



Festal Eucharist
for St Luke the Evangelist
with
Spiritual Communion
(Order One – Eucharistic Prayer B)
In Time of Pandemic

WELCOME

Welcome to our service of the Eucharist – our small sacrifice of thanksgiving - on this, the Feast Day of St Luke, from Corhampton in the Meon Valley in Hampshire.

Luke was a dear friend of the apostle Paul, and is mentioned three times in the New Testament Letters.

He is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament, firstly the gospel which stands in his name and also the Acts of the Apostles.

Luke makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of gender, social position or nationality.

INTROIT HYMN Rejoice in God's Saints

1. Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.
2. Some march with events to turn them God's way;
some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood:
our world is their parish; their purpose is God.
3. Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
who bear someone's cross or shoulder their own;
they shame our complaining, our comforts, our cares:
what patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!
4. Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
the way of self giving, Lord, leads us to you.

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days!

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)

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HANOVER

William Croft (1678 – 1727)

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COLLECT FOR ST LUKE

Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 35.3-6

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

A Reading from St Paul's Second Letter to Timothy

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message.

At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

2 Timothy 4.5-17

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN Saviour who didst healing give

- 1 Saviour, who didst healing give,
Still in power go before us;
Thou through death didst bid men live,
Unto fuller life restore us; Alleluia
Strength from thee the fainting found,
Deaf men heard, the blind went seeing;
At thy touch ~~was~~ vanished sickness,
And the leper felt new being. Alleluia
- 2 Thou didst work thy deeds of old
Through the loving hands of others;
Still thy mercies manifold
Bless men by the hands of brothers; Alleluia
Angels still before thy face
Go, sweet health to brothers bringing;
Still, hearts glow to tell his praise
With whose name the Church is ringing. Alleluia
- 3 Loved physician! for his word
Lo, the gospel page burns brighter,
Mission servant of the Lord,
Painter true, and perfect writer; Alleluia
Saviour, of thy bounty send
Such as Luke of gospel story,
Friends to all in body's gaol
Till the sufferers see thy glory. Alleluia

Saviour who didst healing give

Anon

Adapted by Antony Forrest to 78 78 78 78 with 'Alleluias'.

ST ALBINUS

Henry John Gauntlett (1805 – 1876)

GOSPEL READING

Alleluia, alleluia.

I have called you friends, says the Lord,
for all that I have heard from my Father
I have made known to you.

Alleluia.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*. (✕)

All (✕) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" ⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you.'" (✕)

Luke 10.1-9

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Luke the faithful healer and evangelist

In his homily on today's gospel, Gregory the Great taught that the 'preaching' through Luke's accounts of Jesus, enables us to know Jesus. He likens the 12 to preachers. Gregory reminds us that when Jesus sends his 'preachers' out he does so with these words: 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way'.

Gregory said: hat the harvest is good but the labourers are few cannot be said without a heavy heart, for although there are many to hear the good news there are only a few to preach it. Gregory noted to his clergy: 'See how full the world is of priests, but yet in God's harvest a true labourer is rarely to be found; although we have accepted the priestly office we do not fulfil its demands.

By recording the sayings and actions of Jesus, Luke is still teaching us,so we can come to know Jesus personally.

St Paul describes Luke in his letter to the Colossians as 'the beloved physician'. The man who wrote the gospel according to Saint Luke was a medical practitioner. Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles, and describing Paul's career he wrote 'they did this' and 'they did that', until, when Paul was in the town of Troas, he had a dream of a man from Macedonia, saying: 'Come over... and help us'.

Then, Saint Luke wrote: 'we immediately tried to cross over ... convinced that God has called us to proclaim the good news to them'.

Clearly Luke became one of Paul's travelling companions from then on.

Why?

Certainly, he included himself among those whom God has called; but giving up a promising and useful career in medicine may seem rather strange. Unless of course, it was partly his medical skills which were needed. So, may be, Luke was called to travel with Paul as his personal physician as well as his assistant.

Towards the end of his life, Paul wrote to his protégé, young Timothy, that all his other assistants had left him, and 'only Luke is with me'. It sounds as though Paul knew his work was done, and he no longer needed assistants; but, he couldn't survive without Luke. I doubt, somehow, whether looking after Paul's health was a full-time job. Luke, the author, probably acted as Paul's personal secretary, too.

Paul, like Jesus, often healed sick people, and Saint Luke probably made himself useful, sharing the healing ministry with his boss. This shows us that there is no conflict between scientific medicine and prayer, in faith and confidence, for health and healing, they work together as partners.

Faith, trusting God, is essential when we pray, and many more answers to prayer are given to those who have faith. God answers prayer in many ways, but miracles are not available on demand. Especially, when God knows that a greater good of a chance for personal growth will follow from learning to bear suffering bravely, but knowing the final outcome is a place of eternal life. But we can only have faith in Jesus if we have come to know him.

Returning to the wise and great Gregory. He wrote: Think over his words [that is Jesus' words as recorded by Luke]: 'Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest'.

Gregory, also, had the humility to ask for prayers for all who teach the Good News, writing: 'Pray for us so that we may be able to labour worthily on your behalf, that our tongue may not grow weary of exhortation, that after we have taken up the office of preaching our silence may not bring us condemnation from the just judge'.

Let's pray for each other as we all do our best as labourers in the vineyard.

Amen.

OFFERTORY Thine arm O Lord in days of old

- 1 Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old
was strong to heal and save;
it triumphed o'er disease and death,
o'er darkness and the grave:
to thee they went, the deaf, the dumb,
the palsied and the lame,
the beggar with his sightless eyes,
the sick with fevered frame.
- 2 And lo, thy touch brought life and health,
gave speech and strength and sight;
and youth renewed and frenzy calmed
owned thee, the Lord of light:
and now, O Lord, be near to bless,
almighty as of yore,
in crowded street, by restless couch,
as by Gennesareth's shore.
- 3 Be thou our great deliverer still,
thou Lord of life and death;
restore and quicken, soothe and bless,
with thine almighty breath:
to hands that work, and eyes that see,

give wisdom's heavenly lore,
that whole and sick, and weak and strong,
may praise thee evermore.

Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old
Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)

TYROL

Anon. – Traditional Tyrolean melody

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POST-COMMUNION HYMN For all thy saints, O Lord

- 1 For all thy saints, O Lord,
who strove in thee to live,
who followed thee, obeyed, adored,
our grateful hymn receive.
- 2 For all thy saints, O Lord,
who strove in thee to die,
and found in thee a full reward,
accept our thankful cry.
- 3 Thine earthly members fit
to join thy saints above,
in one communion ever knit,
one fellowship of love.
- 4 Jesu, thy name we bless,
and humbly pray that we
may follow them in holiness,
who lived and died for thee.
- 5 All might, all praise, be thine,
Father, co-equal Son,
and Spirit, bond of love divine,
while endless ages run.

For all thy saints, O Lord
Richard Mant (1776-1848)

CARLISLE

Charles Lockhart (1745 – 1815)
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your truth
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Post Communion Prayer is followed by:

HYMN O for a thousand tongues to sing

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and king,
The triumphs of his grace!
2. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.
3. He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.
4. He speaks; and, listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.
5. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
You blind, behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy!
6. My gracious master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of thy name.

Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788).
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LYNGHAM
Thomas Jarman (1776 – 1861),
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BLESSING

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

God give you grace to follow his saints
in faith and hope and love;
and the (✠) blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

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HANOVER

William Croft (1678 – 1727)

Arr: Richard Mark Stephen Irwin (b. 1955)

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Saviour who didst healing give

Anon. Adapted by Antony Forrest to 78 78 78 78 with 'Alleluias'.

ST ALBINUS

Henry John Gauntlett (1805 – 1876)

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Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old

Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)

TYROL

Anon. – Traditional Tyrolean melody

Arr. Richard M. S. Irwin (b. 1955)

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