

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Holy Eucharist Rite II
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 7, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

We are delighted to worship with you. Due to the high level of Covid prevalence in Durham County at present, we strongly recommend everyone wear a mask in worship, regardless of their vaccination status. **We are however requiring masking while singing; please be sure to wear your mask over your nose and mouth while singing.** Occasionally, there may be an unmasked, distanced soloist. Unfortunately, we cannot shake hands, hug, or kiss at this time. Please remember that being indoors and singing unmasked can elevate the possibility of Covid transmission. Wearing masks and refraining from physical contact are important precautions for your own health and that of your neighbors.

Monetary offerings may be placed in the offering plate as you enter the church.

Prelude Beautiful City Stephen Schwartz

Through this musical offering, you are invited into a moment of personal prayer.

Hymn 401 The God of Abraham praise *Leoni*

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria *Celebrant and People*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons *please sit*

Reader: A reading from Isaiah (1:1, 10-20)

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?

Trample my courts no more;
bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me,
I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.
Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,
learn to do good;
seek justice,
rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan,
plead for the widow.
Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.
If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land;
but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Reader will lead the praying of the Psalm.

Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24

1 The God of gods has spoken; *

God has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *

God is revealed in glory.

- 3 O God, you will come and will not keep silence; *
before you there is a consuming flame, and round about you a raging storm.
- 4 You call the heavens and the earth from above *
to witness the judgment of your people.
- 5 “Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”
- 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of your cause, *
for you alone are judge.
- 7 “Hear, O my people, and I will speak: O Israel, I will bear witness against you, *
for I am God, your God.
- 8 I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; *
your offerings are always before me.
- 23 Consider this well, you who forget God, *
lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.
- 24 Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; *
but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God.”

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Reader: A Reading from Hebrews (11:1-3, 8-16)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land

that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Rhonda M. Lee

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,**

eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People (Form III, BCP 387)

(On Facebook we invite you to share prayer requests in the comment line.)

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Remembering everyone on our parish prayer list, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest. **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions, either silently or out loud.

Intercessor: Please join in a Prayer for Transition:

God of love, in this interim time, we pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, imaginative about our future, and daring in our faith. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents, and skills with which you have blessed us. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People:

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
we are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people stay in place during the peace. Feel free to wave, bow, or show the peace sign to others.

Please be seated.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

All baptized persons, from any tradition, are invited to take communion. Baptized children of all ages are included in this invitation. **If you require a gluten-free communion wafer, please indicate this by holding out your hands palms facing down.** Those who do not wish to receive communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the clergy. Simply cross your arms across your chest to indicate this. The ushers will direct the congregation to the altar rail, row by row. Please alert an usher if you would like to receive communion from your seat.

Offertory

Migratory V

Adam Guettel

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP p. 367)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(The celebrant adds a proper preface.)

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and people:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The congregation may stand or kneel throughout the Eucharistic Prayer

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and

then he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People: **We remember his death.
We proclaim his resurrection.
We await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
Amen.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and Wine

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

Please be seated until the usher guides you to communion.

Sharing of the Bread and Wine

The Usher will direct those physically present at the celebration of the Eucharist to receive communion at this time. If you are unable to come forward (or feel the need to stay socially distant), let the usher know and the priest will bring the bread to you.

Act of Reception, *to be prayed by anyone who has not received communion who desires to.*

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly all members of St. Luke's, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death and resurrection, for the means of grace and hope of glory.

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

(from St. Augustine's Prayerbook, permission by Forward Movement.)

Postcommunion Prayer *Please stand as you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

The congregation is invited to join in singing the hymns. Please remain masked while singing.

Recessional hymn 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

St. Denio

Dismissal

Postlude

Preacher/Presider: The Rev. Dr. Rhonda M. Lee

Lector: Nancy Wyman

Verger: Patty Michaels

Crucifer: Randy Griffin

Chalice: Randy Griffin, Jan Freeman

LEM (host): Donald Hamm

Healing Minister: Mark Karengin

Livestream: Bill Gutknecht

Ushers: Kelley Lawton, Peter Kariher

Announcements

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of friends and neighbors.

Notes from the Music Director - Many thanks to vocal soloist Lauren Sloan for sharing her musical gifts with us this morning. Lauren is happy to be back singing in person after graciously helping out during the pandemic with a lot of the recorded online music. She stays very busy these days working at Greystar Properties and taking care of daughters Marleigh and Maggie, so we're grateful she was able to be with us today. (And most of you know she is my daughter, so I'm very biased, but doesn't she have a gorgeous voice?! :-)) Both pieces she sings today are longtime Broadway favorites of hers, but are very appropriately themed for use in worship.

Calling all ushers (or would be ushers): There will be an usher training for all current, past, soon to be ushers (or anyone interested in learning what an usher is responsible for) TODAY immediately following the service. We will review all worship (bring elements to the altar, etc.), communion, and emergency protocols at this time. Bring a friend!

Rector search update - Due to vacation schedules and a procedural issue that has come up, the vestry is not ready to name the full search committee at this time. We are assured by Canon Catherine Massey from the diocese that we have adequate time to do our search. We are actually ahead of schedule, so this slight delay is not a problem. We will provide an update as soon as possible.

We offer the healing rite in the chapel behind the pulpit. It offers a chance to ask for prayers for healing, using the biblical tradition of the laying on of hands, as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer (page 456). Any who would like to take part in the healing rite are invited to go to the chapel directly after receiving communion. If someone is already there receiving a prayer, simply wait outside the railing. If you have questions, please feel free to speak to the clergy.

We ask that if someone attends a service and then tests positive for covid, that they please contact the interim rector or senior warden for both pastoral care needs and also to inform others that may have come in close contact.

During the Eucharist, the consecrated wine will be available to all and communion will be received around the altar rail. Reception of the Blood of Christ will be by intinction. **Only the priest (or lay eucharistic minister) will lightly intinct the wafer for you, and then drop the wafer into your hand.** Communicants will not intinct their own wafers. If you want to receive the wine, please approach the priest with your hands cupped in front of you, as most of us typically already do. If you do not want to receive the wine, please approach with your hands together as if in prayer, and then open them to receive the dry wafer. Please remember that the consecrated bread (or wine) alone does constitute full communion, and you may receive the wine, or not, as you feel led. We believe this practice of distributing the wine, from a silver chalice and without the priest's fingers touching the wine, is as safe as we can make it.

The clergy and vestry have resolved that masks will be strongly recommended in worship regardless of your vaccination status, masks will continue to be required when singing at this time. Diocesan policy requires that unvaccinated persons wear a mask at all times during worship and in meetings. When considering whether or not to mask, please take into account your own risk factors and the possible vulnerability of your neighbors. And please be kind to each other always, as we move into a phase where some of us will be masked and some of us unmasked.

Please remember: No gathering can be completely safe. Unvaccinated people remain more susceptible to contracting COVID-19, and to severe disease, hospitalization, and death. Singing and removal of masks can increase transmission.

- We will continue to refrain from touching during the passing of the peace, for now.
- The offering plate will remain at the entrance, not passed, for now.
- We will continue virtual worship offerings (as we started before Covid.)

Contact us: St. Luke's Episcopal Church
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