

Vision Statement

Honor God’s Presence,
Celebrate Christ’s Love,
and Serve God’s People.

Our Mission

Honor God’s presence through joyful, reverent worship
that builds upon our traditions

Celebrate Christ’s love by nurturing all generations
through fellowship, education, and discipleship

Serve God’s people, near and far, with loving action and
generosity

The Reverend Dr. Kent R. Walley, Rector

The Reverend Phil Carr Jones, Part Time Associate Rector

The Reverend Canon John T. Morrow, Rector Emeritus

Dr. Brian Harlow, Organist/Choirmaster

Ms. Regina Schittig, Parish Administrator

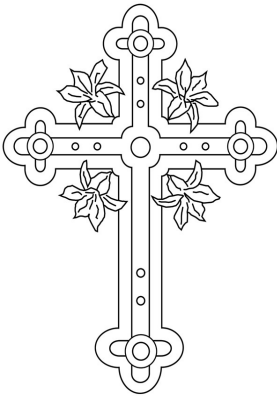
Mrs. Helene O’Neill, Director of Children’s Ministry

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ST. LUKE’S CHURCH

GLADSTONE, NEW JERSEY

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 19

HOLY CROSS DAY

Lord, Holy Spirit,

You are the kind of fire who does not cease to burn,

Consuming us with flames of love and peace,

Driving us out like sparks to set the world on fire.

— James K. Baxter

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I- 8:00 A.M.

SILENCE

The 8 am service is a quiet, spoken service which begins with a few minutes of silence to allow you to transition into this sacred time for worship. You might use that time to quiet the noise within, pray, and read the scriptures for the day.

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity	page 323
The Collect of the Day	
The Lord be with you. <i>And with thy spirit.</i> Let us pray.	
<i>O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</i>	
The First Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17	page 3
The Gradual: Psalm 51:1-3, 6-8, 11	page 4
The Gospel: Luke 15:1-10	page 5
The Sermon	The Rev. Dr. Kent Walley, Rector
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The Blessing and Dismissal	

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

9:30 a.m.

Organ Voluntary Concerto in A minor: I. Allegro II. Adagio J. S. Bach, after Vivaldi
The organ voluntary helps us transition into this sacred time for worship. As you listen you might seek to quiet the noise within, pray, seek the Presence of the Lord, and read the scriptures appointed for today.

Hymn in Procession 410

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

*¹ Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.*

*² Praise him for his grace and favor
to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.*

*³ Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows.*

*⁴ Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.*

Announcements

IMPORTANT – Tickets Required to Guarantee Admission to Robert George and Cornel West on November 6. Because we are expecting a lot of interest, we are offering tickets to this event. The tickets are free, but we cannot guarantee admission for those who do not have a ticket. We are waiting to invite other churches and the public to get tickets until St. Luke's parishioners have first had the opportunity. If you plan to go, don't delay. Get your tickets now. In mid-September other churches will be invited and then in early October we will invite the public via local media outlets. Tickets can be obtained at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cornel-west-and-robert-p-george-truth-matters-relating-across-difference-tickets-1625157683379?aff=oddtcreator>.

Bible Study – Learning to Pray with the Psalms: Practice and Theology

– Mondays at 12:30pm or Saturdays at 9:00am

The Psalms are literary masterpieces that have been cherished by millions for over 2500 years. They have been called the prayer book of the Bible or the hymnbook of ancient Israel. These divinely inspired prayers which express the full range of human emotions have much they can teach us about how to pray, but they also offer deep theological insights into the nature of God as well. In addition, the Psalms teach us about the relationship between the Old Testament and Jesus Christ in the New Testament. Led by our rector, Kent Walley, two small groups will gather on Mondays and on Saturday mornings to discuss how the Psalms can inform our devotional life and our connection to God. Additional resources will be provided that participants have the option to use in their private devotions throughout the week. No prior Bible Study knowledge or experience is required. All are welcome. The Monday Bible Study begins on September 15th and the Saturday morning study begins on September 18th. Join us! For more information contact Kent at rectorstlukesgladstone@gmail.com or 908-334-2942.

A Friendly Bequest Reminder:

You can leave a lasting impact! Consider remembering St. Luke's in your will. It's a heavenly investment with no market crashes and eternal returns. For more information, please contact Father Kent or Regina at 908-234-0002 or visit our website stlukesgladstone.org.

Thank you for considering this enduring act of generosity.

<u>LEADING IN WORSHIP</u>		
Sermon		The Rev. Dr. Kent Walley, Rector
Organ		Dr. Brian Harlow
Worship Leaders	9:30	Danae Heywood
Usher	8:00	Sorge Family
	9:30	Peyton Riley and Tom Spencer
Acolytes	8:00	Joe Sorge
	9:30	Cheri Carlson
Altar Guild		Allyson Gallup
Coffee Hour	10:45	Gallup Family

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR IN GREENE HALL AFTER THE 9:30 SERVICE

<u>THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE’S</u>		
The Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost		
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I —CH
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Ministry—CR
	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II—CH
	10:45 a.m.	Back to School Bash & 125th Art in the Park
	5:00 p.m.	Intersect Service with Praise Band—GH
Monday	12:30 a.m.	Rectors Bible Study—AR
Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice—TR
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice—AR
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Knitters—CR
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study—CR
The Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost		
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite I —CH
	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Ministry—CR
	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: Rite II/ Blessing of the Backpacks—CH
	10:45 a.m..	Back to School Bash—
	5:00 p.m.	Intersect Service with Praise Band—GH

NEWS AT ST. LUKE’S
St. Luke's Welcome Ministry encourages you to use our prayer/pew cards. Please place it in the offering plate, and our prayer group will address your concerns. If you are a visitor and would like information about St. Luke's, please fill out this card and place in the offering plate. We'll be in touch with you!

Opening Acclamation
Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People *And Blessed be God’s kingdom now and forever. Amen.*

Collect for Purity page 355
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.**

Gloria, S-280 *(found in front of Hymnal)* Powell
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

During the singing of the Gloria the children may go to Anne’s Garden


The Collect of the Day
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.
O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 51:1-3, 6-8, 11 *(sung by the choir, congregational refrain 3, 8, and 11)* Plainsong, Mode 4

Mode 4

Refrain



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God.

from Gradual Psalms for the RCL, ed. Bruce E. Ford, Church Publishing Incorporated

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me. **Refrain**
6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed. **Refrain**
11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me. **Refrain**
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.

Sequence Hymn 706

In Your Mercy, Lord, You Called Me

***1 In your mercy, Lord, you called me,
taught my sin-filled heart and mind,
else this world had still enthralled me,
and to glory kept me blind.***

***2 Lord, I did not freely choose you
till by grace you set me free;
for my heart would still refuse you
had your love not chosen me.***

***3 Now my heart sets none above you,
for your grace alone I thirst,
knowing well, that if I love you,
you, O Lord, have loved me first.***

The Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

The Blessing

Hymn in Procession 569

God the Omnipotent! King, Who Ordainest

***1 God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest
thunder thy clarion, the lightning thy sword;
show forth thy pity on high where thou reignest:
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.***

***2 God the All-merciful! Earth hath forsaken
thy ways all holy, and slighted thy word;
bid not thy wrath in its terrors awaken:
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.***

***3 God, the All-righteous One! Earth hath defied thee;
yet to eternity standeth thy word,
falsehood and wrong shall not tarry beside thee:
give to us peace in our time, O Lord.***

***4 God the All-provident! earth by thy chastening
yet shall to freedom and truth be restored;
through the thick darkness thy kingdom is hastening:
thou wilt give peace in our time, O Lord.***

Dismissal *Celebrant says the dismissal*

All Respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary Concerto in A minor: III. Allegro

J. S. Bach, after Vivaldi

The closing organ voluntary offers a time to reflect on how you have heard from God and experienced His Presence with you in this service today. What might you take with you for the coming week?

The flower arrangements on the altar are given by Kim Johnston to “Thank you Lord for this new season of opportunity... to hear you, know you, serve you, worship you.”

This Week’s Prayer List

The sick and their families, especially Bev Anderson, Elizabeth Spencer, Jeanette Breitenbach, Shirley Grisewood, William Trego, Jerri, Sandy, Clarissa Marvin, Charlotte Grace Griggs, Aleksia, Allyson Gallup, Robert Andruk, Gabriella, Bob Morris, Libby, Landon, Doug, Eddie Diaz, Sandra Antoniadis, Don Knudson, Pat Root, Macie, Heidi, Mike, Hilary, William Salzer, Karolina Badalmenti, the Derosa Family, Maureen McLaughlin, Suzanne, Kristina, Keith LaBar, Laura Leigh, Andrea, Diane, and Sally Leitzell.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Lord’s Prayer

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 Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

At the Communion 439

What Wondrous Love is This

The Prayer after Communion

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.

Glory to you, Lord Christ. (8 a.m.—*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*)

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

(8 a.m.—*Praise be to thee, O Christ.*)

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Kent Walley, Rector

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.***

Prayers of the People Form VI

The Leader and People pray responsively
Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.
For Donald our President and Phil our Governor; For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.
For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.
For members of the military especially, Peter Robinson, Michael Hess, Amanda Dunleavy, and their families, and for all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.
For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.
For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Sally our bishop; and Kent, and Phil our clergy and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.
For the special needs and concerns of this congregation., remembering the sick especially: Bev Anderson, Elizabeth Spencer, Jeanette Breitenbach, Shirley Grisewood, William Trego, Jerri, Clarissa Marvin, Charlotte Grace Griggs, Aleksia, Allyson Gallup, Robert Andruk, Gabriella, Bob Morris, Libby, Landon, Doug, Eddie Diaz, Sandra Antoniadis, Don Knudson, Pat Root, Macie, Heidi, Mike, Hilary, William Salzer, Karolina Badalmenti, the Derosa Family, Maureen McLaughlin, Suzanne, Kristina, Keith LaBar, Laura Leigh, Andrea, Diane, and Sally Leitzell.

Silence
The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord; ***For your mercy is great.***
We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence*

The People may add their own thanksgivings
We will exalt you, O God our King; ***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***
We pray for all who have died, especially, Charlie Sutton and Janet Parkin, recently departed, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence
The People may add their own petitions
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; ***Who put their trust in you.***
We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.
Leader and People
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution *(please remain kneeling)* page 360

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

Announcements
At the Offertory Amazing Grace arr. Russell Hayton

Doxology Hymn 380, stanza 3
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A page 361
Celebrant 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 God thanks and praise.
Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...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:

Sanctus, S-125 *(found in front of Hymnal)* Richard Proulx
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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