



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

weekly

March 21, 2021

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Greetings!

I don't know about you but for me, it has been so hard to track time. I'm lucky if I know what day it is, much less the date. Which is probably why I can't believe that Palm Sunday is next week, March 28!

Although COVID has made it hard to plan too far in advance, we have been busy planning Holy Week services, and now seems like the time to share these plans with you.

As I hope you know by now, we will be resuming in-person worship this Sunday, March 21st. Both the 7:45 and 10:15 services will be held in the sanctuary.

For Palm Sunday, our schedule will be the same- 7:45 and 10:15. Although we will have to forgo the usual procession with palms, palms will be placed in the pews for all who attend. (Note: If you are not attending in-person worship but would like palms, you may come to church next week, Monday through Friday, during our regular hours of 9:00-4:00, and pick up a palm in the atrium.) Palm Sunday services will be pre-recorded and posted on-line, as we have done throughout these past several months.

During Holy Week, we will celebrate the Eucharist Monday through Wednesday, beginning at 7:00PM. As has been our custom for several years now, there will be guest preachers at each of these services. I am delighted to tell you that Eddy Lopez will preach on Monday, followed by Angie Howard-McParland on Tuesday, and Paul Brookes on Wednesday.

Maundy Thursday, we will gather for a celebration of the Eucharist and stripping of the altar, again beginning at 7:00PM. Although we are not able to enjoy our usual meal that night, I have no doubt the remainder of the service will be moving and powerful for all.

Stay Connected



On Good Friday we will have two services, a noon-time service, straight from the Book of Common Prayer, followed by our beloved Taizé service (with a reduced choir) at 7:00PM. Again because of COVID, we will not be able to linger at the foot of the cross that night, but there still will be an opportunity for each of you to place a lit candle in the surrounding sand.

Our Holy Week schedule concludes with three celebrations of Easter-7:30, 9:00, and 11:00AM. The 7:30 will be without a choir but Rodney will be present to offer his fine talents. I am excited to tell you that the 9:00 will be an outdoor celebration, weather permitting, behind Swift gym, complete with (limited) choir, brass and timpani. Please bring your own chairs or blankets for this service. If it is raining, we will move back into the sanctuary. And finally, regardless of weather, we will return to the sanctuary for the 11:00 celebration, again made festive by the accompaniment of choir, brass, and timpani. For the latter two services we will have additional seating, video and sound set up in the auditorium.

If you plan to attend any or all of these services, please make sure to sign up on-line, as our seating capacity remains reduced to ensure 6 feet of separation.

And for those individuals still unable to attend in-person worship, throughout Holy Week we will be livestreaming all of our services. (Note: This is a departure from our usual pre-recorded offerings.)

Last year, when we celebrated Easter distanced from one another with no respite from COVID in sight, it felt a bit as if Lent continued despite our Christian calendar. Hope might have been on our lips but it was absent from our hearts. This year, although my heart still aches to see you all, the Easter spirit of hope better matches our country's mood. There is new life that awaits us.

And for that promise I am moved to say, "Thanks be to God."

I look forward to walking through Holy Week with you all.

Peace,
Jim

This Sunday at St. Luke's

[The Fifth Sunday in Lent](#)

Click above for the lessons

Streaming Service of Morning Prayer.

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

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

The Rev. Tanya Watt, assistant rector, preaching

St. Luke's Social Hour

Virtual 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: 889 7757 6106

Passcode: 860459

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

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 Services using Sign-Up Genius, please
[Click Here!](#) for our March Sign-Up Genius and
[Click Here!](#) for our April Sign-Up Genius**

We will also be 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!

Lent Blog

Lent Blog

Seeking writers! This Lent, we are continuing our seasonal blog series where members of our community share their reflections on the day's scripture readings. If you would like to participate, we would love to hear from you! Whether you have written before or want to try it out for the first time, this is an opportunity for us to walk the road of Lent together even while we are physically apart. Please contact Mtr Tanya if you'd like to join: tanya@stlukeseg.org

Please visit our Lent Blog! To Subscribe, just fill in your email address in the Email Address Field in the right-hand sidebar and hit the Subscribe Button.... it's that easy! You will be automatically alerted by email every day a new blog post is published!

[Click Here](#) to view our Lent Blog!

Kid's Compline

Kid's Compline Service via Zoom

We are offering a new family friendly prayer service in the spirit of compline on Thursday nights at 7:00 via Zoom, crafted especially with children in mind.

Compline is a night prayer that marks the closing of the day. During Lent, we are invited to consider giving something up or picking something up, and this is an opportunity for families to pick up an enriching practice.

[Click Here](#) to join the service! Meeting information is below:

Meeting ID: 838 6319 3679

Passcode: 136624

Easter Flower Memorials

Easter Flower and Music Memorials

As in years past, we invite you to remember your loved ones this Easter season by making a memorial gift to St. Luke's. Although services will be different in this time of COVID, by your generosity, they still will include the beauty of both music and flowers. Please click on the link

below to fill out our Flower Memorial Form. Checks should be made payable to St. Luke's Church, Indicating "Flower Memorials" or "Music Memorials", suggested donation is \$10 per name. Email requests to cimondi@stlukeseg.org or Bring By The Office or Mail to: 99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818

[Click Here](#) to fill out our Easter Flower Memorial form! **Requests are due by March 20.**

Thank you for your generosity. May your loved ones continue to rest eternal with the communion of saints and may God bless you in the weeks to come.



Pledge Envelopes

If you have requested pledge envelopes,
they are located in the atrium.

Treasurer Announcement

From The Treasurer!

	2021 YTD	Budget	%	2020 YTD	Var
Pledge Income	\$113,826	\$116,000	98.13%	\$105,827	\$7,999
Loose Plate	\$1,549	\$3,600	43.03%	\$5,597	(\$4,048)
Other Personal Inc.	\$15,737	\$10,592	148.57%	\$15,198	\$539
Total Personal Inc.	\$131,112	\$130,192	100.71%	\$126,622	\$4,490
Total Other Inc	\$66,437	\$70,097	94.78%	\$4,255	\$62,182
Total Income	\$197,549	\$200,289	98.63%	\$130,877	\$66,672
Staff Expenses	\$72,533	\$74,795	96.98%	\$73,072	(\$539)
Facilities Expenses	\$13,231	\$19,170	69.02%	\$27,545	(\$14,314)
Program Expenses	\$2,489	\$5,750	43.29%	\$4,054	(\$1,565)
Outreach Expenses	\$1,769	\$369	479.40%	\$184	\$1,585
Total Expenses	\$105,403	\$113,400	92.95%	\$122,169	(\$16,766)
Net Income	\$92,146	\$86,889	106.05%	\$8,708	\$83,438

With a big thank you to all of you, we've had a strong start to 2021. Throw in the PPP loan and controlled spending, and we're right where we should be.

And can you sense the change in seasons? Optimism is in the air!

The weather is warming up, the vaccines are being rolled out, and we will be worshipping together on March 21.

Grace and Peace,
Mike

Covid Vaccine Update

EAST GREENWICH NEWS

Updated Article on Covid-19 Vaccines

Fully Vaccinated? Here Are Your Rules

by egnews | Mar 8, 2021

The CDC has unveiled guidelines for those who have been vaccinated, starting with, what qualifies for "fully vaccinated"?

According to the CDC, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If it has been less than 2 weeks since your shot, or if you still need to get your second dose, you are NOT fully protected. Keep taking all prevention steps until you are fully vaccinated...

[Click Here](#) to view the rest of the article!

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation - Wednesday Nights at 7 pm

We are reading *Seven Last Words: An invitation to a deeper friendship with Jesus*, by Fr. James Martin. Even the titles of the chapters are a source of comfort: *Jesus Understands the Challenge of Forgiveness*, *Jesus Understands Doubts about the Afterlife*, *Jesus Understands a Parent's Love*, *Jesus Understands Feelings of Abandonment*, *Jesus Understands Physical Pain*, *Jesus Understands Disappointment*, *Jesus Understands Self-Offering*.

What wonderful news! Jesus understands. We hope you will join us as we dive more deeply into this welcome invitation. Please read Chapter 5 in preparation for our discussion.

[Click Here](#) to join the meeting! Log-In information is below:

Meeting ID: 867 3899 9469

Password: 427552

St. Luke's RaiseRight Program

Spring Bonuses for You and St. Luke's!

Add new colors, fits and patterns to your wardrobe this spring. Purchase RaiseRight ecards and gift cards to shop trending styles for the whole family and raise money for St. Luke's!



Add the RaiseRight app to your phone today and help raise additional funds for St. Luke's! Scan the QR code below to get more details on the app. Most importantly, when downloading the app, please enter the following enrollment code to specify St. Luke's as your charitable organization of choice: FEB88LAC73L81



Create opportunities for what matters most to you—right from your phone. Buy gift cards from 750+ brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's simply the right way to fundraise.



Stay tuned for more information on this exciting opportunity to support St. Luke's!

Thank you,
Mark & Susan Cordle, Deborah Collins & Jeremy Stowe
Your Faithful RaiseRight Project Team

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Ministry

Prayer is a powerful way for us to support each other and build community. If you would like to add someone to our parish prayer list, please use the online Prayer List Request Form. It is available on our website under our Parish Life tab and here in our Weekly Newsletter. The prayer list is updated weekly. The Pastoral Care Ministry continues to pray for all on the prayer list and send cards to the homebound and those in the hospital. By filling out the information on this form, you will help us to keep in touch. [Click Here](#) for our Prayer List Request Form.

Thank you and stay well.

The Pastoral Care Ministry

St. Luke's Choirs

St. Luke's Choirs Sing for You!

As a special gift from the Canterbury, St. Cecilia, and Angel Choirs to our St. Luke's family and friends, choir members compiled a special 'arrangement' of "How Can I Keep From Singing". The music is from an American folk song originally composed by Baptist minister Robert Wadworth Lowry in 1868 with the four-part arrangement published by Jeffrey Honoré in 1991. The choirs performed this piece at their 2019 Spring Concert and happily recreated that performance in this video (also available on St. Luke's website and Facebook page).



St. Luke's Choirs Sing For You!

Big Brothers and Big Sisters

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Donations

In our continuing efforts to be a good neighbor and serve our local community, we have added a new addition to the St Luke's parking lot! The clothing bin is a result of joining in a new partnership between the Episcopal Diocese and Big Brother Big Sister of Rhode Island. It will serve as a collection point for community donations of clothing, shoes and other cloth items. Please drop off your bagged items at your convenience.



Especially for Children

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

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:

Canned mandarin oranges, canned pineapple, chicken and beef stock, hash, kidney beans, Italian dressing, ranch dressing, vegetable oil, regular instant coffee, and beef and chicken gravy.

Thank you!

EG Interfaith Food Cupboard

cimondi@stlukeseg.org | <http://stlukeseg.org>
99 Peirce Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818

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