I think we can find a number of examples in which the rite hints at generosity. Page 299: “There is one Body, and one Spirit; […] One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism.” On the surface, this sounds like the opposite of generosity. It sounds like religious exclusivism; our religion and no other…and many have taken it that way. But notice what happens if we interpret these same words through a recognition of the universal nature of the Sacred and the universal human experience of being called to trust and walk with that which is Sacred in and through and all around us. “One Spirit, one Lord” is then easily understood as symbolic language representing, among other virtues, the virtue of generosity and the life lived through a generous spirit by men and women around the world irrespective of their theological traditions and symbols. All of humanity shares this "one Spirit," this "one Lord."

Secondly, notice the ethical content that lies at the core of the questions addressed to the candidates beginning on page 302. They are a call for those entering into baptism to reject all forms of evil including the evils of greed, selfishness, envy, and a self-centered approach that is blind and deaf to the goodness and preciousness of every human being. They are a call to embrace the spiritual path of Jesus; a path of love, compassion and an open and expansive heart toward all those around us. And I could go on and on. Christian baptism is about choosing to live large of heart and to reject those attitudes and values that reduce us to fear, pettiness and narcissism.

Dr. Dreyfus expresses the core teaching of Christian baptism when he says, “We have a choice as to how we will orient ourselves in the world and how we will act. We can choose to view the world through the eyes of one who sees the world as filled with possibility and potential, and thereby approaches life with enthusiasm, wonder, and joy. Or we can view the world through the eyes of the cynic, who sees nothing but corruption, and therefore approaches the world with distrust, suspicion, sarcasm, and scorn. Similarly, we can engage the world with a generosity of spirit where we greet people with trust, openness, and compassion or we can choose to engage from the position of self-pity, envy, and disdain. Should we choose the former, we increase the probability of experiencing happiness in our lives; if we choose the latter, we increase the probability of feeling depressed and resentful. The choice is ours.”

Blessings,
Charles+
Help!!! These 6 Positions Need to be Filled as Soon as Possible

OUR PARISH WEBSITE: With new events and classes coming on line at St. Luke’s frequently throughout the year, we need someone who would be willing to work with Charles+ and Beckie to keep our parish website dynamic, interesting, current and helpful. This work could be done from home. For more information, please speak to either Charles+, Beckie beckie@stlukespc.org or Pamela Davey (Marketing Team) pmndavey101@gmail.com

Thanks! JANET DEMARS volunteered to fill this position.....THANK YOU, JANET!!!

ESTABLISHING AN ENDOWMENT FUND: The St. Luke’s Vestry is seriously considering launching a St. Luke’s Endowment Fund next year. A team is needed to structure the fund and decide how it will work. Christine Munro and Sharon Christiansen will be co-chairing this team, but they need other who have experience with endowment funds and long-term financial planning. If you are interested in helping, please speak to either Christine chris@torchlightinn.com or Sharon sharonc435@gmail.com

KRISSA BOLTON volunteered to help.....THANK YOU, KRISSA!

LEADING ART & SOUL: Are you passionate about spiritual exploration and growth? Do you love creativity? Claudia+ is in need of an apprentice-partner who will help her this fall with Art & Soul and learn how to use creativity and the arts to help people explore their spirituality. If you are interested in this important ministry opportunity, please call Claudia+ at 435-513-0441. RITA BADEN, MARILYN HEINRICH AND SARAH WRIGHT volunteered to help Claudia+.....THANK YOU, RITA, MARILYN AND SARAH!

PHOTO DIRECTORY COORDINATOR: It’s time to update our parish photo directory. The company that will be doing most of the work for us will be Life-Touch, but a Photo Directory Coordinator will be needed to work with the photo company and to arrange for parish members to meet with the photographer. If you enjoy organizing events and accomplishing administrative tasks, you will enjoy this service opportunity. For more information, please speak to Beckie at beckie@stlukespc.org or Charles+.

DYAN PIGNATELLI volunteered.....THANK YOU, DYAN!

BREAKFAST FOR OUR POKER RUN DEALERS:
Our Annual Parish Pledge Drive begins on Sunday, October 16th and once again we will be doing our collective “Poker Run” together. On that day, there will be a breakfast gathering of all of our Poker Run Dealers, that is, the leaders of the various communities’ ingathering process. A volunteer is needed to coordinate a simply breakfast for the Dealers that morning; simply pastries and coffee for everyone. If you would be interested in doing this or if you have questions, please contact Leslie Wood at newdawn.wood@gmail.com  Thanks!!!

BARB WINE volunteered......THANK YOU, BARB!

CHAPEL ALTAR GUILD DIRECTOR:
Janet Van Hartesvelt, after many years as Chapel Altar Guild Director, will soon be stepping down.

JAN HAFNER has volunteered to take her place.....THANK YOU, JAN!

Jan will need a co-director who can share this position with her so that when she is out of town, her co-director can fill in the gap. If you would be willing to share the role of Co-Director of the Chapel Altar Guild with Jan, please let her or Charles+ know. Thank you!!!

WOW! WELL DONE, PARISH COMMUNITY!! THIS IS A SIGN OF A HEALTHY, WELL-FUNCTIONING CHURCH FAMILY!!!
THANK YOU TO ALL THAT ASSISTED IN THE ORDINATION
OF
THE REV. AIMEE ALTIZER

Jim Jennings for repairing the lights in the foyer. Bonnie Brown for organizing the missions donation table. Barbara Wine for handling the details of the receptions and dinner preparations also with set up, clean up and many hours the in days before. Nancy Conrow for the decorating and doing the flowers for Aimee’s ordination. Ann Deyo for the Guest Book and preparing the pews. Judy Hanley for coordinating the desserts for the reception. Chris Munro for preparing the dinner for the clergy and rehearsal crew. The set up and clean up crews: Roger Stephens, Charles Robinson, Sharon Christiansen, Judy Hanley, Barbara Wine, John Swanger, Lou and Claudia Giacoma, Ann Deyo and Bob Leary. All those in involved in making both the red and green vestments given to Aimee at her ordination: Linda Sears and Ginny Kennamer for design and stitching of a green stole and Karan Swanger for design and stitching of the red vestments with Nancy Conrow coordinating everything. Everyone who helped during the ordination service: Iris Thompson- on Altar Guild. The liturgical ministers and participants in the service: The Rev. Charles Robinson, The Rev. Claudia Giacoma, Eric Smith; Taylor and Savannah Volmrich, Ann Deyo, Jim Jennings, Judy Hanley, Roger Stephens, Julie Fiscus, Joyce Pearson, Manuel Clayton and Shelle Jennings and the Choir members for an outstanding music program. And for the many others who have supported and helped Aimee on her journey. What a beautiful evening to celebrate in the ordination.

Sunday - October 16th
A CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST. LUKE THE PHYSICIAN
A special healing service
An opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to “check out” St. Luke’s
Pick up the instructions for making our prayer origami cranes.
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!!!

WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER Please join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. The October gathering will be on Tuesday, October 11, 2016. Nancy Conrow has offered her house for the event. AND we'd like to work together that evening to make some of the origami birds needed for the feast of St. Luke's. Don't worry if you have never made one, we'll show directions and, of course, you don't even have to if you don't want to. Just 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 katherinemartz@comcast.net or Harriet, harrietmstephens@gmail.com, (435)655-1888.

SAVE THE DATE - ROAD HOME DINNER
St. Luke’s will be providing dinner for the families at the Midvale Family Shelter for the homeless on October 14th. Volunteer space is limited to 20. Please contact Katherine Martz at katherinemartz@comcast.net. We will also be seeking support in helping to purchase the food and supplies needed. More information will be provided at church and in the weekly magazine during October.

TAI-CHI for Health and Arthritis has resumed at 5:10 PM at the Church. A sign up sheet is in the back on the bulletin board near the refreshment area. The cost is $30 for six weeks. We need six participants to continue. The class is open to beginners and continuing students.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY We are doing the Priscilla Shirer study "Breathe-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 Lifeway in SLC or on Amazon. Hope to see you there!

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.