In this week's Steeple >>>

- Message from Father Nick
- Update on Emily
- Celebration of New Ministry
- Georgia Gates Endowed Scholarship
- Sunday Bulletin





The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Springing Forward



Yes. It's time. It's time to lose an hour of sleep to gain an hour of daylight. The night owls will surely cry come Saturday evening when they realize that the day is here to switch the time on the stove, to change it on the microwave and let Apple [™] sort out the rest. I'll be sure to set two alarm clocks so as not to miss church!

The prophet Job once exclaimed, "My days a swifter than a weaver's shuttle."¹ And though I don't weave, I have seen a

shuttle in action. Two words: don't blink. Time goes by pretty fast, doesn't it? And though there is much emphasis on setting the clocks right two times a year, it seems to me that we are doing anything but taming the passage of our lives when we do so. Our only hope then is to, "mark the time we have, sanctify it, relax into it, enjoy it, and allow life to be shaped by the inevitability of its passage." ¹

You know how to do that better than anyone. You know what fills you up, what moves you, where you need to be to find peace, and where you can experience the liberation of recreation. It makes me smile to think of you all finding that place and my heart longs to hear of the way you bless that time. For there is no more perfect partner for the time that we have been given than the posture of prayer we take in the wake of its passage. "Time and prayer go together. All prayer is in time." ¹

For many of us, there is a particular pattern that we observe here at St. Luke's that seems to bridge both time and prayer. In its most basic form, it is comprised of three movements: thanksgiving, supplication, and doxology. You may recognize this as the pattern of a collect. Know that a treasure trove of these prayers await rediscovery and perhaps this weekend – maybe Saturday night – would be a good time to find one that particularly speaks to you before you move the dial forward. I wonder what such an action might reveal to you.

Whether we mark time this way or not there is one thing that will not change and that is the timeless narrative that belongs to you. At the heart of the church's year of grace we find ourselves living out our days in between the great markers of incarnation and resurrection. We are shaped by that story, by the time given to us, and by grace of a Lord that lives both in and out of time. All that is left for us to do is to be present to the moment before us, whether that means we move the hands of the clock forward or backwards. Eternity is entirely present always. Fr. Nick+

¹ Job 7:6

- ¹ Alexander, J. Neil. *Celebrating Liturgical Time: Days, Weeks, and Seasons*. New York: Church Publishing, 2014. 1.
- ¹ Alexander, 4





Emily Update: Emily's visitation with her children, age 8 and 10, resumed on Nov. 10 after the Nov. 2 hearing in Noble County. However, this is a complicated case, which is on-going. The ex-husband has gotten an attorney with the goal of stopping Emily's visitation. The current balance Emily owes is \$1,631.15. In addition, the attorney has asked for a new retainer by May 30 of \$2,500.

Now that the weather is nice, we have resumed having yard sales at Roseanne's house at 1328 S. Cherokee Ave. in Bartleville. Yard sales are planned for: March 20, April 3 and April 17. In May, Emily plans to sell sewn items at the Farmers Market and have a booth at SunFest.

To donate yard sale items, call Roseanne McKee at 918-287-8784, or drop by St. Luke's, or send a check to Murray Law Firm with Emily DeGraffenried on the memo line and mail to: 311 S. Duck St., Stillwater 74074.



Our Celebration of New Ministry on Feb. 24 was a festive and meaningful event recognizing the beginning of new chapter in the life of St. Luke's. Here's a sampling of a few of the photos from that important day not only for Fr. Nick and his family, but for every member as we move into the future with renewed faith and optimism.

Many thanks go to Bishop Poulson and Canon Eric, who conducted this wonderful ceremony, and to Sarah Smith, media and technology director of the Diocese, who took many photos at the event.





Thanks to an outpouring of support from throughout the state, the Diocese will be able to fund three summer camp scholarships at St. Crispin's in memory of our beloved Georgia Gates. To date, friends of Georgia have provided more than \$17,000 in donations and the Diocese has provided a \$10,000 match. Additional donations will help ensure that three and possibly more Georgia Lynn Gates Scholarship will be provided every year in perpetuity.

Georgia was the Happening Director, St. Crispin's Camp Director, youth leader for junior high and senior high conferences, and an active member of St. Luke's in Tulsa. Following her marriage to the Rev. Bob Gates, she became a much-loved member at St. Luke's in Bartlesville.

If you have not already done so, you can contribute by visiting <u>http://www.epiok.org/donate</u> and selecting "Summer Camp Scholarships." Or you can mail a check to: Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, Development Office, 924 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Please note that your donation is for the "Georgia L. Gates Scholarship."

Regular Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please note that even during office hours, the doors are locked per COVID-19 protocol.

If you need to come in, just ring the north entrance bell or call the office at 918-336-1212.

Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

<u>Thursday, March 11</u> 10:45 am – 1 pm: Becky Liehr, Kris Bonner, Kathy Zervas, Dolores McCreary

10:45 am – 1 pm: Darian Kedy, Becky Olsen, Jeff Birk



St. Luke's Prayer List

The prayer list can be found in the bulletin, which follows this newsletter in the Prayers of the People section.

Call or email our office with prayer requests at 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Sally Lindsey, Jeanne Julstrom.

Planning to attend the upcoming 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Sunday service?

If you have a standing reservation, there's no need to call. However, if you've not been attending regularly in-person – Reserve your spot by emailing to <u>office@episcopalbartlesville.org</u> or by calling 918-336-1212.

Alert on solicitations...

Be aware – No one from St. Luke's will request gift cards or other monetary support through email. If you receive such a message in your email, it is spam. All financial requests/special appeals at St. Luke's go through normal channels and any special requests will be made by phone or in person.

March Birthdays and Anniversaries, 10th – 17th

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Geraldine Wright, 10th Walt Gasior, 11th Shelley Hopkins, 11th Judith Chamberlain, 11th Paul Stuart, 15th Steve & Cheryl Van Aken, 13th Walter & Donna Allison, 15th David & Emily Nelson, 15th Bruce & Mary Ramzel, 16th

If your or a loved one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday or anniversary!





St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector 269-788-7063; <u>RevPhares@outlook.com</u>

Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist 918-397-4828; <u>dolo37@cableone.net</u>

Roseanne McKee, Office Manager/Assistant to Rector; 918-336-1212; office@episcopalbartlesville.org

Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.; 918-697-8509; <u>keelidroege@gmail.com</u>

St. Luke's Episcopal Church 210 East 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

St. Luke's Vestry Members

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Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's, visit our website at: http://episcopalbartlesville.org/

The Fourth Sunday in Lent March 14, 2021

10:00 a.m.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

210 Southeast Ninth Street Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn: #686 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" See page 10 LITURGY OF THE WORD

CelebrantBless the Lord who forgives all our sins.PeopleHis mercy endures for ever.

The Celebrant may say

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Celebrant then says

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 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*.

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.* Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Confitemini Domino

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, * and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim * that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; * from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; * they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food * and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, * and he delivered them from their distress.

- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them * and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy * and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving * and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Second 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 toward 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: "In Your Mercy, Lord, You Called Me" See page 11

The Gospel John 3:14-21

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

CelebrantThe Holy Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily: The Reverend Nick Phares

The Nicene Creed

(Please stand as you are able)

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. One 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

Celebrant

Almighty God we give you thanks for all of the blessings of this life and for the time that we have been given.

Intercessor

When our faith is weak and our hopes seem empty, come to us, Holy Spirit, and fill us again. You are rich in mercy and our need is deep. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lead us to let go of the burdens we carry: the guilt, the shame, our unrealistic expectations. Lead us to depend on you alone. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide each of us in the decision making of our common life: in our family relationships, our churches, and our communities. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord we give you thanks for the life and ministry of Lee and Lynda Stephens. Bless them and bless the faithful people of St. Bede's in their shared ministry together. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Draw us closer to your compassionate heart. We pray for those in pain, for those who worry, for those whose livelihood is fragile, for those who grieve. We pray for: **Milton** Enderlin, **Mary** Gillett, **Linda** Piper, **Terry** Piper, **Leaona** Dobbs, **Connie** Woods, **Tracy** Dobbs, **Liz** Green, **Matt** French, **Shellie** Greggs, **Suzanne** Reed, **Emily** DeGraffenried, **Joseph** Louis, **Lynetta** Jackson, **Lorrie** Loy, **Kyle** Frohlic, **Matt** French, **Michelle** Sheffield, **Catherine** Sheffield, **Sydney & Ed** Beasley, **Rob** Boyle, **Marcia** Zervas, **Aaron** Williams, **Luke** Karel, **Ada** Grillot, **Kaye** McGinty, **Bruce**, **Clara**, **Peggy**, **Joe**, **Sandra**, **Helen**, **Kristin**, and **Scott**. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Drive us into the world to be advocates for your expansive love among all the creatures you have created. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Receive those who have died into the arms of your abundant mercy especially Carl and Mary Lou Osburn. Lord in your loving kindness,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Announcements: Father Nick Phares

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Hymn: "When Christ Was Lifted from the Earth" See page 12

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer B

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give him 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

Celebrant and People



The people stand or kneel.

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.

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 [______ and] 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,

Celebrant and People

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.*



Setting: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant 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.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the people will receive the bread only.

Post Communion Prayer

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*.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn: #467 "Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love" See page 13

Dismissal

Celebrant: The Rev. Nick Phares Organist: Dolores McCreary Usher: Nancy Megee Layreader: Becky Liehr St. Luke's Episcopal Church 210 E. 9th Street Bartlesville, OK 74003 918-336-1212 www.episcopalbartlesville.org



Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

Music: Nettleton, melody from A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

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setting ©2008. Dolores McCreary

When Christ Was Lifted From the Earth



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936) from *The Hymnal 1982*, Hymn 603 Tune: *Georgetown*, David McKinley Williams (1887-1978)

Jesus Christ our Lord

