

*The Cross in
Our Choir Loft*

New Visions



Reflections
noitceR
By the Rev. Beverly J. Huck

As the pandemic continues, we are dealing with a variety of issues. Everything from depression, anxiety, fatigue, grief, stress and yes, even boredom. We long for some normalcy and as the holidays approach we wonder if our celebrations this year will be even semi-normal.

The season of Advent is one that aptly embraces all the things we have been dealing with and also provides us with a sense of hope. One of the first scripture lessons in Advent has Jesus telling us to be alert and to stay awake. Advent is a season where we are called to live wide awake to God's presence and to be aware that even in the midst of turmoil, God is there. Jesus reminded his followers to not panic or give up when things became chaotic. The truth is, panic can keep us from listening for the deeper realities. That deeper reality is that we can trust in the love and creative power of God. We don't know what will happen from day to day but we do know that God is faithful and God's love is the most powerful and effective force in the universe.

The other reality of our times and Advent is the element of longing. We long for normalcy. We long to be able to hug each other, shake hands, eat with each other, share the communion cup once again without fear. The world is definitely not as it should be and there is so much we long for. We long for the peace and tranquility that the meaning of Christmas brings to us. Many of us long for God to bring back our normalcy but we also we need to realize and recognize that God longs with us and for us, too. So remember God is present in our longing.

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***O come, O come
Emmanuel...***

St. Luke's Now Offers a Virtual 10:30 A.M. Sunday Service via Facebook Live!

Extending Our Ministry

Parishioners hunkered down and stayed at home until our re-opening plan was approved by the Diocese. We resumed in-person Holy Eucharist on Sundays back in September, continuing with clergy supply and with laypeople leading Morning Prayer

With the arrival of our new Priest-in-Charge, we commenced a new chapter in our parish life.

On Sunday, November 15, thanks to a cell phone, a tripod and a parishioner to monitor the process, St. Luke's was able to offer its first virtual worship service since the Coronavirus pandemic began. Check it out on our Facebook page @StLukesEpiscopalHaworth

The screenshot displays the Facebook profile of St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth. The profile picture shows a large wooden cross in a church interior. The page name is "St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth" with the handle @StLukesEpiscopalHaworth and the category "Episcopal Church". A "Send Message" button is visible. The "About" section includes a map of the church's location at 43 Massachusetts Ave, Haworth, NJ 07641. It also lists details such as: "An open, welcoming, inclusive, Christ-centered faith community...", "An Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Newark", "160 people like this including 47 of your friends", "166 people follow this", "138 people checked in here", the website http://www.stlukeshaworth.org/, the phone number (201) 384-0706, and the email office@stlukeshaworth.org. The status is "Closed Now" from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. A "PINNED POST" shows a live video of a priest in white vestments standing at the altar during a Sunday service, with the caption "St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth was live. November 15 at 10:31 AM".

New Visions, the newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, will be published bimonthly 5 times per year.. Submissions for the upcoming issue should be e-mailed to claudiasmith@msn.com by 20th of month or snail mailed to New Visions, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Massachusetts Ave. & Grant St., Haworth, NJ 07641 **New Visions Board:** Editor: Janet Beddoe, Production: Claudia Smith Wyant. Photography for this issue: Claudia Smith Wyant, Carolyn Fischer, Heidi Plinio, Dreamtimes.com. Advertising: Jo Stephenson.



The Rev. Beverly J. Huck, Our New Priest-in-Charge

Learn More About Reverend Beverly

I thought I would give a fuller biography of myself so everyone can get to know me better. I was born in Dumont, N.J. but raised in Clifton. In fact, my younger sister and her family still live in the house we grew up in. It's been in the family for 75 years. I have three sisters, and I am the third of the four of us.

I was raised in the Episcopal Church and served on the vestry at St. Peter's in Clifton for many years. My dad was the Jr. Warden when he died suddenly when I was 13. My mom, who was raised Roman Catholic, joined the Episcopal Church so that we would remain as a family at St. Peter's. She eventually was considered the matriarch of the parish and was very active in the parish during her lifetime. My younger sister is currently the senior warden at St. Peter's and my older sister is on the Standing Committee of the diocese.

Two of my sisters and I went to Easter Christian schools, which are run by the Christian Reformed denomination. Needless to say, we had Bible every day and it was taught from a fundamentalist point of view, which vastly differed from the Episcopal Church's stance. I was referred to as "the heretic" by one of my teachers.

Continued on Page 5

Reflections, from P. 1

Ultimately, Advent is about hope. We often forget that Jesus was born into difficult times and challenging surroundings. Just as we feel stuck in this pandemic, we are reminded that Jesus' situation was not a better one. And still, hope came in the midst of suffering and beyond the expected. The story of Jesus' birth affirms to us that difficult situations do not have the final word but, instead, hope does. We, as followers of Jesus, are called to live in that hope.

Hope is the knowledge that our lives have meaning — that each day that we live matters, and indeed, that we matter, because we are beloved by God. Hope gives us the freedom to live for what really matters: loving God, loving ourselves and our neighbors.

As we enter the seasons of Advent and Christmas, may we be mindful to be alert, recognize our longings and always hold hope in our hearts.

— Rev. Beverly





Welcome, Madelyn Victoria Nobleman, St. Luke's Newest Parishioner

Holy Baptism

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve
Christ in all persons, loving your
neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.





*Christopher Wyant and Claudia Smith
St. Luke's Day, October 18, 2020
JUST MARRIED!*

Holy Matrimony

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace.



Grace Happens...

All the time. Grace is
God's gift to us.

The signs of God's grace
are abundant. Some are
dramatic. Many at first
glance seem mundane.
All are potentially life
transforming.

God created us, but God
was not – and is not,
finished with creating.
God keeps showing up.
God is very much at work.

Our job, as God's
creatures, is to pay
attention to God's grace.
And to join with God
in God's work.



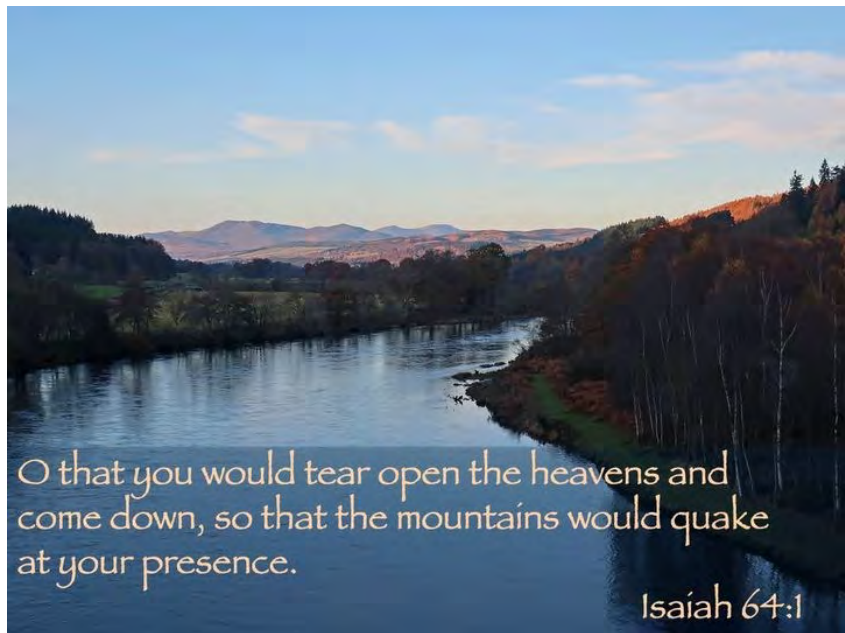
DIVERSITY

*O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay,
and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.*

*Now consider, we are all your people.
— Isaiah 64:8, 9b*

Stay Connected!

This Week @ St Luke's
and other eBlasts deliver
news of online services/
gatherings during this
Pandemic. To sign up so
you're in the know,
[CLICK HERE](#)



*Posted to Episcopalians on Facebook from the Diocese of St Andrews,
Dunkeld and Dunblane is one of the seven dioceses of
the Scottish Episcopal Church.*

∞ Soul Food ∞ Soul Food ∞ Soul Food ∞

Encounter at “The Bog” by Claudia Smith Wyant

At the end of my street on either side of the road there are wooded areas my family always called “The Bog.” Don’t ask me why we dubbed it that except, perhaps, that when it rains heavily and the ground cannot absorb any more water, it turns boggy and soggy and small ponds form. Occasionally, mallards arrive and can be seen taking a morning swim. But not this day. Instead what caught my eye is the old dead tree limb. I pass it every time the dog and I walk down that way on our morning constitutional but I had not noticed how much more it has deteriorated since the last time I actually looked at it. The bark that was left is less; the jagged wound where the limb was severed from its trunk in the storm is far more obvious; and the presence of toadstools that have multiplied over time hint at the deep decay beneath. It struck me that as much as it seems dead, the old limb is teeming with life within. It has become a hub of activity – a home providing sustenance to myriad tiny creatures, most too small to see, and a field of fertilizer for new floral life. Okay, the little bouquets of white flowers blooming riotously on either side emerged from a common weed growing beneath the log. Thinking about all the negativity, heartbreak, ugliness, despair and deaths so many of us have encountered during this Year of the Pandemic, I was suddenly overwhelmed with gratitude. Mother Nature’s resurrection metaphor reminded me that there is life after death evidenced by the cyclical return of beauty that is one of Creation’s eternal gifts.

— I’ve been taking an online course called Photography as a Spiritual Practice. During our latest session, We Give Thanks, I wrote this meditation in October to accompany my Photo on Page 16

Learn More About Rev. Beverly, from P. 3

After graduating high school, I went to work for the Hewlett-Packard Company, where I stayed for 11 years. During that time, I started my undergraduate work at night at Montclair State College and received a B.S. in Business Administration. After completing my degree, I went to Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va., and earned my Master of Divinity in 1984. The Rt. Rev. John Spong ordained me to the diaconate on June 9 and to the priesthood on December 18th of that year.

I became the assistant at Calvary, Summit and was the first female priest at the parish. After two years I became the rector of Trinity, Kearny, and stayed for six years. In September of 1992 I became the rector of Church of the Saviour in Denville and ministered there for 17 years. I then moved to North Carolina, where I served as the vicar of St. Alban's for six years. At the end of 2016 I retired. At each of the churches I served, I was the first female priest they had.

I was married in 1989 and have one daughter, Meghan, who was born in 1991. She has her masters in choral conducting and is a music teacher in Montclair. She has travelled extensively through Europe for choral competitions with her alma mater, the University of Delaware. She and her boyfriend live in Glen Ridge with my grand doggy Bali – an aussie doodle. Meghan was supposed to have gone to Bali this past summer for a choral competition, hence the name of her dog.

In 2017 my husband and I sold our home in North Carolina, bought a RV and started exploring the country, visiting many of our national parks out west. About a year ago, we separated due to a combination of events. This was a mutual, loving and amiable decision and we are in contact with each other almost every day.

Over the past year I realized how much I missed daily ministry and after prayerful consideration I decided to contact the diocese to find out if there were any churches that I could possibly serve. I am very happy to have been called here and I hope to get to know each and every one of you over the course of time. Given Covid-19, it makes things a little bit more difficult but we will prevail.

Just a few last things about myself. I am an avid reader – love mysteries, crime and historical novels. I love Christmas and have a HUGE Christmas village that I hope I can set up in the parish hall so everyone can enjoy it. Baking is something I like to do and at Easter I make butterfly rolls (a symbol of the resurrection). I also like to do crafts. If you've been at church, you might have seen some wreaths on the outside of the rectory that I made. I also love dogs and have had dogs almost my entire life. I am hoping I will once again have the companionship of a four-legged bundle of love.

These are a few things about myself and I hope to learn more about each of you.

"Being a Christian is not essentially about joining a church or being a nice person, but about following in the footsteps of Jesus, taking his teachings seriously, letting his Spirit take the lead in our lives, and in so doing helping to change the world from our nightmare into God's dream." — Presiding Bishop Michael Curry



ECW Ingathering Through Dec. 6

For more than 125 years, the United Thank Offering (UTO) has supported mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude.

The Blue Box Prayer

Almighty God, I give you praise for blessing me in many ways.

Create in me a grateful heart and with this gift a blessing start. *Amen.*

**Be part of the blessing.
The ECW will collect the offerings from your little Blue Boxes on Sundays through December 6.**



Thanks to Dave Emerson, Rich Gonci and Bob Plinio for teaming up to build and install the new railings at the altar steps. Whether you are wearing robes or not, it is very easy to stumble on the steps as you are carrying things up and down. Now we can all feel much safer. And the color matches the rest of the lovely wood in our sanctuary!

Our Thanksgiving Observance Looked Very Different This Year ...

Collections of Foodstuffs & Other Stuff...

...normally adorn our altar around Thanksgiving time and then the Giving Tree appears. With COVID rampant this year, the ECW has gone virtual and will be collecting donations of funds instead of the toys and other requested merchandise we normally gather to support Christmas gifts for the special needs children served by Youth Consultation Services (YCS) in Hackensack. If you are able, please give generously through December 13. Learn more about YCS here: www.ycs.org

... But Our Outreach Continues





Diocesan Holiday & Toy Gift Drive

You can help make the holidays a little brighter by collecting new gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated.

The Diocese of Newark's Prison Ministry team need gifts for children in the toddler years on up through high school. Art supplies, sports equipment, music, and basic clothing, such as PJs, slippers, hats and gloves are good choices.

We gladly accept the gifts you or your parish have collected, and distribute them to needy families. PATCH also collects gifts for the caregivers of the children. Contact us at newarkprisonministry@gmail.com or 973-235-1177 (Grace Church, Nutley). Gifts may be ordered on Amazon to be delivered to Grace Church, 200 Highfield Lane, Nutley, NJ 07110

Tammy Lynch has volunteered to take any donations from St. Luke's to Grace Church by the deadline: December 13.

Save the Dates

Sat., Dec. 19 @

9:30 AM

Altar Guild PolishFest

Come out for a masked up, socially distanced session of polishing, dusting and gussying up of the church for Christmas. This year, it's bring your own breakfast.

**Sun., Dec. 20 Advent 4
after our 10:30 service**

Greening of the Church

If you are able to stay and help (or come and help), it's all hands on deck as we decorate the church for Christmas.

Thurs., Dec. 24 @ 6 PM

**Christmas Eve Service
of Holy Eucharist**



PRAYER LIST

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers these members of our parish and extended family:

Rachel Lynch, Doug Lynch, Roxanne Gabriel, Maryellen Pais, Quinn Rosa, Linda Stephenson, Patricia Stephenson, Michael Snyder, Diane Kansas, Kenny Calderon, Tresten, Sue Pastore, Chan, Hung-Kwong & family, Carol Maxfield, Donna Sisti, Muriel Brandt, Leah Ogena Collins, Thomas Chase, Jimmy Rivera, Jay Rizzo, Judy Ashbrook Hoffman, the People of Hong Kong, Maureen Bownes, James, Sylvania Powell, Vivienne Hall, Brian and his family, Bedi and his family, Stephanie Bailey, Nicolas Nocero, Tamera Colloff-Bennett, Jack Michael Pallatta, Dennis Pallatta, Kathy Weiss-Gilley, Jim Murray, Sedona Gaard

To add names to our Prayer List, please call: Sue Gonci, 201-220-3090 OR Email the Church office at Office@StLukesHaworth.org

November & December Birthdays & Anniversaries



November 3	Linda & Frank Brescia
November 10	Jo Stephenson
November 12	Janet Beddoe
November 13	Roberta Nobleman
November 15	Evelyn Rosenblatt
November 20	Aran Koo
November 21	Paul Nobleman
November 25	Taylor Daniele



December 1	Jackson Coleman
December 6	Barbara de Mare
December 7	Anne & Tom Caloz
December 14	Cathy O'Donnell
December 17	Greta Pallatta
December 20	Priscilla Coleman
	Priscilla & Louis Goldman
December 23	Shannon Coleman
December 29	Susanne & Todd Gelayder



Our Parish Prayers Concerns & Celebrations

Loving God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: accept our prayers, and to those who seek healing [especially those named on our Parish Prayer List and all whom we name in our hearts], grant the power of your grace, that the weak may be strengthened, sickness turned to health, the dying made whole, and sorrow turned into joy;

Advent Calendar on Our Facebook Page

Advent is the first season of the church year, beginning with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continuing through the day before Christmas. The name is derived from a Latin word for "coming." The season is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory." The major themes for each of the four Sundays are Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The liturgical colors for the season are dark "royal" **purple** or **Sarum** blue from the Medieval Sarum rite (both **symbolize** preparation, penitence and royalty to welcome the new King) and pink or rose representing joy is used on the third Sunday.

This year, we will be following The Way of Love like an Advent Calendar. From the First Sunday of Advent until Christmas Day, please visit our Facebook Page for a word of wisdom, advice for a way of love you can follow to create a more meaningful Advent season.



"There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in."

— Leonard Cohen

January's Selection



Named a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2018 and a Best Book of 2018 by NPR, *The New York Times* Book Review, Amazon, *The Boston Globe*, LitHub, *Vulture*, *Slate*, *Elle*, *Vox*, and *Electric Literature*
A spellbinding standalone from one of the best suspense writers working today, *The Witch Elm* asks what we become, and what we're capable of, when we no longer know who we are.

Between the Lines Book Club

2021 Reading List — Meetings TBD @ 7:30 P.M.

January 27	<u>The Witch Elm</u> – Tana French
February 24	<u>Where The Crawdads Sing</u> - Delia Owens
March 24	<u>When We Were Young & Brave</u> - Hazel Gaynor
April 28	<u>The Girl Who Wrote in Silk</u> - Kelli Estes
May 26	<u>The Perfect Horse</u> - Elizabeth Letts
June 23	<u>The Glass Lake</u> - Maeve Binchy
July 28	<u>As Bright As Heaven</u> - Susan Meissner
August 25	<u>Fool Me Once</u> - Harlan Coban
September 22	<u>Like Water for Chocolate</u> - Laura Esquivel
October 27	<u>Hillbilly Elegy</u> - J.D. Vance
November	No meeting
December	No meeting/ Dinner out

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THE
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St. Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth, N.J.

December 2020						
◀ November						January ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Our Christmas Eve service is at 6 PM this year. No service on Christmas Day.		1	2	3	4	5 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
6 <u>Second Sunday of Advent</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour Coins for Change deadline	7	8 7:30 P.M. Vestry Zoom Meeting	9	10	11	12 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
13 <u>Third Sunday of Advent</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour UTO and YCS deadline	14	15	16	17	18	19 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild POLISHFEST
20 <u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist followed by the Greening of the Church NO Zoom Coffee Hour	21 Start of Winter (Winter Solstice) <u>St Thomas, Apostle</u>	22	23	24 <u>Christmas Eve</u> 6:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist	25 Christmas <u>Christmas I</u> <u>Christmas II</u> <u>Christmas III</u> No service today	26 <u>St Stephen, Deacon and Martyr</u> 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
27 <u>First Sunday after Christmas</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour	28 <u>St John, Apostle and Evangelist</u> (transferred from Nov. 27)	29 <u>Holy Innocents</u> (transferred from Nov. 28)	30	31	Click the underlined names of the days to see the texts appointed to be read for that day at www.lectionarypage.net	

St Luke's Episcopal Church/Haworth, N.J.

<div> <div>◀ December</div> <div>January 2021</div> <div>February ▶</div> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day <u>The Holy Name</u>	2 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
3 <u>Second Sunday of Christmas</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour	4	5	6 <u>The Epiphany</u>	7	8	9 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
10 <u>First Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour	11	12 7:30 P.M. Vestry Zoom Meeting	13	14	15	16 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
17 <u>Second Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour	18 Martin Luther King <u>Confession of St Peter, Apostle</u>	19	20 Inauguration Day	21	22	23 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
24 <u>Third Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist and the Annual Parish Meeting NO. Zoom Coffee Hour today	25 <u>Conversion of St Paul, Apostle</u>	26	27 7:30 P.M. Book Club TBD	28	29	30 9:30 A.M. Altar Guild
31 <u>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist 12:30 P.M. Zoom Coffee Hour	Save the date NOW for the Annual Parish Meeting on January 24. Click the underlined names of the days to see the texts appointed to be read for that day at www.lectionarypage.net					

St Luke's Episcopal Church

St. Luke's is a church in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, N.J. We seek to be a bridge between traditions and communities. We welcome anyone who wants to learn and grow in the knowledge and love of God. Our members come from many different traditions but are joined together through a love of Christ and our neighbors. We are located at the crossroads of Demarest, Haworth, Dumont, and Cresskill.

Check It Out — What's This? See *Soul Food* on Page 6



St Luke's Episcopal Church

Massachusetts Ave &
Grant St
Haworth, NJ 07641

Telephone:
201-384-0706
E-mail:
office@stlukeshaworth.org
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