



September 27, 2020

“Which of the two did the will of his father?.” – Matthew 21:31

# ST. LUKE'S SUNDAY PAPER

OUR MISSION IS TO JOYFULLY SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST!

## Virtual Coffee Hour

Join us for 10 to 15 minutes after the service to meet other St. Luke's worshippers. At the end of the 10:00am Sunday service, Zoom will assign folks to breakout rooms, where a smaller number of people can chat. We ask that people introduce themselves and then answer a thought-provoking question to get the conversation started. This week's question: "If you won the lottery, what would be your first big splurge?"

## Rector's Forum – *Sundays at 11:30am following the Worship Service*

Each Sunday, The Rev. John Mennell will host a weekly forum after worship at 11:30am using the same Zoom link as the worship service. The Rector's Forum is an opportunity reflect on the morning service, engage in theological reflection on current events, and get updates about what is happening at St. Luke's.

- *September 27 - Signs in the Times.* We will gather and look at headlines from the past month and reflect theologically on what they mean for us and what our call to action looks like.
- *October 4 – Creation Care.* As we celebrate the feast of St. Francis, we are called to remember our work as stewards of creation. We will look at scripture, tradition and current events to shape our understanding.
- *October 11 – Re-Imagining Our Generosity.* This morning we will hear the story of a wedding banquet from Matthew's gospel and ponder what we need to do and how we need to live to be part of the kingdom of heaven.

If you have questions or ideas for topics you would like discussed at the Rector's Forum, please contact The Rev. John Mennell at [mennell@slechurch.org](mailto:mennell@slechurch.org).

## In-Person Worship Update

We will return to in-person worship, but we don't know when. The Vestry had an extensive conversation at our September meeting and the consensus was that it seemed wise to hold off on in-person worship for the time being. We know this is frustrating to some who are anxious to get back into church. We all want to be together, but we are also aware of our Christian responsibility to protect each other. Every time we venture out of our homes, we are increasing our risk, and potentially putting others at risk. Experts in the field of infectious disease continue to warn of potential spikes in cases in the coming fall and winter months. The most effective defenses we have right now are to wear a mask and wash our hands when we must go out. Flu shots are particularly important this year. **If you have a need or desire to be in the church please contact the Rector – The Rev. John A. Mennell ([mennell@slechurch.org](mailto:mennell@slechurch.org)) directly to see what arrangements can be made.** For more information on the progress of the committee working to make in person worship possible, you may contact the Rector or Sr. Warden Wendy Drake-Schneider ([drake-schneider@slechurch.org](mailto:drake-schneider@slechurch.org)).

### **Drive-through Pet Blessing** – *Sunday, October 4 from 1:00 – 3:00pm*

Join us in front of the church—from the physically safer distance of your car—for the 2020 version of our annual Pet Blessing honoring the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. If you would like a blessing for you, your pet, or both, drive by the front of the church on Sunday afternoon, October 4, between 1:00 and 3:00pm. You will be asked to stay in your car and the clergy offering the blessing will not touch your pet, but the spirit of God's love will touch us all.

### **Youth Group Fall Kickoff** – *Sunday, October 10 from 3:00 – 5:00pm*

It's time for the relaunch of Youth Group! The Kick-Off will be October 10th from 3-5pm. We will be meeting outside on the lawn of St. Luke's (assuming it doesn't rain). My plan is to have lawn-style games like corn hole and slam jam that lend themselves well to social distancing and if wanted maybe social distance kickball. I'll come up with some stuff for our more reserved kids. Masks and social distancing will be enforced.

### **Spiritual Explorers Book Club** – *Monday, October 5 at 7:00pm via Zoom*

Join us each month for an informed discussion about books that shape our understanding of faith. Recently our focus has been on articles and shorter readings for discussion. Please contact Walter Booker at [booker@slechurch.org](mailto:booker@slechurch.org) for links to the articles and the Zoom meeting.

### **Toni's Kitchen – The Work Continues**

Toni's Kitchen has continued to expand operations to meet the increased (and growing) need in our greater Montclair community. We salute the volunteers and donors who have made it possible for us to expand from 4,200 meals per week to *over 20,000 meals* currently sent into the community on a weekly basis—work garnering wide attention through articles in *Episcopal New Service* and *AARP*. Please consider supporting the ongoing work being done to serve our brothers and sisters in need. Visit [toniskitchen.org](http://toniskitchen.org) to donate, learn more, or register as a volunteer.

### ***Join us throughout the week for these opportunities to Connect, Worship and Contemplate***

#### **Join Us for Noonday Prayer** – *Monday - Saturday via Facebook Live*

This service lasts 10-15 minutes and is accessible to all at [facebook.com/pg/SLECMontclair/videos](https://www.facebook.com/pg/SLECMontclair/videos) (no account needed). Find the Order of Service and Prayers of the People on the website.

#### **Contemplative Prayer** – *Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm via Zoom (link in calendar on website)*

Does your soul long for quiet in this time of anxiety? St. John of the Cross said, "Silence is God's first language. Everything else is a poor translation." We invite you to join our meditation group that meets virtually at 6:00pm on Wednesday evenings to transform our fear into love.

#### **Join Us for Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Rev. John Mennell and Rev. Peter Savastano continue to offer Evening Prayer on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. You may access the service on Zoom via the worship link on our website.

#### **Congregation Connection** – *Thursdays at 7:00pm via Zoom*

We have started a pilot using Zoom for community gathering in small groups during this COVID time. It's made a real impact on us to have the opportunity to meet virtually, sometimes over coffee (sometimes over wine) and catch up, share what's going on in our lives, and even kvetch a little. We encourage you to consider joining this effort. It's a great opportunity to get a respite from quarantine fatigue and connect with your community at St. Luke's. Send an email to [info@slechurch.org](mailto:info@slechurch.org) to be included, and join us via the Zoom link in the St. Luke's calendar at [slechurch.org](http://slechurch.org).

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, September 27, 2020

8:00am Worship  
 9:00am Celebrate!  
 10:00am Worship  
 11:15am Fellowship  
 11:30am Rector's Forum  
 5:00pm Toni's Kitchen Dinner

### Monday, September 28, 2020

12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live

### Tuesday, September 29, 2020

12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live

### Wednesday, September 30, 2020

12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live  
 6:00pm Contemplative Prayer  
 7:00pm Evening Prayer

### Thursday, October 1, 2020

11:30am Toni's Kitchen Meal  
 12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live  
 7:00pm Congregation Connection

### Friday, October 2, 2020

11:30am Toni's Kitchen Meal  
 12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live

### Saturday, October 3, 2020

10:00am Morning Prayer  
 11:30am Toni's Kitchen Meal  
 12:00 Noonday Prayer on FB Live

### Sunday, October 4, 2020

8:00am Worship  
 9:00am Celebrate!  
 10:00am Worship  
 11:15am Fellowship  
 11:30am Rector's Forum  
**1:00pm-3:00pm –  
 Drive-Thru Pet Blessing**  
 5:00pm Toni's Kitchen Dinner

### **Upcoming Events:**

October 10: Youth Group Fall Kickoff

**Zoom links for all events can be found on the St. Luke's calendar on our website, [slechurch.org](http://slechurch.org).**

## ST. LUKE'S SERVERS & LITURGICAL LEADERS

	<b>This Week September 27</b>	<b>Next Week October 4</b>
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. John A. Mennell	The Rev. John A. Mennell
<b>Organist</b>	Jim Millar	Jim Millar
<b>Preacher</b>	The Rev. Dr. Sonia Waters	The Rev. John A. Mennell
<b>Cantor</b>	Kelly Wenz	Pete Tamburro
<b>Audio Eng'r</b>	Stephan Wojtecki	Stephan Wojtecki
<b>8:00 AM</b>		
<b>Virtual Verger</b>	Chelle Wilson	Stevie Tryson
<b>1st Reading</b>	Vern Endo	Sue Singer
<b>Psalm</b>	Vern Endo	Sue Singer
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Joy Endo	
<b>Intercessor</b>	Maureen Otto	
<b>9:00 AM</b>		
<b>Psalm</b>	Miles Perkins	Mason McDonnell
<b>Confession</b>	Emma & Etienne Gambis	Christian Sullivan
<b>Creed</b>	Navya Frederick	Quinten & Linus Fantozzi
<b>10:00 AM</b>		
<b>Virtual Verger</b>	Amrita Frederick	Stevie Tryson
<b>1st Reading</b>	Rachel Anne Moore	Roxie Zeek
<b>Psalm</b>	Sara Nally & Jim Goodmann	Monique & Lou Balsamo
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Dyan Bryson	Karen Thompson
<b>Intercessor</b>	Barbara Andrews	Liz Perez

In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation to the Rector's Discretionary Fund in honor of a loved one's birthday, anniversary, or special event.

*To make a donation or dedication, please contact Chris in the Parish Office at [corso@slechurch.org](mailto:corso@slechurch.org).*

### **Check Out and Update Your Profile!**

Did you know that you have a profile in our database with basic contact information? We would love to see your profile updated with your birthday and even a current photo. This is also a great way to access your giving history or set up automatic payments. You can log in to the database via the "Log In" link on the website. Please contact Chris at [corso@slechurch.org](mailto:corso@slechurch.org) for information and access.

### **Zoom Connection**

We hope you have been able to join us for Zoom conferences and meetings. If you have any issues connecting, please reach out to Chris Corso in the (remote) Parish Office at [corso@slechurch.org](mailto:corso@slechurch.org) and she will do her best to guide you.

## **America to Me: Real Talk Montclair** – Wednesday, September 30 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Still curious about your own racial literacy and how it impacts your ability to identify and address racial inequity in our town? Join the **America to Me: Real Talk Montclair** project on **September 30th from 6:30 - 9:00pm** via Zoom for a conversation with NYU professor Dr. R. L'Heureux Lewis-McCoy and Montclair High School student leaders. Register at <http://bit.ly/MFEE0930>.

This kick-off event features Dr. R. L'Heureux Lewis-McCoy, Associate Professor of Sociology of Education at New York University and author of *Inequality in the Promised Land: Race, Resources, and Suburban Schooling*. Dr. Lewis's scholarship focuses on issues of race and equity in predominantly white communities. He will talk with Montclair High School students who helped organize the Student Unity Walk, to discuss their experiences and their advocacy.

For those who are interested, please stay for the second half of the evening for a peek at the Watch Group process, led by Dr. Bree Picower and Dr. Tanya Maloney, Montclair State University, and co-facilitators for America to Me Real Talk Montclair. At the end of the evening, you will learn how to sign-up to join the Watch Group Leader trainings, or to join a Watch Group later this fall.

Interested in learning more about the Watch Group program, and potentially signing up to join? Learn more at [mfee.org](http://mfee.org) or contact hem at [info@mfee.org](mailto:info@mfee.org) or (973) 699-3599.

## **Cross Roads Offerings**

Cross Roads Camp & Retreat Center has designed creative virtual offerings for reflection and action in this challenging and uncertain time. Learn more and register for these opportunities for connection at [crossroadsretreat.com](http://crossroadsretreat.com) (registration fees support the work of Cross Roads).

- *Women's Retreat "The Way of Love"* Choose from several dates to partake in a one-day virtual retreat. Join via Zoom from 10:00am to 4:00pm on 10/10 or 10/11.
- *Wednesdays Away*: A time of spiritual renewal held on the first Wednesday of each month from 10:00am until Noon.
- Rally for Cross Roads: This virtual 5K run/walk will be held on Saturday, October 3.

## **Church Leader University** – Saturday, October 3 via Zoom – **Registration Required**

Stay at home and join the diocese for workshops relevant to this extraordinary time! There is no cost to participate, but registration is required at [dioceseofnewark.org/clu-fall-2020](http://dioceseofnewark.org/clu-fall-2020), where you can also find more information about the schedule and workshops being offered.

## **Community Resources**

Our St. Luke's family continues to support one another in this time of separation. Please also know of the following resources in our community:

- NJ Mental Healthcare (866)202 HELP (4347)
- Peer Support and Suicide Prevention (855)654-6735
- Domestic Violence (800)572-SAFE
- Addiction Resource has compiled a list of resources at this link: <https://bit.ly/3i64R02>

## GROUNDED IN PRAYER | THE PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please join us in these prayers, and your own, this week:

We pray fervently for the stop of the spread of the Corona Virus,  
for the development of an effective vaccine, for those who are immune compromised,  
and for those who have been infected.

We pray for the end of all gun violence.

We pray for peace in Syria, Israel, Palestine, all areas of unrest,  
and for those suffering the effects of natural disasters.

We pray for the end of racism and the racial injustice that is so ingrained in our society, and  
that we may be part of God's new creation that faithfully honors all of God's children.

We pray for those beginning a new school year as students, parents, teachers, and  
administrators, that they may stay safe and find enrichment and community.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy; wardens; vestry and people of  
St. Michael's Church; Wayne,  
Holy Trinity Church; West Orange, and  
St. Peter's Church; Washington.

We pray for those of our parish family who celebrate birthdays this week, especially:

Jill Eden on September 27,  
Walter Booker, Jr., Kitty Kaweck, Toni Mennell & Kayode Oyegbite on September 29,  
Emma Rodriguez & Leah Gay on September 30,  
Callie Kulhan & Ella Benjamin on October 1,  
and Lamaya Ticzon on October 3.

We pray for those putting themselves at risk to serve others, including  
first responders, delivery persons, grocery store clerks, Toni's Kitchen workers,  
and other essential workers.

We pray for our families, that we may have patience with each other in close quarters  
and connection with those at great distances.

We pray for those members of our parish family who are sick or troubled, especially:  
Lou B, Elle M, Rachel S, Jim H, Noriko L, Dan H, Mitchell & Teresa M, Jeff, Barbara S,  
Sharon A, Ginni Z, Ed B, Tom L, Carol A, Jiyeon P, Mary C, and Kayla H.

We pray for all who have died.

We continue to pray for:

Elena L, Adrianna D, Marie, Thomas, Lili, John M, Betty M, Liz S, Ellen M, Suzanne P, Marcelle G, Liz P, Anne M, Gerry K, Safia A, Robin W, Lysette H, Marjorie S, Larry C, Anne M, Dan S, John S, Chap O, Nick B, Kristin O, Rob R, Mark E, Francoise V, Denny C, Kevin D, the unemployed, and our guests at Toni's Kitchen.

*To include someone on the prayer list,  
please email The Rev. John Mennell at [mennell@slechurch.org](mailto:mennell@slechurch.org).*

**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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