

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

1391 S.W. 11th Street – P.O. Box 1238 Live Oak, FL 32064

Church Office: (386) 362-1837

Father George's Cell: (386) 249-2431

The Rev. George L. Hinchliffe, Rector

The Rev. Phyllis Doty, Deacon

Sunday Eucharist: 9:00 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Adult Sunday School: 9:50 a.m.

Wednesday Eucharist/Youth: On Vacation

Nursery Available Sundays 8:50a.m.-12:15p.m.

Vestry

Mike Cameron, Senior Warden

Barbara Mann

Marion Harvard, Junior Warden

Hal Airth

Lee Harvard, Treasurer

Cameron Simpson

Anne Doswell, Asst. Treasurer

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Processional Hymn – Hymnal 1982 - # 74 “Blest be the King

Leader: Love's memory is long. As we come to the last Sunday of Advent, we recall the many times we have been here before with still so much to do and so much love left unexpressed. The Old Testament lesson we will soon hear recalls a promise to King David, which the church has often understood to be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus. Love's promise is often kept in unexpected ways.

All: God's love endures forever. In a world where even evergreens turn dry and brittle, God's love is the one reality on which we can rely. Today we prepare for the greatest expression of that love, as we listen once more for the Word in the words.

Leader: A reading from the Isaiah (7:10-16),

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

All: God's love endures forever. Through acts as simple and common as the birth of a baby, God transforms the world, and God's promises are kept.

It is that expression of faithful love we anticipate and celebrate this day. It is that promise that brings light to our deepest night.

Leader: So, as we light the fourth candle in eager anticipation of God's greatest promise fulfilled, what else can we do but name this candle Love?

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.***

The Celebrant may say

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.

Kyrie- Yellow Book – #60

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen***

A reading from the Prophecy of Micah (5:2-5a)

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7

Page 702, BCP

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.*

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
**stir up your strength and come to help us.*

3 Restore us, O God of hosts;
**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

4 O LORD God of hosts,
**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?*

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.*

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*

7 Restore us, O God of hosts;

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

The Epistle

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (10:5-10)

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' in the scroll of the book it is written of me."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God***

Gradual Hymn – Hymnal 1982 - # 640 “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (1:39-55)

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Hymn – Hymnal 1982 - # 436 “Lift up Your Heads”

The Sermon

The Rev. George L. Hinchliffe

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 Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Priest says

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

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn- 1982 Hymnal- 112 “In the Bleak Mid-winter”

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing

Hymnal 1982 - S129 – Sanctus (*service music is located in the front of the 1982 Hymnal and prefixed with the letter “s”*)

Celebrant and People

**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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into

covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his

resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]

[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.]

[Remember _____.]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

***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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Hymnal 1982 – S161 – Agnus Dei (*service music is located in the front of the 1982 Hymnal and prefixed with the letter “s”*)

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn - Hymnal 1982 # 343 “Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless”

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

***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.***

Blessing: *The Priest offers a blessing.*

Recessional Hymn – Hymnal 1982 - # 66 “Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus”

The Deacon, dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

The People respond Thanks be to God.

PRAYER LIST The prayers of the parish are requested for: Fr. John Dixon, Larry Coleman, Brittany Smith, Morgan Shrubbs, John Evan Burt, Flora McCall, Barbara Leone, the survivors and families of victims of Hurricane Michael, Raymond George, Jeannie Bey, The Rev. Godsmark, Dotty Stone, Lucy DeMartino, Dina James, Bob Davis, Jim Poulos, Terrance Webb, James & Jackie Kent, Eleanor Bennett, Sue Mobley, Elaine Fletcher, Craig Jacobsen, Bill & Diana Kosty, Mildred Weaver, Tyla Edwards, Marjorie Harner, Jean Peters, Jane Davis, Gail Mickel, Laura Ann Fouraker Gardner, Linda Sealy, Austin Richmond, Hasan, Sister Maria Ann, Susanne Walters, Russell Johnson, Don Noel, Nikki Landrum, Phyllis Taylor, Bob Stross, Janice Revet, Pat Ritter, Robert Cannon, Chris & Kathy Thomas, The Thomas family, Cole Thomas, Gwyn Herrington, Carolyn Crosby, Mendy Morgan, Darlene Jones, Christine Bush, Mary Giddens, and Nick Poulos

Our soldiers deployed: Jonathan Richichi, James Smith, Casey Brewer, Sean Beegle, Cody Beegle, Edward Owen and stateside; Marshall Boggus, Lincoln Queale, Brent Trost, Dillon Ellis, Andy Chamberlain, and Robert Ice.

Pray for the Diocese of Cuba, our companion church: Fielés á Jesus, and their rector Mtr. Tulia. Pray for Dukatole and the children. St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Madison, The Shepherd's Hands of the Suwannee Valley Free Clinic, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church - Newberry and their new school.

CYCLE OF PRAYER: Emmanuel in Welaka, Mediator in Micanopy, St. Francis in the Field in Ponte Vedra, St. Philip's in Jacksonville, St. Joseph's in Newberry and St. John's in Tallahassee

ALTAR FLOWERS: are given by the Jacobsens to the glory of God and in celebration of Sara Craig's birthday.

CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST services at 6pm and 11pm December 24th. This marks the beginning of the twelve days of the Christmas Season. Please join us to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

***Please join us for the Pre-Service Carol Sing at 10:30pm before the service. The choir has been working hard this year.

CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY EUCHARIST service at 9 am Christmas morning. This is a great service for those who do not want to drive after dark, but still wish to come celebrate the birth of Jesus with Holy Eucharist. Merry Christmas!

THE WOMEN'S DINNER! It will be on MONDAY, **January 7th** at 6:00. It was moved to a later date because of New Year's Day. Try something new this year and come join your sisters in Christ for a relaxing meal and a time of friendship and support.

BISHOP'S VISIT - Bishop Dorsey Henderson, Assisting Bishop of the Diocese of Florida and retired Bishop of Upper South Carolina will be visiting St. Luke's on **January 13th**.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be held **January 27th at 10:00**, between the 9am and 11am services. Business will include an update of the business at the 176th Diocesan Convention, the final adoption of the 2019 budget, and the election of new vestry members.

