



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Thompson
Pastor



Where Friends and Faith Meet

May 17, 2026
8:30 and 10:15 a.m.

3080 Okatie Hwy. 170 – Bluffton, SC 29909
www.stlukesumc-okatie.org

WELCOME

Our hope is that you will experience God our Father's love in our worship service today. Guests, we are happy you are with us and hope we have extended to you a warm welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask any member about our church and the activities we offer. The informative information, located in the bins in the back of the church, provides some of St. Luke's history.

Please let us know you were with us today by signing the BLUE REGISTRATION PAD located at the end of each pew.

Church Office: 843-705-3022
Mailing Address: PO Box 2779
Bluffton, SC 29910
Location: 3080 Okatie Hwy., Bluffton 29909
Website: www.stlukesumc-okatie.org
Church's email address: stlukesumc.hwy170@gmail.com

Pastor's Mailing Address: Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Thompson
465 Live Oak Walk
Bluffton, SC 29910

Cell phone: 864-704-0728
Email address: clthompson@umcsc.org

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PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please text or call his cell phone (864-704-0728) for an appointment to be sure he doesn't have a prior commitment.

MEETINGS:

Nominations Committee – Monday, May 18, 1:00 p.m.



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Rev. Dr. Christopher L. Thompson

Marsha Gerber, Music Director

Ascension Sunday May 17, 2026

Greeters & Ushers:

8:30 - Shirley and Norm Stark

10:15 - Margo Cservek and Barb Silcox

PRELUDE: *"Sonata of Majesty"* -Wyrzten

THREE BELLS

Chiming of the Trinity (See our prayer list)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CENTERING MOMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *"Lead Me, Guide Me"* -Akers
The Chancel Choir

OPENING PRAYER– Congregation prays together:

Dear Lord, let your divine power flow through us! May you guide us to those who need us, and guide us to those who we need to serve your holy kingdom. Today, may we remain fixated on your mission and serve with a servant's heart. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen

PSALTER READING: Psalm 47 No. 781

***GOSPEL READING:** John 17:1-11

8:30 – Jim Smith

10:15 – Cathy Hamlin

OPENING HYMN: *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"* No. 519
Verses 1, 2 & 3

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 881

***GLORIA PATRI** *"Glory Be to the Father"* No. 70

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER No. 895

**THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS/
OFFERTORY:** *"Come and See"* -Hamm

***DOXOLOGY** No. 95

***GRADUAL HYMN:** *"How Firm a Foundation"* No. 529
Verses 1, 4 & 5

SCRIPTURE: Acts 1:6-14, John 17:1-11 & 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

MESSAGE: "The Time Is Coming"
Rev. Thompson

***HYMN OF INVITATION**
"O Jesus, I Have Promised" No. 396
Verses 1 & 4
Congregation sings 1st verse
Music Interlude during invitation
Congregation sings 4th verse

All are welcome to come to the altar to lift prayers and praises during the last hymn.

***BENEDICTION**

***"God Be with You Till we Meet Again"** (Holding hands is optional)
(Hymnal inside back cover)

***POSTLUDE:** *"Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet"*

*Please stand as able.

A big thank you to Lois Willig for the beautiful roses given to all the ladies on Mother's Day.

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Thank you to all who donated for Epworth last Sunday. You graciously donated **\$1,693** for the Mother's Day offering. If you missed this opportunity to give, it is not too late. Just put "Epworth" on the cash envelope or memo line of your check made payable to St. Luke's UMC.

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WORKDAY – The Trustees are having another "Workday" in the graveyard on Tuesday, May 19 at 9:00 a.m.

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ONE COMBINED SERVICE on May 31 at 9:15 a.m. The service will be followed by a potluck. Please see the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall to provide a dish.

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MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – 8:00 a.m. Monday mornings in Fellowship Hall. Contact Alan Bethel or Rev. Dr. Lee van Rensburg for additional information.

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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Thursdays: meet and greet at 5:30; study from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on the Book of Revelation. Please bring your Bibles.

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CHOIR PRACTICE - Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

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HISTORIC TOURS – We will conduct tours on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. This month in May it will be this Thursday, May 21. These tours are open to the community. No reservations are necessary.

THE COLOR OF THE MONTH IS BLUE – We originally asked congregants to wear the color blue on Sunday, May 24. Since it is just before Memorial Day, a request was made in addition to us wearing just blue, you could also wear a combination of red, white and blue.

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MISSIONS

FAMILY PROMISE – We will provide meals on Thursday, June 4 and Friday, June 5. Please check the bulletin board in the Sanctuary to help with the needed items.

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AGAPE FAMILY LIFE CENTER – 5855 Okatie Hwy., Hardeeville. Saturdays and Wednesdays, from 10:00 – 12:00. Help distribute fresh food to local families in need. No advanced sig-up needed – just show up.

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FAMILY PROMISE – Donations collected on the first Sunday of the month or can be left in the basket in Fellowship Hall at any time.

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CONGREGATIONAL CARE - If you are going through an illness or another crisis and can use support, please let us know. Marie Baldauf leads this ministry, which can help by providing a meal, a visit, or caring phone calls. Please contact Marie.

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BIRTHDAYS

Gary Cranston, 5/20
Harold Prosser, 5/22
David Sytsma, 5/23
Bob Sandruck, 5/24
Lois Willig, 5/24

ANNIVERSARIES

Susie & Michael Brown, 5/17
Linda & Bill Metcalf, 5/19
Pat Simmons & Allyn Perdue, 5/20
Charlene & Don King, 5/23
Beth & Eric Woods, 5/25

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Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God by Donna and Chris Hauck in memory of Chris's mother, Carol.

PRAYER REQUESTS

A FRIENDLY REMINDER – Please silence your cell phones, and refrain from using them, if possible, during Sunday services, as it can be distracting to others. Thanks!

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Please send information for UPCOMING MEETINGS, BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS and the PRAYER REQUEST LIST to Amy Erickson and Linda Metcalf.

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VOLUNTEERS are needed for GREETERS/USHERS and GOSPEL READERS for both the 8:30 and 10:15 services. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Sariscak or Amy Erickson.

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FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVATIONS – Please contact Amy Erickson if you would like to reserve Fellowship Hall for an event or a meeting. The Fellowship Hall calendar is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

CONGREGANTS

Amy Dauplaise Thomas Cook Jennifer Bernhard
Susie & Michael Brown Marsha Gerber Ouida Dell
Fran Iacovo Don King John & Nancy Sariscak

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF CONGREGANTS

Jack Dodson, son of Tina Topoleski's neighbor
Paula, friend of Nettie Peck
The Abercrombie family, friends of Charlene King
Steve Nelson, friend of Marie Baldauf
Carol Hubbard, relative of John Hubbard
Fred and Lisa, brother and sister-in-law of Elizabeth Vance
Grandson of Louise Propst
Karen, friend of Tina Blount
Denise, niece of Judi Landin
Ann and her husband, neighbors of the Cservek's
David and Lynn Clearwater, friends of Beverly and Thomas Cook
Darrel Lawrence, nephew of Jerry Vagnier
Beth, friend of Nettie Peck
Pete Bertson, former Pastor of Church of the Palms
Constance Cole, friend of Ouida Dell
Charlene Cooler, sister of Ouida Dell