

**In Response to God**  
**Activities for the week of July 30, 2023**

Lectionary: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11; 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Sunday	July 30	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship
		11:00 am –	Fellowship/Celebrate July Birthdays
<i>Focus on Food</i>			
<i>CCSC Food Collection</i>			
Monday	July 31	7:30 am-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Tuesday	August 1	7:30 am -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
		10 am-2 pm –	CCSC Drive Thru food collection
Wednesday	August 2	7:30 am -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Thursday	August 3	7:30 am -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Friday	August 4	7:30 am -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	August 5	7:30 am -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	August 6	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship
		11:00 am –	Fellowship & Refreshments

ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Pastor ..... The Rev. W. Scott Harbison  
 Parish Associate ..... The Rev. Dr. Bill Wade  
 Director of Music-Organist/Choirmaster ..... Marvin Gaspard  
 Business Manager ..... Patti Ernst  
 Assistant to Head of Staff ..... Mary Ann White  
 Artists in Residence ..... Sarah Bunk, Ann Guercio, & Laura Smith



St. Luke's Presbyterian Church  
 8915 Timberside Drive  
 Houston, Texas 77025  
 713.667.6531  
[www.stlukespres.org](http://www.stlukespres.org)




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St. Luke's Presbyterian Church  
 July 30, 2023

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# The Order of Worship

July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Please begin quiet preparation for worship as the Tolling begins.*

TOLLING

PRELUDE

ASHGROVE

Let All Things Now Living  
Welsh folk melody, arr. Daniel Burton

WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠ OPENING HYMN 441

ST. THOMAS

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

## HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 158)

Romans 8:26-39

ANTHEM

Nathan Thorp, tenor

Thou Shalt Break Them  
From *Messiah*, George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. W. Scott Harbison

“There Is Nothing!”

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠ HYMN OF RESPONSE 333

LAFFERTY

Seek Ye First

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERTORY

Flower Duet  
from *Lakmé*, by Léo Delibes (1836-1891)

DOXOLOGY 592

PRAYER

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision  
Irish ballad, arr. Ovid Young



**Welcome to St. Luke's Presbyterian Church!** If you are looking for a church home in Houston, we invite you to unite with St. Luke's. New members are welcomed by the Session following worship each Sunday. You may join by profession of faith, reception of baptism, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of church letter. If you have any questions, speak to Rev. Harbison after worship.

**Joys and Concerns** are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving or intercession with the congregation. You will have an opportunity to mention your joys and concerns verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer.

**Sunday School: Children's Sunday School** meets at 9 a.m. in Room 115 with Don Mims teaching the class. **The Adult Sunday School** class meets for fellowship and coffee at 9 a.m. in the Library during the summer months. Everyone is invited to join them! **Our Youth Group** meets at 9 a.m. in Room 129. Children and adult classes offer a virtual class alternative. Please let us know if you would like to receive a Zoom invitation.

**The flowers in the sanctuary this morning** are given to the glory of God by Kenneth Russell and in honor of Patti Ernst and her beautiful voice.

**Barbara Bamberg is our musical guest today.** Barbara is retired from St. Luke's United Methodist Church where she served for 19 years as Associate Director of Music and Fine Arts. Thank you for sharing your wonderful gifts with us today, BB, and welcome back to St. Luke's!

**Artists in Residence, Sara Bunk and Laura Smith,** are providing beautiful music in today's service. Thank you for your many contributions to St. Luke's.

**Calling all CCSC Back To School Friends!** \$75 provides a back to school student with school supplies, a backpack and a clothing/shoe gift card. Donations of any amount are appreciated. Give online at [www.ccschouston.org](http://www.ccschouston.org) or make your check payable to St. Luke's and note that it is intended for Back to School.

**Focus on Food Sunday:** On the fifth Sundays of the year we make a special appeal for everyone to bring non-perishable food items for CCSC. *Focus on Food Sunday* is another way to bring us all together on these special days to fill their pantry shelves. Please place your items in the CCSC basket or the red grocery cart.

**Celebrate July Birthdays today** with your St. Luke's family and a slice of birthday cake. If your birthday is this month, remember the Birthday Gift Fund and celebrate God's blessings in your life with a birthday gift to St. Luke's.

**Our Chancel Choir** is on a well deserved vacation for several weeks. During their absence, soloists, and guest musicians will be a part of worship. We appreciate our wonderful musicians.

**CCSC's Azalea Gala and Auction is September 13:** St. Luke's is hosting a table for ten at the Gala. If you would like to attend and help us sponsor the table, please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex to let us know. Priority will be given to those who make a donation and want to attend. Go to CCSC's website at [www.ccschouston.org/azalea](http://www.ccschouston.org/azalea) to find out more.