



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 21, 2026
8:00 am & 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 #372 Praise to the living God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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,
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most
 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; 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.

A reading from the Book of Genesis (Genesis 21:8-21)

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the

voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

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

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 *Inclina, Domine* (Read responsively by half verse)

- 1 Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
 for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;
 save your servant who puts his trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
 I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant,
 for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
 and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
 and attend to the voice of my supplications.
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,
 for you will answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
 nor anything like your works.
- 9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord,
 and glorify your Name.
- 10 For you are great;
 you do wondrous things;
 and you alone are God.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
 **give your strength to your servant;
 and save the child of your handmaid.**
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor,
 so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
 because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans. (Romans 6:1b-11)

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

All stand as are able.

Gradual Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #530 Spread, o spread, thou mighty word

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
 Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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

The Sermon

The Rev. 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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the Church throughout the world, that we may not be afraid to proclaim the Gospel entrusted to us, but bear faithful witness to Christ in word and deed; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For bishops, priests, deacons, and all who minister in Christ's name, especially Andy, Kai, Jeff, Hector, Brian, Brad, Leslie, and Mark, that they may be strengthened in their vocation and sustained by the Holy Spirit; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and for all in authority, that they may pursue justice, protect the vulnerable, and seek the common good; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer persecution, violence, discrimination, or oppression because of their faith, conscience, or identity, that God may grant them courage, protection, and hope; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who live in fear, anxiety, loneliness, or uncertainty, remembering that not even a sparrow falls apart from God's care, that they may know the comfort of Christ's presence; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our community, that we may take up the cross set before us, serving our neighbors with generosity, compassion, and humility; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and those in any trouble, especially [*St. Luke's prayer list including a Prayer for Father's Day*]; for caregivers and all who minister to them; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died, especially [*St. Luke's prayer list*], and for those who mourn, that they may be sustained by the promise of resurrection and everlasting life; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the blessings of this life, especially those we now name; let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect:

O God, whose steadfast love watches over every creature and whose Son calls us to fearless discipleship: Grant us grace to confess Christ before the world, to trust in your providence, and to follow wherever he leads; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**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

Ray David Kincannon (16th), Jim Blackburn (16th), Mary Lilly (18th)

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

But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, given by text by sending an amount to (254) 282-0706, or given online. Mailed checks may be sent to the address printed at the end of the bulletin.

The Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #524 I love thy kingdom, Lord

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.***

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing, as are able. The Celebrant says

People 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.**

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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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 - #S125 Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people stand or kneel, as are able.

The Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Luke, Alban, John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; 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:

*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 is 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.



*If after receiving Communion or a blessing you would like special prayers for healing, you are
invited to go to the votive stand at the rear of the church where someone will pray with you.*

Communion Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #144 I can hear my savior calling



1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, —
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him through the gar - den, —
3. I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, — I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, —
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — He will give me grace and glo - ry, —



1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — “Take thy cross and fol - low, fol - low me.”
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
3. I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — And go with me, with me all the way.



Where He leads me I will fol - low, — Where He leads me I will fol - low, —



Where He leads me I will fol - low, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

The Priest gives the blessing

Blessing

Processional

The Hymnal 1982 #537 Christ for the world we sing

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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From the Calendar of Saints

June 22 *Alban First Martyr of Britain, c. 304*

A soldier in the Roman Army, Alban was converted by a priest fleeing persecution to whom he offered shelter. When officers came to his house seeking the fugitive, Alban put on the priests vestments and was arrested in his place, then tortured and martyred.

June 24 *The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*

Jesus' forerunner John was born to very elderly parents, Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, and Zechariah, a priest in the temple at Jerusalem. Zechariah was struck dumb for doubting an angel's prophecy of John's birth, and remained speechless until the baby was born and named.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – Rector

The Rev. 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. Mark Witte – ECM Missioner

Neely Carter – Vestry Secretary

Emma Gomez – Technology Minister

Vestry

Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson

Term Ending 2027 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes

Term Ending 2028 – Gail Johnson & Dylan Dowell

God loves you.
No exceptions.

The Episcopal Church welcomes you.

