

ST. LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EVENING PRAYER & RECEPTION WITH
RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

JANUARY 13, 2021 + 7:00 P.M.

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*You are invited and encouraged to participate fully in this liturgy by praying with us.
Please join in the **bold** sections.*

OPENING SENTENCES

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
Ephesians 4:4-6

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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.**

EVENING PRECES

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

PHOS HILARON

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

THE PSALTER

12:1 Help me, LORD, for there is no godly one left; *
the faithful have vanished from among us.
2 Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; *
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.
3 Oh, that the LORD would cut off all smooth tongues, *
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!
4 Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; *
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"
5 "Because the needy are oppressed, and the poor cry out in misery," *
I will rise up," says the LORD, "and give them the help they long for."
6 The words of the Lord are pure words, *
like silver refined from ore and purified seven times in the fire.
7 O LORD, watch over us *
and save us from this generation for ever.
8 The wicked prowl on every side, *
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

13:1 How long, O LORD? will you forget me for ever? *
how long will you hide your face from me?
2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind, and grief in my heart, day after day? *
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
3 Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; *
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," *
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
5 But I put my trust in your mercy; *
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; *
I will praise the Name of the LORD Most High.

14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." *

All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any good.

2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, *

to see if there is any who is wise, if there is one who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; *

there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers *

who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the LORD?

5 See how they tremble with fear, *

because God is in the company of the righteous.

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, *

but the Lord is their refuge.

7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! *

when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

MAGNIFICAT

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND LESSON

Mark 1:29-45

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus

could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Bishop: The Candidate to be Received will now be presented.

Rector: I present Tory Curran to be received into this Communion.

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate: I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Bishop: Let us join with this person who is committing herself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Bishop: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Bishop: Let us now pray for this person who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

After each petition, the People respond "Lord, hear our prayer."

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Bishop: Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE RECEPTION

Bishop: Tory, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

Bishop: Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over this your servant; let your Holy Spirit ever be with her; and so lead her in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that she may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 COLLECTS

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty, everlasting God, let our prayer in your sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Your prayers are invited at this time.

THE HOMILY

The Rt. Rev. William O. Gregg, PhD

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

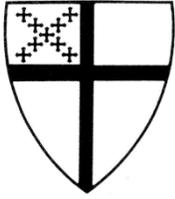
Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE GRACE

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Established 1753

A Parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Suffragan



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Come and See
the *difference* Christ makes



ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Robert Black, rblack@sls.church

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THE PARISH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

2021: Chip Carter (Jr. Warden), Michael Greene (Sr. Warden), Fle Griffith, Chris McKinney

2022: Pati Carter, Anne Scott Clement, George Jones, Stephanie Phoenix

2023: Tory Curran, Kathleen Dunn, Mike Mills, Matt Storey,

Parish Officers: Mark Bias (Secretary); Kathy Carter (Treasurer); Chip Short (Chancellor)

PARISH PRAYER

O God, in your abundant grace you sent your Son to be the light of the world: Grant that we may come and see the difference that Christ makes in each of us as we seek to become your beloved community; and as we gather in intentional worship, may we ever be reminded of your transformative love which is the foundation of our faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.