

# The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew



Rogier van der Wyden, *Saint Luke Drawing the Virgin* (c.1435-40)

**Festal Evensong for St Luke, Evangelist**

*Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm*

**Thank you** for joining us today, whether online or in person, as we unite our evening prayer and praise with the offerings of Christians throughout the world. We use an adapted order of service for Evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer (1662).



Today we commemorate **St Luke, Apostle and Evangelist**. A Gentile follower of Jesus Christ, and the author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, Luke bore witness to the Saviour's special concern for the poor and outcast, as well as for the status and dignity of women. St Paul informs us that Luke was with him in Rome, and Luke may have accompanied Paul at various stages of his missionary travels. Later tradition remembers Luke as an artist (hence the painting overleaf). St Paul tells us that Luke was a physician. We ask for God's grace that we may follow in his footsteps, at a time when so many are in need of healing, comfort, care, and solidarity.



We **begin our service** with the *Lucernarium*, the lighting of lamps, during which the *Phôs Hilarion* ('Hail, gladdening Light') is sung. This is an ancient element of the Christian tradition, arising from the vivid metaphor, 'God is Light' (1 Jn 1.15). As we light candles in the evening darkness, we are reminded that our hope, trust, and true illumination rest in God, whose love for us burns as a fire which no depth of darkness or despair can overcome.



Please follow all directions provided for your safety, maintaining a two-metre distance except within households and support bubbles. This service is being livestreamed on the parish Facebook page for the benefit of those unable physically to be present. **For more information** about our services, or to subscribe to our weekly mailing, please contact the Rector, the Reverend James Stewart (rector@thorpeparishchurch.org).

*Please stand at the entrance of the clergy.*

## **Service of the Light**

*Lights are lit from the paschal candle, as the clergy sing the Phôs Hilarion ('Hail, gladdening Light'):*

Hail, gladdening Light, of his pure glory poured  
who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest,  
holiest of holies, Jesus our Lord.

Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,  
the lights of evening round us shine,  
we hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit divine.

Worthiest art thou at all times to be sung with undefiled tongue,  
Son of our God, giver of life, alone:  
therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

*(Trad., trans. John Keble)*

## **Gathering and Invitation to Confession**

*The clergy lead the congregation in confessing their sins.*

**ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, We have erred, and  
strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too  
much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have  
offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those  
things which we ought to have done, And we have done those  
things which we ought not to have done, And there is no  
health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable  
offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults,  
Restore thou them that are penitent, According to thy  
promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesu our Lord:  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may  
hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory  
of thy holy Name. Amen.**

*The Rector pronounces Absolution. The Congregation recites the Our Father.*

## Preces

*The clergy cantor the opening versicles and responses.*

## Psalmody

*Please sit. The Psalm set for the day is Psalm 103. The congregation is invited to say the verses in bold.*

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**

<sup>3</sup>Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

<sup>4</sup>**Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;**

<sup>5</sup>Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>**The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>**The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.**

<sup>9</sup>He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

<sup>10</sup>**He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

<sup>12</sup>**As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

**<sup>14</sup> For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.**

<sup>15</sup> As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

**<sup>16</sup> For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.**

<sup>17</sup> But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

**<sup>18</sup> To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.**

<sup>19</sup> The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

**<sup>20</sup> Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.**

<sup>21</sup> Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

**<sup>22</sup> Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.**

### **The First Lesson (Isaiah 61.1-6)**

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,

and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup> to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
<sup>5</sup> Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,  
foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines;  
<sup>6</sup> but you shall be called priests of the Lord,  
you shall be named ministers of our God;  
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,  
and in their riches you shall glory.

*Please stand.*

## **The Magnificat**

*The clergy sing the Canticle of Mary (Lk 1.46-55).*

MY soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth :  
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me :  
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat :  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

*Please sit.*

## **The Second Lesson (Colossians 4.7-end)**

<sup>7</sup>Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow servant<sup>[b]</sup> in the Lord. <sup>8</sup>I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are<sup>[c]</sup> and that he may encourage your hearts; <sup>9</sup>he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

<sup>10</sup>Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. <sup>11</sup>And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. <sup>12</sup>Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant<sup>[d]</sup> of Christ Jesus, greets



you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. <sup>13</sup> For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. <sup>14</sup> Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. <sup>15</sup> Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters<sup>[e]</sup> in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. <sup>16</sup> And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. <sup>17</sup> And say to Archippus, “See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.”

<sup>18</sup> I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

*Please stand.*

### **The Nunc Dimittis**

*The clergy sing the Canticle of Simeon (Lk 2.29-32)*

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen :  
thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared :  
before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.



## **The Creed**

*We say together the words of the Apostles' Creed.*

**I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

## **The Responses**

*Please sit or kneel for the prayers, which are sung by the clergy.*

*The prayers conclude with the collects for the day, for peace, and for heavenly aid.*

**An Organ Anthem is played by the Director of Music**

*Please sit.*

**The Sermon is preached by the Rector**

**The Prayers of Intercession are led by the Assistant Curate**

*Please kneel or sit. The Prayers conclude with the words of the Grace:*

**The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Ghost; Be with Us All, Evermore. Amen.**

*Please sit.*

**The Evening Hymn is sung by the clergy**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink, and live."

I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's Light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your days be bright."

I looked to Jesus and I found  
in him my Star, my Sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk,  
'til trav'ling days are done.

*(Words: Horatius Bonar, Tune: Kingsfold)*

*Please stand.*

**The Blessing is given by the Rector. The Clergy depart.**