

St. Luke's Atlanta

Good Friday

The Three Hours

March 29, 2024 | Noon



Visitor Card

Welcome to St. Luke's

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. You are invited to participate in today's service as fully as is comfortable for you.

Please fill out our online visitor card using the QR code (left).

Good Friday, March 29

6:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross **7 p.m.** Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, March 30

10 a.m. Holy Saturday Service

8 p.m. The Great Vigil

Easter Day, March 31

Services at 8 a.m., 9* a.m., 11:15* a.m.

10:15 a.m. Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Easter Egg Hunt.

Details: stlukesatlanta.org.

Clergy & Preachers

The Rev. Matt Babcock

The Rev. Emilee Walker-Cornetta

The Rev. Dr. Kimberleigh Jordan

Dr. Ellen Ott Marshall

The Rev. Dr. Danielle Tumminio-Hansen

The Rev. Tony Johns

The Rev. Dr. Gabrielle Thomas

Kate Kennedy

The Rev. Winnie Varghese

Loop Hearing System

St. Luke's sanctuary is equipped with a loop hearing system, which can help you hear our services better. If you have a T-coil hearing aid, change the input switch on your hearing aid from microphone to telecoil. Contact your hearing healthcare professional if you're unsure whether your hearing aid has a t-coil. St. Luke's also has a limited number of hearing loop receivers available. Please ask an usher if one is available.





All stand, as you are able, as the bell tolls. Remain standing as the clergy enter.

Officiant Blessed be our God.

People For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant Let us pray.

BCP 276

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

"Father Forgive"

The First Reading

Luke 23:32-34

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

Silence

All are seated.

Homily

The Rev. Emilee Walker-Cornetta

Music for Meditation | Deda (World Premiere)

Jovana Damnjanovic (b. 1990)

Gospodi pomiluj (Lord, have mercy) Zvona (Bells) Krave (Cows)

Flûture

When Death Comes

Mary Oliver

When death comes like the hungry bear in autumn; when death comes and takes all the bright coins from his purse

to buy me, and snaps the purse shut; when death comes like the measle-pox

when death comes like an iceberg between the shoulder blades,

I want to step through the door full of curiosity, wondering: what is it going to be like, that cottage of darkness?

And therefore I look upon everything as a brotherhood and a sisterhood, and I look upon time as no more than an idea, and I consider eternity as another possibility,

and I think of each life as a flower, as common as a field daisy, and as singular,

and each name a comfortable music in the mouth, tending, as all music does, toward silence,

and each body a lion of courage, and something precious to the earth.

When it's over, I want to say all my life I was a bride married to amazement. I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.

When it's over, I don't want to wonder if I have made of my life something particular, and real.

I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened, or full of argument.

I don't want to end up simply having visited this world

Prayers for the Universal Church

Officiant leads the prayers.

Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service

For all bishops and other ministers

and the people whom they serve

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, for Rob, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese

For all Christians in this community

For all people in places the church is persecuted For those about to be baptized, Charles, Ayesha, and Todd

That God will confirm the Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Silence

"Today you will be with me in Paradise"

The Second Reading

Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Silence

Music and Dance for Meditation | Intermezzo, Op. 118, No. 2 | Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

"Lament" choregraphed and danced by Lee Harper Vason Matthew Michael Brown, *pianist*

Jesus at the Gay Bar

Jay Hulme

He's here in the midst of it -right at the centre of the dance floor,
robes hitched up to His knees
to make it easy to spin,
At some point in the evening
a boy will touch the hem of His robe
and beg to be healed, beg to be
anything other than this;
and He will reach His arms out,
sweat-damp, and weary from dance,
he'll cup this boy's face in His hand
and say,

My beautiful child there is nothing in this heart of yours that ever needs to be healed.

Prayers for the Nation and All in Authority

Officiant leads the prayers.

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

For Joseph, the President of the United States For the Congress and the Supreme Court For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations For all who serve the common good

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

Silence

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may

increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

"Behold your mother"

The Third Reading

John 19:25b-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Silence

All are seated.

Homily Dr. Ellen Ott Marshall

Music for Meditation | Sometimes I feel like a motherless child

Florence Price (1887-1953)

Jessica Stinson, violinist; Matthew Michael Brown, pianist

For a Coming Extinction

W.S. Merwin

Gray whale
Now that we are sending you to The End
That great god
Tell him
That we who follow you invented forgiveness
And forgive nothing

I write as though you could understand
And I could say it
One must always pretend something
Among the dying
When you have left the seas nodding on their stalks
Empty of you
Tell him that we were made
On another day

The bewilderment will diminish like an echo Winding along your inner mountains Unheard by us
And find its way out
Leaving behind it the future
Dead
And ours

When you will not see again
The whale calves trying the light
Consider what you will find in the black garden
And its court
The sea cows the Great Auks the gorillas
The irreplaceable hosts ranged countless
And fore-ordaining as stars
Our sacrifices
Join your work to theirs
Tell him
That it is we who are important

Prayers for the Creation

Officiant leads the prayers.

Let us pray for this fragile earth our island home, the whole of the created order, and for all who work for its conservation, preservation, and sustainability:

O, God, keep close to our hearts the wonder of your creation, galaxies, suns, moons, and planets, earth, winds, and waters, birds, fish, and animals, trees, plants, flowers, fruits, and soil; the Creation of which we are a small part but over which we have extraordinary influence.

For scientists, scholars, activists, and advocates, that we may follow the science and foster the gift of imagination to develop sustainable and humane ways to stand lightly upon this earth and make its abundance available to all.

We give thanks for the beauty of this season in this place, for budding trees and life springing forth from decay. Give us rain where we are parched; Sun where we are cold; and your life-giving wind, where we should be disturbed.

Silence

Creating God, we pray for the well-being of the earth that is yours, give us we pray hearts to tend it for the good of all creatures. **Amen.**

Silence

"My God, why have you forsaken me"

The Fourth Reading

Matthew 27:45-49

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

Silence

All are seated.

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Danielle Tumminio-Hansen

Music for Meditation | Prelude in B minor, Op. 32, No. 10

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

Matthew Michael Brown, pianist

I Come from There

Mohammed Darwish

I come from there and I have memories Born as mortals are, I have a mother And a house with many windows, I have brothers, friends, And a prison cell with a cold window. Mine is the wave, snatched by sea-gulls, I have my own view, And an extra blade of grass. Mine is the moon at the far edge of the words, And the bounty of birds, And the immortal olive tree. I walked this land before the swords Turned its living body into a laden table. I come from there. I render the sky unto her mother When the sky weeps for her mother. And I weep to make myself known To a returning cloud. I learnt all the words worthy of the court of blood So that I could break the rule. I learnt all the words and broke them up To make a single word: Homeland.....

Prayers for Peace

Officiant leads the prayers.

For a world at war

For the conflicts in our own communities

We pray for the people victimized by the war in Gaza, Israel, Yemen, Afghanistan, Syria, Ukraine, Iraq, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Mali, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, the Central Republic of Africa, Myanmar, Chad, Haiti, Libya, Algeria,

For an end to drug wars, insurgencies, coup d'etat, civil wars, war induced famine, genocide, the arms trade,

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Silence

"I thirst"

The Fifth Reading

John 19:28-29

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Silence

All are seated.

Homily The Rev. Tony Johns

Silence

Music for Meditation | Reflections for Cymbal, Wind Gong, Metal Bowls, and Crotales

Jeremy Muller, *percussionist*

The Coming R. S. Thomas

And God held in his hand A small globe. Look he said. The son looked. Far off, As through water, he saw A scorched land of fierce Colour. The light burned There; crusted buildings Cast their shadows: a bright Serpent, a river Uncoiled itself, radiant With slime.

On a bare
Hill a bare tree saddened
The sky. Many people
Held out their thin arms
To it, as though waiting
For a vanished April
To return to its crossed
Boughs. The son watched
Them. Let me go there, he said.

Prayers for Those Who Suffer

Officiant leads the prayers.

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;

For the hungry and the unhoused, the destitute and the oppressed

For the sick, the wounded, and the disabled

For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish

For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair

For the sorrowful and bereaved

For prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger

That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

"It is finished"

The Sixth Reading

John 19:30

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

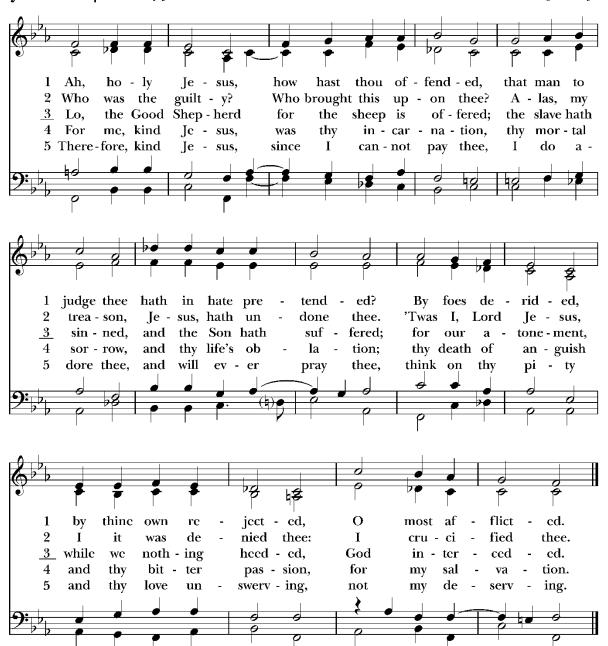
Silence

Homily

The Rev. Dr. Gabrielle Thomas

Hymn 158 | Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended

Herzliebster Jesu



Thanks W. S. Merwin

Listen

with the night falling we are saying thank you we are stopping on the bridges to bow from the railings we are running out of the glass rooms with our mouths full of food to look at the sky and say thank you we are standing by the water thanking it standing by the windows looking out in our directions

back from a series of hospitals back from a mugging after funerals we are saying thank you after the news of the dead whether or not we knew them we are saying thank you

over telephones we are saying thank you in doorways and in the backs of cars and in elevators remembering wars and the police at the door and the beatings on stairs we are saying thank you in the banks we are saying thank you in the faces of the officials and the rich and of all who will never change we go on saying thank you thank you

with the animals dying around us taking our feelings we are saying thank you with the forests falling faster than the minutes of our lives we are saying thank you with the words going out like cells of a brain with the cities growing over us we are saying thank you faster and faster with nobody listening we are saying thank you thank you we are saying and waving dark though it is

Prayers for Justice

Officiant leads the prayers.

We pray or all who work for social justice

For activists and community organizers

For those who speak out and those who call in

For those who write letters and send emails

For those who march and call

For those who challenge us

For those who pray for a better world, now.

That the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Christ's love

As the waters cover the seas

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

Silence

"Into your hands I commend my spirit"

The Seventh Reading

Luke 23: 44-49

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Silence

Homily Kate Kennedy

Music for Meditation | 'The Crucifixion' from Hermit Songs | Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Tiffany Uzoije, soprano; Matthew Michael Brown, pianist

At the cry of the first bird
They began to crucify Thee, O Swan!
Never shall lament cease because of that.
It was like the parting of day from night.
Ah, sore was the suffering borne
By the body of Mary's Son,
But sorer still to Him was the grief
Which for His sake
Came upon His Mother.

—Howard Mumford Jones

Prayers for Those Who Seek God

Officiant leads the prayers.

Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ;

For those who have never heard the word of salvation

For those who have lost their faith

For those hardened by sin or indifference

For the contemptuous and the scornful

For those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and

persecutors of his disciples

For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others

That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence

Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Silence

Music for Meditation | Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Traditional Spiritual

Tiffany Uzoije, soprano

The Solemn Anthems

BCP 281

Anthem I

Officiant We glory in your cross, O Lord,

People and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;

for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

Officiant May God be merciful to us and bless us,

show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

People Let your ways be known upon earth,

your saving health among all nations.

Officiant Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

People We glory in your cross, O Lord,

and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;

for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

Anthem II

Officiant We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

People because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Officiant If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;

if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

People We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Anthem III

Officiant O Savior of the world,

who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us:

People Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

All kneel, as able, as the bell tolls 33 times, representing the 33 years of Jesus' life. Following the tolling of the bell, the clergy and congregation depart in silence.

Clergy

The Rev. Winnie Varghese, *Rector*The Rev. Matt Babcock, *Vicar*

The Rev. Nicole Lambelet, Associate Rector for Children, Youth, and Families

The Rev. Dr. Kimberleigh Jordan, Minister for Formation, Community Ministries, and Creative Arts

The Rev. Dr. Gabrielle Thomas, Theologian in Community

The Rev. Kim Jackson, *Priest Assisting*The Rev. Pat Merchant, *Priest Assisting*The Rev. Gene Paradise, *Priest Assisting*The Rev. Emilee Walker-Cornetta, *Priest Assisting*

Staff

Michael Baker, Sexton

Matthew Brown, Director of Music

Tammy Burns, Sexton

Tommy Couch, Sexton

Tara Duncan, Communications Specialist

Valerie Freer, Reception

David Hendee, Director of Finance

Brian Hummel, Facilities Manager

Michelle Jemmott, Manager of Office Administration and IT

Kate Kennedy, Minister for Community Discernment

Colleen Kingston, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Elizabeth McKinnon, Director of Communications

Greg McRae, Lead Sexton

Tori Moore, *Director of Hospitality and Events*Djalia Uwimana, *Assistant Director for Children, Youth, and Families*Ben Weaver, *Assistant Organist*Megan Wyman, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

Vestry

Drew Putt, Senior Warden | Deneta Sells, Junior Warden

Lisa Boswell | Pat Brumbaugh | Fontaine Draper | John Floyd | Sharon Gay

Darryl Holloman | Peter Kopp | Allison Stouffer Kopp

Whit Lanier | Greg Vaughn

Brian Opsahl, Treasurer | JP Fougerousse, Chancellor

