



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

August 16, 2020

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Greetings!

One of the things I love most about Episcopal worship is the balance it strikes between creativity and constancy. Our prayer book includes a number of different services from the daily offices to the Holy Eucharist. And even within a celebration of the Eucharist there are multiple versions. The result is, on the one hand, several possible worship experiences, and, on the other hand, a few basic frameworks which give us a sense of "common prayer."

In all my years as an Episcopalian, I don't think I have appreciated more the richness of our liturgical life than throughout these months of pandemic. And perhaps now, as we are "partially re-opened," the variety of liturgical options from which we can draw hold us together more than ever.

Likely you know we have resumed offering in-church worship. It has been a joy to see many of you—we are averaging 75 over the first two weeks—and a gift to receive once again the body of Christ. For those of you who have attended these services, thank you for being so responsible in wearing your masks (I love the design diversity), so patient in finding a socially distanced seat (even if it's not in "your pew"), and so restrained in your mingling (although we still could benefit from a bit more restraint here!).

Ever-mindful to limit risk as much as possible, Tanya, Rodney, and I continue to work on how to reduce the length of time actually spent inside the church (or auditorium). I know, some of you are thinking, "Well just don't preach so long!!" And, in fact, we will be preaching a

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Stay Connected



bit more briefly. So too will I try to make more brief my announcements. And we also will be shortening our Prayers of the People, publishing the names of all those for whom we might pray in the back of our bulletin (rather than reading off all the names), inviting worshipers in the pews to name out loud individuals of particular concern, and requesting that each of you join the clergy and pastoral care committee in holding all on our prayer list in your personal prayers. Our target duration is somewhere between forty-five minutes and an hour.

All of that said, let me also say, equally important and joy-filled for me has been our online Morning Prayer. After so many weeks of recordings, I can almost hear your voices and glimpse your faces as I stand in front of the camera. And I, for sure, feel a keen sense of worshipping with you, as I recite the canticles and prayers. Please know, nothing gives me more joy than to hear that you too find our online services feed your faith.

So, based upon your feedback and the latest statistical trends, we will continue offering both online and in-church worship. For those of you considering worship in church, I look forward to celebrating the Eucharist with you. And for those of you remaining at home, please do trust that geography does not alter the fact that together we engage in "common prayer."

Stay safe and be well.

Peace,

Tim

This Sunday at St. Luke's

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Click above for the lessons

Streaming Service of Morning Prayer.

Watch our worship service this weekend on [Facebook](#) or on [YouTube](#).

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the parish prayer list.

Reopening Announcement

Father Tim Announces Our Reopening!

We are so excited to welcome everyone back to St. Luke's!

Please [Click Here](#) to read Father Tim's Reopening Letter to the parish!

[Click Here](#) to view Father Tim's video message!

To Sign Up for Sunday Service using Sign-Up Genius, please [Click Here!](#)

We will also begin using a QR Code for our Sunday Bulletin which can be scanned by using a SmartPhone! This will give worshipers the option to view our bulletin on their phone during Sunday Service or to print the bulletin and bring it to the church.

We will provide hard copies as well.

Here Is The Sunday Bulletin QR Code:



OR

[Click Here](#) to view our Sunday Bulletin!

Sunday Social Hour

**Please join us for a virtual Sunday Social Hour at 5:00 pm this Sunday!
We look forward to seeing our St. Luke's Family!**

Zoom Meeting Information is below:

[Click Here](#) to join meeting. See below for Meeting ID and Password that will be needed to join.

Meeting ID: 823 6008 6238

Password: 870304

This information will also be posted on our Weekend Invitation to Worship!

Adult Faith Formation

The next book study to be
So You Want to Talk About Race
By Ijeoma Oluo

One of the powerful takeaways from our recently completed book study of *Virus: A Summons to Faith* was the observation by many that the concurrence of the pandemic with the violent deaths of George Floyd and several other African Americans has allowed us a particular opportunity for deep reflections on matters related to race. As one parishioner noted to me, "I don't know if this country would be having such a sustained conversation on race if everything else was humming along as usual."

I believe she's right. This is not a normal summer. We are not off on vacation. We are not hosting visitors who like to come to Rhode Island's beaches. We are not even going to the theater for some summer blockbuster release. It feels like this is a particular moment in time. In fact, I would go so far as to suggest this is what Christian scholars refer to as a "kairos moment."

Have you ever heard that phrase before?

One author described a **kairos moment** in this way: it is "**a moment of maximum opportunity. It is a moment when change is possible. It is an exquisite syncretistic moment when all things 'come together' and align.** I believe it is what the Bible refers to as 'the set time,' and what we in the church call, 'waiting for God's *best*.'"

So sensing the energy and urgency of this moment, I invite you to join me and the Adult Faith Formation Committee in reading, *So You Want to Talk About Race*, by Ijeoma Oluo. We have selected this particular book amongst a variety of possibilities because it provides such a rich, accessible, and personal examination of race in America.

Classes will gather by way of Zoom Wednesdays, going from 7:00-8:30PM. To purchase a book, either look in your local bookstore or purchase on line through Amazon.

I hope you'll join us for this important read. Although reading a book doesn't guarantee a deeper understanding of race-related issues, listening to the stories of one African American woman surely seems like a good place to start.

Peace,
Tim

[Click Here](#) to join our Adult Faith Zoom Meeting. See below for Meeting ID and Password:

Meeting ID: 844 8872 9233

Password: 993892

Community Kitchen Golf Classic

**Support the Renovation of
St. Luke's Community Kitchen!**

- Purchase a Tee Sign to promote a business/organization
- Be a Sponsor



Community Kitchen Golf Classic

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Potowomut Golf Club

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Monday, August 31, 2020

- Make a Donation
- **Invite others** to purchase a tee sign, be a sponsor, or make a donation!

To learn more, contact Event Co-Chairs Bill Warburton or Jon Jacaruso at ckgolfclassic@gmail.com

Or, visit the Community Kitchen Golf Classic website at: <https://communitykitchenclassic.eventbrite.com>

Thank you to all who have already registered to golf or support this fundraising event with your donations and sponsorships!

Tea Time Theology: Diocese of RI Podcast

The Diocese of Rhode Island has created a new podcast called **Tea Time Theology**. Below is a note from one of the people involved in this project announcing it to the Diocese. As with much in our Diocesan life, St. Luke's has been involved with this new effort. The audio and recording work has been done by Taylor Wilkey, and our Associate Rector was interviewed for an episode to air in June. Be sure to tune in and listen to voices from around our Diocese.

Hello Rhode Island Episcopalians!

Do you have questions about faith, church, and spirituality? So do we! Tea Time Theology is the new podcast sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island, whose goal is to create space to have real and meaningful conversations about faith.

Our first episode will be dropping on April 14th . Please follow our social medias! We are @teatimetheology on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. You will be able to listen on: Stitcher, Google Podcast, and The Apple Podcast App.

Thanks,
Ivy

Especially for Children

To watch Godly Play online please [Click Here!](#)

Mask Making and Free Masks and Gloves

If you are looking for something hands-on to do to help out during this time of COVID-19, here is a project that might be right for you. There is an increasing demand for face masks in our communities: both masks for medical professions and masks for every day use in the wider community. While we cannot make the N95 masks for medical professions, there are a lot of resources out there for making everyday masks. If you are a person who knows how to sew (sewer/sewist/master of the sewing needle) please consider joining the efforts of people around the country to make home-sewn masks. [The Mask Now Coalition](#) is one such organization sharing information and patterns for masks.

HOME DELIVERY OF FREE FACE MASKS AND SANITARY GLOVES

I will be glad to deliver free surplus blue face masks and white latex gloves to the homes of people who need them and will use them appropriately.

Please contact Timothy Barcott. 401-397-6700. Weekday evenings.

Creating Connections

As we seek ways to connect while we are physically apart we want to hear how you are doing! We invite you to share with us the ways you are finding joy, gratitude, and God in the midst of our physical separation. Take a short video, snap a photo, record yourself singing a song, write a reflection or poem, share a favorite prayer! Be creative! Please send your pictures, videos, and other reflections to us at connections@stlukeseg.org. As we receive these stories and reflection we are going to share them on our parish Facebook and Instagram accounts, as well as here in the St. Luke's Weekly. We are making joy, and grace, and gratitude, and God's love contagious!

Virtual Church

In addition to joining St. Luke's for virtual worship, we want to share with you other resources for being created around the Diocese and wider Episcopal Church.

The [Washington National Cathedral](#) is streaming Morning and Evening Prayer in addition to Sunday morning Eucharist. For those of you interested in finding worship that is of a high church expression [St. Thomas Church](#) on Fifth Avenue in New York is broad casting their Sunday morning worship. You also cannot go wrong tuning in to [St. Bart's](#) or [Trinity Wall Street](#).

There are also great opportunities closer to home. Many of the parishes of our Diocese are streaming different forms of worship. Try out saying morning prayer and evening prayer with [St. Paul's Pawtucket](#), or Compline with [ECC](#), or Stations of the Cross with [The Church of the Redeemer](#), Providence, or check out Virtual Emmanuel Church with the folks of [Emmanuel Cumberland](#). The Diocese is working on keeping a list of all the different options our parishes are providing. You can find that [here](#).

Here are some other resources to help you continue your life of prayer.

[Podcast version](#) Forward Day by Day.

[A Morning at the Office - Morning Prayer](#), also sponsored by Forward Movement

[Weekly Eucharistic Scripture Readings](#) from The Lectionary Page

[Morning and Evening Prayer in English and Spanish](#) from Mission St. Clare

If you have other resources that you think will be of help to members of our community please email them to [Fr. Tim.](#)

Looking for Helpers / Looking for Help

Several of you have already reached out, volunteering to help those in need. If you are healthy and in a low risk category, and would like to be added to a volunteer list please email our [Church Administrator](#). We are working on creating a team of individuals who can help out as the need arises.

With all of the precautions and guidance coming from the Governor, CDC, and the Department of Health, we are aware that some members of our community may have difficulty getting access to basics like food, medication, and other necessities. If you find yourself in need, please contact our [Church Administrator](#) for assistance.

Food Cupboard

Greetings from our Food Cupboard!

We are reaching out to update you on some of our needs during this challenging time. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our families that they are able to stay healthy and safe.

Please consider donating these items:

Hearty Soups, Jello, Pudding Mix, Ketchup, Chicken Stock, Cookies, Mashed Potatoes, Canned Garbanzo and Cannellini Beans

Thank you!
EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

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