



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost – Year C
October 26th, 2025
8:00 & 10:00 am

Coffee Hour to follow at 11:00

To All Who Are Joyful And Thankful, To All Who Mourn And Need Comfort
To All Who Are Weary And Need Rest, To All Who Are Friendless And Wish Friendship
To All Who Pray And Who Do Not But Ought, To All Who Sin And Need A Savior.
And To Whoever Will, The Church Opens Wide The Door
And In The Name Of Christ, The Lord Says Welcome.

The Processional Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #389 Let us with a gladsome mind (*verses 1-4*)

The people standing, the Celebrant says:

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.

The Gloria

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #280 Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and 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 command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

All are seated.

Joel 2:23-32

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. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65 *Te decet hymnus (Read responsively by half verse)*

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,
because of their transgressions.

3 Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you will blot them out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there!
**they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.**

- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
**O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.**
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power;
they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas,
**the roaring of their waves,
and the clamor of the peoples.**
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand as are able.

Gradual Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #686 Come thou fount

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 18:9-14

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."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Dn. Mark Witte

A brief time of reflection follows the sermon

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

Intercessor:

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For the holy Church of God: That we may be freed from pride and self-righteousness, and learn to pray with humble and honest hearts. We pray for all who lead and serve your Church, that in word and deed they may proclaim your mercy and truth. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the world you have made: We thank you for the rain, the harvest, and the richness of the earth; for rivers that overflow with plenty, and for fields that shout for joy. Bless those who labor to bring forth food, and guide all nations in the ways of peace and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For our nation and those in authority: Grant wisdom and compassion to all who govern, that they may defend the cause of the poor and uphold the dignity of every person. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For this community: Make us a people of gratitude and generosity, quick to listen and slow to judge. May your Spirit be poured upon us and upon all flesh, that we may dream your dreams and do your will. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those in need of healing or comfort: We remember before you the sick, the lonely, and the troubled, and those who have no one to pray for them. We pray especially for *[N. and those we name now, silently or aloud]*. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those who have died and for those who mourn: We give you thanks for the faithful who have fought the good fight and finished the race. May they, with all your saints, receive the crown of righteousness in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant:

Gracious God, you hear the prayers of those who turn to you in faith and humility. Pour out your Spirit upon your Church and upon all creation, that we may proclaim your goodness and live in the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader 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 Celebrant 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

All stand as are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Cissy Bramlett (27th)

Celebrant and People

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

If you would like to give to St. Luke's, you can place money in the offering plate at the Service or you can Text to give to (254) 282-0706, then enter amount (ex. \$50),
you can also give online at <https://stlukesstephenville.breezechms.com/give/online>
or you can mail your offering to **St. Luke's, PO Box 2506, Stephenville, TX 76401**

The Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #636 How firm a foundation (verses 1-3)

Doxology

(sung to The Hymnal 380)

***Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says

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 him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

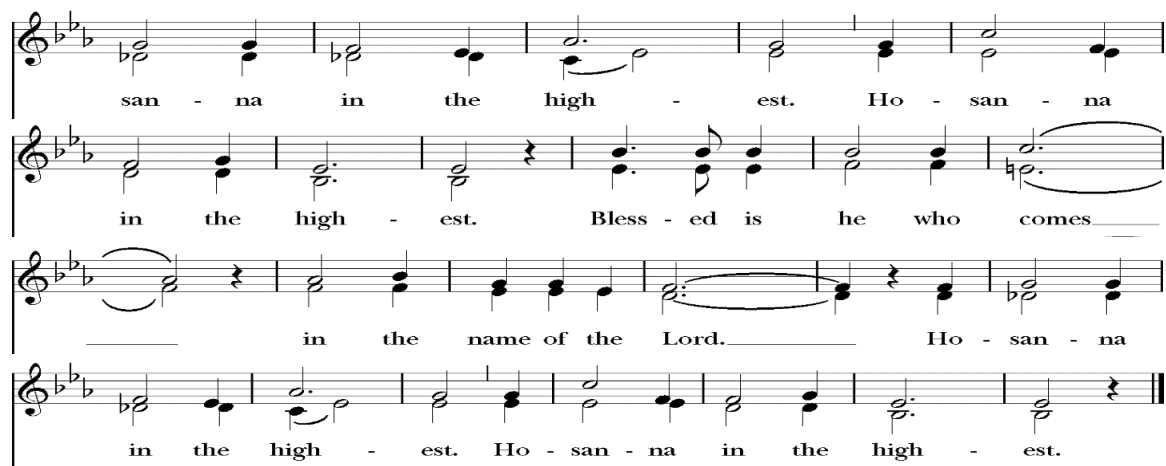
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #130 The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord:

Sanctus

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and'. The second staff contains 'might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The third staff contains 'God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are'. The fourth staff contains 'full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -'. There are several measures with whole notes and some with half notes. The music is simple and hymn-like.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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,

*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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Concerning Holy Communion

*“This the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.
So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little,
you who have been here often and you who have not been here long,
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.”*



*If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.
Simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you.*



Gluten free wafers are available upon request

Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #314 Humbly I adore thee

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest gives the blessing

Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; And the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Processional

The Hymnal 1982 #680 O God our help in ages past

The Dismissal

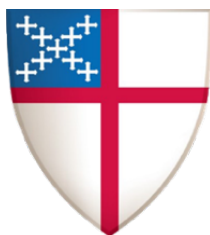
Deacon

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Thanks be to God.

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From the Calendar of Saints

October 26 Alfred the Great *King of the West Saxons, 899*

The only English ruler to be called “the Great,” Alfred was notable for his courage and Christian virtues. He halted the Viking invasion and worked to repair the damage the Danes had wreaked on English culture and learning.

October 28 Saint Simon and Saint Jude *Apostles*

Simon was called “the Zealot,” although it is not known whether he was in fact a member of a zealot faction. Jude is thought to be the author of the epistle that bears his name.

October 29 James Hannington *Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, and his Companions Martyrs, 1885*

After establishing a mission on the shores of Lake Victoria, Hannington ventured towards Uganda but with his companions was captured, tortured, and killed by King Mwanga. The bishop’s last words were, “Go, tell Mwanga I have purchased the road to Uganda with my blood.”

November 1 All Saints

The desire of Christians to express the intercommunication between living and dead members of the Body of Christ, especially martyrs to the faith, is an ancient one. In the ninth century this day became a principal feast of the church.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – Rector
The Rev. Dn. Mark Witte – Curate
The Rev. Leslie Guinn - Assisting

Staff

Lexi McLemore – Parish Administrator
Duncan McMahan – Organist
Gail Johnson & Kelly Barbee – Altar Guild Directresses
The Rev. Dn. Mark Witte – ECM Missioner
Neely Carter – Vestry Secretary
Emma Gomez – Technology Minister

Vestry

Term Ending 2025 – Gail Johnson & Karl Aho
Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson
Term Ending 2027 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes

