St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Where all are welcome at the Lord's table

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost- November 8, 2026
8:00 am – Spoken 10:00 am- with Music

The flowers at the altar are given in celebration of the birthday of Connie Ryan, and in loving memory of Fr. David A. Ryan.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

(The people's responses are in bold.)

Prelude *Adora devote* Dale Wood
(based on Hymn 314 "Humbly I adore thee")

Processional Hymn 450 (omit * verses 4 and 5) *Coronation*

Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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: Hymnal S-280 setting by 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

Psalm 78:1-7 *(8am: Read responsively by half verse/10am: Sung by all)*

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



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1 Hear my teaching, O my /people; *
incline your ears to the words of my /mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a /parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient /times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have /told us, *
we will not hide from their /children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the /LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has /done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for /Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their /children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet un/born; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their /children;

(*Second half of the chant*)

7 So that they might put their trust in /God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his com/mandments;

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Sequence Hymn 68 *Llangloffan*

The Gospel **Matthew 25:1-13**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

The Sermon The Rev. John M. Fountain

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 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.

The Prayers of the People

My friends and siblings in Christ, all who humble themselves will be exalted. So let us appeal to God, praying, "We pray to you, O God; *good Lord deliver us."*

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Give to your Church humility. May our lives be pure, upright and blameless; may we, in word and deed, proclaim your gospel.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Give to this nation humility. May we find our greatness not in status or self-exaltation, but in service to others.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Teach us to handle your creation with humility. Bless the soil to bring forth a fruitful harvest for the hungry. Bless the springs to give drink for the thirsty.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Give to our city humility. You have blessed us with a good place in which to dwell. Renew the spirits of our languished. Put songs of thanksgiving in our mouth.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Give healing and strength to those who call to you from humble hearts. Lift the burdens of those who are heavy laden. Encourage the sick and sorrowful with your love, remembering especially Samantha Mossey, Linda Martin, Charlie Cronin, Phil B., Jennifer, Justin, Patricia DaPonte, Richard Sipka, Gary Martorelli, Jeff, Jan, Joe Barrett, Beth, John, Richard McCorkle, Fran Gammell-Roach, Pamela Van Siclen, and Ingrid.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

Humbly we adore you, O Christ. Your mercy endures forever. Bring those who have walked through the waters of baptism into that place of eternal life and promise.

Silence

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

We thank you for all the blessings in our lives, especially Cynthia Fogarty, Connie Ryan, Bob Batchelor, Monica Baker, Joel Gardner, Richard Benoit, and David Presbrey who are all celebrating birthdays this week. We also give thanks for Catherine & Joe Bowe, Ruth & Bob Batchelor, and Dotty & Richard Fleming who are all celebrating their anniversaries this week.

We pray to you, O God;
Good Lord, deliver us.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Exchange of the Peace

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem *Keep Your Lamps!* Spiritual
Ben Lovejoy, percussion arranged by André J. Thomas

Presentation Hymn 761 (verses 1 and 2): Green Hymnal *Wonder Love and Praise* *Holy Manna*

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 him 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. *Here a proper preface is said.* 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: Hymnal S-125 setting by 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 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 all 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.**

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.

(*8am*) **The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

(*10am*) **The Breaking of the Bread** (*refrain sung by all*) setting by Gary James



Choir: 1. The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. ***Refrain.***
2. One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. ***Refrain.***

Communion Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.
If you would like a blessing rather than communion, simply indicate so by folding your arms across your chest.

Communion Hymns 314 *Adoro devote*
324 *Picardy*
620 *Land of Rest*

Postcommunion Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Processional Hymn 579 *Melita*

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude *Psalm 19* Benedetto Marcello

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	8:00 Participants	**10:00 Participants**
Celebrant	The Rev. John M. Fountain	
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone	
Minister of Music	Rodney Ayers	
Livestream Operator:		Geo Borgia
Ushers:	Greg deGroot, Joe Cyganoski, Dede McGuire, Steve McGuire	Pam Dresselhouse, Mike Cerullo, Richard McCorkle, Mike & Lisa Ferry, Hal Cook, Tom Kenworthy
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Diane Benoit, Steve McLoughlin	Deb Lukens, Deborah Collins
1st Reading	Lee Hardgrove	Mike Ferry
2nd Reading:	Jan Prifty	Christoph Stretz
Prayers:	Harry Waterman	Dana Borgia
Acolytes:	Steve Capps	Savannah Kerr, Audrey Levesque, Charlie Knowlton
Altar Guild	Deb Britt, Lisa Ferry, Nora Hall, Linda Patrick, Carol Stevens, Mallory Walsh	

For those serving in the Armed Forces

Trav de Groot, Scott Marcus, Bryce Groshardt, Emily Cronin,
Brad Mitchell, and Caroline Rezendes

Longterm Prayer List

Tom Gunther, Colin Beauvais, P.J. Deschenes, John W., Donna Jordan,
Roz Waterman, Lisa Ferry, Ruth, Anne Cerullo, Margaret Thomson,
Ethel M. Wosencroft, Rod Viso, Rick Haverly, Evelyn Cipriano

St. Luke's Thrives, Thanks to You!

A Message from Your Senior and Junior Wardens

Dear St. Luke's Family,

What makes a church thrive?

Is it the beauty of our worship, the music that fills our sanctuary, or the ways we serve our neighbors? Is it the laughter of children, the friendships that sustain us, or the comfort of knowing there is a place where we are welcomed, valued, and loved?

We believe it is all these things. But most importantly, ***it is the people who come together in faith and make them possible.***

At St. Luke's, we are part of something bigger than ourselves. We are a community where people of different ages, backgrounds, and experiences come together to worship, to serve, to celebrate, and to support one another through life's joys and challenges. In a world that can feel uncertain, our parish reminds us of the goodness in one another and the hope we can create together.

We see that hope in the ways we show up for one another and for our wider community. Sometimes these acts are big and noticeable. More often, they are quiet and deeply personal. **Together, these acts are how we live our faith and make God's love visible in the world.**

As your Senior and Junior Wardens, we are grateful for the generosity and love that make St. Luke's such a special place. We also recognize our shared responsibility to ensure that it continues to be a source of faith, hope, and belonging for generations to come.

That's why we're asking you to make a financial pledge for 2027. Our parish-wide goal is a 4% increase in total pledges to sustain our ministries, meet rising costs, and build on the wonderful momentum we've experienced this year.

Every pledge matters, regardless of its size. We invite you to give prayerfully and in a way that is meaningful to you.

Because stewardship is about more than supporting a church budget. It is about investing in the community we believe in and the future we want to create together.

Thank you for the many ways you share your gifts and help make St. Luke's a place where faith is lived, love is shared, and everyone can find a place to belong.

St. Luke's thrives, thanks to you. And together, we can ensure it continues to thrive.

With gratitude,

Shareen Knowlton, Senior Warden
Neal McNamara, Junior Warden

ST. LUKE'S NEWS

Good News for God's People

Important Dates:

- **Lunch on the Hill, November 11 & 25**: 11:15 AM in the Dining Room
- **Parish Office Closed in Observance of Veteran's Day, November 11**
- **No Bible Study & No Holy Eucharist *with Prayers for Healing*, November 11**
- **Confirmation Sunday, November 15:** 10:00 AM Service
- **Theology on Tap, November 16:** 6:30 PM in the Dining Room
- **Loaves & Fishes, November 21:** 9:30 AM at the St. Luke's then off to Woonsocket
- **Advent Wreath Making, November 22**: 11:30 AM in the Auditorium- *see E-News for more details!*
- **Grief Support Group, November 28**: 10:00 AM in the Blackburn Room
- **CCK Dinner, November 30:** 5:30 PM in the Dining Room

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer takes place Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings at 8:30 in the Sanctuary. We pray the morning office and spend a little time afterwards discussing the daily readings. Everyone is welcome; join in as your schedule permits!



YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

- **Wednesday, November 11:** No Wednesday Programming
- **Friday, November 13:** No Fun & Faith Friday Youth Group
- **Sunday, November 15:** Bishop's Visit & Confirmation Sunday
- **November 20-22:** Fall Youth Retreat at ECC
- **Wednesday, November 25:** No Wednesday Programming
- **Friday, November 27:** No Fun & Faith Friday Youth Group
- **Sunday, November 29:** No Sunday School

New to St. Luke's? Welcome!

We're glad you're here! Fill out our Google Form by scanning the QR code, or fill out the Welcome Card in your pew to stay connected with St. Luke's.

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Many thanks to those who have already submitted pledges for 2027!

2027 Pledging as of 11/08/26		2026 Pledging	
Overall		Overall	
Average	3896	Average	2867
Median	2310	Median	1800
Mode	2000	Mode	1200
Total raised	249354	Total raised	639317
Left to go	400646	Left to go	0
Percentage of Total	38	Percentage of Total	103
# of Pledges	64	# of Pledges	223
# of active/new	393	# of active/new	364

St. Luke's thrives, thanks to you!

Haven't pledged yet? Use the QR code above to pledge online. You can also submit a pledge card to the parish office in person, or by mail.

LOAVES & FISHES -- Saturday, November 21

Loaves and Fishes is a collaborative food ministry supported by St. Luke's and several local churches. Through your generous donations and support, we are able to continue serving our neighbors in need. On the third Saturday of each month, St. Luke's provides hamburgers and other meal items to individuals in Woonsocket. Guests receive a bagged lunch and a hot meal. Seasonal clothing items are also available.

The next run is on November 21, and we are asking for long-sleeved T-shirts, sweatpants, hoodies, body wipes, white socks and underwear for men and women. We have also added toiletries to include shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and hand warmers. It is appreciated if all donations of food and clothing can be in the St. Luke's kitchen by 9:30 AM on November 21, 2026.

Please see the November 8th E-newsletter for more details and to use the SignUpGenius link for donations.

Your generosity is most appreciated. It allows St. Luke's to continue helping those in need.

Advent Blog Series – 2026

Beginning November 29 and running through December 25

In what has become a tradition at St. Luke's, parishioners are invited to read, reflect, and write on daily readings.

Interested in writing a blog? Contact Betsy @ efornal@aol.com

2026 Advent Blog

Click on the QR code, visit our Advent Blog Series 2026 page (https://stlukeseg.org/advent-blog-2026) and subscribe for automatic email notifications when new blogs have been posted!

Previous blog subscribers are automatically signed up.


WE
WILL TELL
to
the
coming
GENERATION
of your
GLORIOUS DEEDS