

SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RITE I - HOLY EUCHARIST 8:00 AM

PENTECOST 13 - PROPER 18

7 SEPTEMBER 2025

*God calls us the people of St. Luke's
to open wide our doors in the name of Christ:
To all who are young or old and need counsel:
To all who are strong and want a task;
To all who are lonely, weak or mourn and need comfort;
To all who are sinful and need a Savior;
To all who are weary and need rest;
To all who are left out and need acceptance;
To all who are grateful and need a place to give thanks and pray;
To all who are called by worship of the Lord into community outreach;
To all in Christ's name we say "WELCOME."*

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDES

*Etude No. 8, Op 46
("Andante cantabile")*

HELLER

Arabesque (No. 2)

DEBUSSY

OPENING ACCLAMATION:

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (*Congregation recites together.*)

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

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** Let us pray: (*Silence is appropriate.*) Grant us, O Lord, we pray thee, to trust in thee with all our heart; seeing that, as thou dost always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so thou dost not forsake those who make their boast of thy mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

(Please be seated for the readings from the Scripture.)

THE HEBREW TESTAMENT LESSON

JEREMIAH 18:1–11

We now encounter another prophetic parable and sign-action that provides a further indication of the nature and extent of Israel's unfaithfulness. The visit to the potter's house and the action of the potter is interpreted by the prophet as a sign and an analogy for the actions of God to Israel. God, the potter, retains complete mastery over the material (Israel) he uses, and the analogy between the potter working the clay and God fashioning human lives is an ancient and familiar one to the people. After the original pot had been spoiled, it was nonetheless reworked into another vessel. We may discern in this feature a positive message of hope indicating that God could begin to fashion his people Israel anew.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the Lord came to me: “Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan

against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.”

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

PSALM 139: 1-5, 12-17

With marvelous wisdom God alone perceives the heights and depths of life.

¹ Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

² **You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

³ Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

⁴ **You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.**

⁵ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

¹² **For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

¹³ I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

¹⁴ **My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the
depths of the earth.**

¹⁵ Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.

¹⁶ **How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!**

¹⁷ **If I were to count them, they would be more
in number than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

THE EPISTLE

PHILEMON 1-21

This reading contains most of the letter which Paul sent to Philemon asking that he receive back in love the runaway slave Onesimus who was voluntarily returning to him. Other information indicates that Philemon and Onesimus came from the community of the Colossians. Paul himself is now in prison, perhaps in Rome.

Onesimus means “the useful one,” and Paul describes him as a man who has now become very useful. Evidently he had recently been converted to Christ. Paul does not speak against the institution of slavery, but tells Philemon that his relationship with Onesimus is changed now that they are brothers in Christ.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #675

Take up your cross, the Savior said

THE HOLY GOSPEL (Please stand.)

LUKE 14:25-33

In our Gospel Jesus speaks of the necessity of counting the full cost of discipleship. To follow Jesus in the way of the cross means to surrender the whole of one's life. Any relationship which interferes with this primary commitment must be hated. Jesus

tells the crowds two stories to make them consider carefully whether they are ready and able to follow him completely.

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE REV. DR. BENJAMIN A. SHAMBAUGH, RECTOR

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 fully human.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following Jesus is expensive—it costs everything, but it is worth it. Let us pray to the God who has watched our growing throughout our lives, and loves us. We pray for The Anglican Church of Southern Africa and St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn.

Lord, there is nothing hidden from you. All our thoughts and plans and secret fears are open to you, even when we try to hide them. Deal with the doubts and misgivings and fears of your Church, with the love and mercy which are part of your nature.

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Lord, you feel for the oppressed and the forgotten; you understand the damage which can lead to violence, the insecurity which can lead to defensiveness, and the neglect which can lead to lack of control. Heal the nations; restore what has been lost; and turn our hearts to discern your will.

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Lord, you see the point at which discussions turn to arguments and preferences to selfishness. You know the love inside our hearts for one another that sings and dances and aches and worries. Work on us now in the depth of our being and bless our loved ones and this parish with a sense of joy.

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Lord, you suffer with those who suffer and weep with those who weep; we, too, stand alongside them now in whatever pain, distress or sorrow is engulfing them, longing for them to be comforted. Heal and bless those who have asked for our prayer, those on our parish prayer list (*pause*), the members of our armed forces serving at home and abroad, and all those affected by violence and war. We pray for the end of anti-

Semitism and all forms of hate, for the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Iran, and all troubled areas of the world.

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Lord, your death and resurrection proclaim the message of hope amongst the tears of our grieving for those who have died, especially *Deyo Trowbridge and Franklin Connor Trowbridge, in whose memory the altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Darlene Trowbridge.* Welcome all the deceased into the eternal light of your kingdom.

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Lord, your way may be costly but to whom else could we go? For you alone have the words of eternal life, and we offer you ourselves. We ask your special blessings on those who this week celebrate birthdays: *Bryan Murphy, Frederick Ayer, Christian Villeneuve, Mary Ann Karoussos, Jeff Gates, Doris Meister, Sophia Kirchgaessner, Lucy Villeneuve;* and anniversaries: *Bruce & Colleen Stonemetz, Justin & Amy Agnello, Dianne Benson & Lys Marigold, Steve & Suzanne Thorsen, Rainer & Kathleen Kirchgaessner, John Watson & Paul Sparks.*

Gracious God: **in you we place all our trust.**

Loving Creator, you are our life and our prosperity. We who make mighty plans know that before you they are little. Fill us with your wisdom; hear us and the needs of all the world, that we may care well for your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION, ABSOLUTION AND PEACE

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with thy spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*
Joy Jones, soloist

BOESIGER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER I

BCP 333

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Words of welcome (from the Iona Community): "Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been here for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here." Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. If you do not wish to receive wine, or only wish a blessing, cross your hands over your chest as you come forward.

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

O Lord, Thou hast searched me out
Joy Jones, soloist

GILCHRIST

HYMN LEVAS #144 *Where He Leads Me*

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Toccata on “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”* **CHERWIEN**

*Wine used for communion today was donated
in memory of Gina Lincks Dau by Herman Dau*

Eucharistic Ministers: Georgiana Mellgard (*Second Reading*),
Roy Parker

First Reading: Marcie Sohm

Prayers: Merle McDonald-Aaron

Altar Guild: Lynn Jerome, Diane Tutino

**THE FOLLOWING REQUEST OUR PRAYERS
FOR GOD’S LOVING AND HEALING MERCY:**

*George Kneip, Ken Miller, Evelina Langdale, Paulette Brinka,
Adele Sadiq, Julie Nielson, Ed Krug, Charles Lewis, Robbie Balnis,
Nick Marlin, Keith Scott, Courtney Wessling*

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday, September 14, Sunday School begins the fall session. Join Father Ben for “The Gathering” in Hoie Hall at 9:45am. Registration is open to all children from Pre-K—6th Grade. For registration forms or more info, talk to Christian Education Director Colleen Stonemetz: christianed@stlukeseasthampton.org.

THE ADULT FORUM: 9:00-9:45 ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

Come and discuss the lessons read at Sunday morning services.

FREE YOGA CLASSES RESUME SEPTEMBER 11

Free Yoga classes will be offered at St. Luke’s on **Thursdays at noon**. Classes are specifically designed for people in their 60s, 70s, and 80s, though all adults are welcome!

GREETERS AT 10AM

This lovely opportunity is open to everyone. It is another way to connect with one another, wear your Sunday best and get to know Oscar. Please sign up for a future date or email Dianne Benson at dianneb724@icloud.com for your place on the schedule.

CHOIR COMEBACK

We will have a pickup choir at the 10am service on the first Sunday of each month. Rehearsal will be after the 10am service the week before. For more information, contact Bobby Peterson.

COFFEE HOUR

The Pot-luck Coffee Hour has been so successful, we are keeping it going. Please continue to bring something to share! Don’t forget to retrieve your serving dish/utensils at the end of coffee hour from the kitchen.

The HAMPTONS FESTIVAL *of* MUSIC

Michael Palmer, Artistic Director

MUSIC AND ART IN CONCERT

MainStage Festival Orchestra Concerts

6, 11 & 14 September 2025

In Partnership with St. Luke's Episcopal Church
In East Hampton Village

Featuring

THE NEW
AMERICAN SINFONETTA

Mozart Symphony #36 - "Linz"

Also works by: Prokofiev & Barber
Saturday, 6 September 2025, 7PM
Hoie Hall, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings

Also works by: Stravinsky & Mozart
Thursday, 11 September 2025, 7PM
The Sanctuary, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Beethoven Symphony #4

Also works by: Cimarosa & Berlioz
Sunday, 14 September 2025, 4PM
Hoie Hall, St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Scan the QR Code
Or visit online for details and tickets: thfm.org

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

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REGULAR SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

Sunday Eucharist - 8 a.m. (Rite I) & 10 a.m. (Rite II)

Wednesday Eucharist Service - 10 a.m. (Rite II)

**Saturday at St. Peter's Chapel (Memorial Day-Labor Day) - 5:30 p.m.
(Rite II)**

VESTRY

Brian Craig, Senior Warden, David Mellgard, Junior Warden

Lucy Kazickas, Martha Murray, Eileen O'Reilly (2026)

John Hadden (Treasurer), Dan Mongan, Roy Parker (2027)

Caroline Dean, Hersey Egginton, Kitt Zuk (2028)

STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Benjamin A. Shambaugh, Rector

Robert Peterson, Music Director | Tara Brinka, Parish Administrator

Colleen Stonemetz, Christian Ed. Director | Oscar Giles, Verger

DIGITAL GIVING TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Your time, talent, and treasure are vital for St. Luke's to bring the Good News of Christ Jesus to the people of East Hampton and the world. You can contribute via the QR code below or by using Venmo (@StLukesEHNY). Or you can support our ministries by giving via our parish website: www.stlukeseasthampton.org.



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