

October 2026: “Made to Thrive”

This month at St. Luke, we will turn our attention to stewardship and what it means to live generously with all that God has entrusted to us. We begin at the table on World Communion Sunday, remembering that Christ is the vine and we are the branches, rooted together in a grace we did not earn. From there, Jesus invites us to consider where we place our treasure, to discover the joy of giving ourselves fully to God, and to trust enough to step out of the boat in faith. Stewardship is about more than what we give. It is about how we live—with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness—and how we use what has been placed in our hands for the good of others.

As we pray together, we will ask what it means not simply to *survive*, but to *thrive*: to live with gratitude instead of scarcity, generosity instead of fear, and faith in the God who provides enough. May these prayers open our hands, deepen our trust, awaken our joy, and help us become a people whose lives bear good fruit... one day at a time, one prayer at a time, and one faithful step at a time.

ABIDING & BEARING FRUIT

Sunday | October 4 | Abide in Me

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit.”

(John 15:5) *Prayer: God of every people and place, root us deeply in your love and remind us that we do not grow alone. On this World Communion Sunday, join us with your people around every table and across every boundary. Abide in us, nourish us with your grace, and weave our many gifts into one beautiful offering. Make St. Luke a vineyard of hearts, growing together in Christ and bearing good fruit for our Haltom City community and your world. Amen.*

Monday | October 5 | Rooted by the Water

“They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.” (Jeremiah 17:8)

Prayer: Gracious God, root our lives deeply in you. Nourish us with your grace so that we may grow strong in faith and bear fruit that brings hope, kindness, and love to others. Amen.

Tuesday | October 6 | Gifts of Grace | “We have different gifts that are consistent with God’s grace that has been given to us.” (Romans 12:6)

Prayer: Giver of every good gift, we thank you for the women of St. Luke and the many ways they serve, lead, nurture, and love. Bless our United Women in Faith as they gather today. Strengthen their fellowship and use their gifts to share your grace with our church, our community, and our world. Amen.

Wednesday | October 7 | For the Common Good | “A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good.” (1 Corinthians 12:7) *Prayer: Holy Spirit, remind us that the gifts you have given us are not ours alone. Show us how our time, talents, resources, and love can build up St. Luke and bless our Haltom City community. Amen.*

Thursday | October 8 | Open Hands | “You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.” (Psalm 145:16)

Prayer: Generous God, all that we have begins with your open hand. You give us life and breath, daily bread,



people to love, and gifts to share. Free us from holding too tightly to what you have entrusted to us. Open our hands and our hearts so that your generosity may flow through us, bringing hope, healing, and abundance to others. Amen.

Friday | October 9 | A Cup of Water | “I assure you that everybody who gives even a cup of cold water to these little ones... will certainly be rewarded.” (Matthew 10:42) *Prayer: Jesus, teach us not to overlook small opportunities to love. May a kind word, a listening ear, a helping hand, or a simple act of generosity become your grace for someone today. Amen.*

Saturday | October 10 | Remember the Gifts | “Let my whole being bless the LORD and never forget all his good deeds.” (Psalm 103:2)

Prayer: Faithful God, slow us down long enough to notice your goodness. Thank you for the people, places, provisions, and unexpected graces that surround us. Make gratitude the beginning of our generosity. Amen.

RICH TOWARD GOD

Sunday | October 11 | Rich Toward God | “This is the way it will be for those who hoard things for themselves and aren’t rich toward God.”

(Luke 12:21) *Prayer: God of true abundance, everything we have and everything we are comes first as gift from you. Free us from measuring the goodness of our lives by what we possess, and teach us instead to become rich toward you. Shape our priorities, loosen our grip on what we hold too tightly, and open our hearts to the needs around us. Teach us to recognize enough, to give thanks for what we have received, and to discover the freedom and joy of sharing it with others. Amen.*

Monday | October 12 | Enough | “The ones who gathered less didn’t have too little.” (Exodus 16:18)

Prayer: God of daily provision, quiet the voices that tell us there will never be enough. Give us grateful eyes to recognize your gifts and generous hearts willing to share what we have received. Amen.

Tuesday | October 13 | Daily Bread | “Give us the bread we need for today.” (Matthew 6:11)

Prayer: Providing God, each day we depend upon your goodness. Thank you for the food that nourishes us, the people who sustain us, and the grace that carries us. Teach us to pray for “our” daily bread, remembering that your abundance is meant for all. Make us attentive to neighbors who hunger for food, friendship, belonging, or hope, and show us how we can help provide what is needed. Amen.

Wednesday | October 14 | Where Our Treasure Is | “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:21)

Prayer: God who knows our hearts, help us see clearly what we treasure. Shape the ways we spend our time, attention, energy, and resources so that our lives reflect the things that matter most to you. Amen.

Thursday | October 15 | Remember to Share | “Don’t forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.” (Hebrews 13:16) *Prayer: Generous God, everything we have is held in trust. Open our eyes to neighbors we can encourage, welcome, help, or serve today, and make what we have a blessing to our Haltom City community. Amen.*

Friday | October 16 | Freely Received | “You received without having to pay. Therefore, give without demanding payment.” (Matthew 10:8) *Prayer: God of grace, so much of what gives our lives meaning has come to us as gift. Help us receive your goodness with gratitude and pass it freely to others without counting the cost. Amen.*

Saturday | October 17 | Fullness of Joy | “You teach me the way of life. In your presence is total celebration.” (Psalm 16:11)

Prayer: God of abundant life, draw us closer to you and awaken us to the joy of your presence. Help us notice grace in ordinary moments, delight in the gifts we share, and encourage one another along the way. May our gratitude overflow into lives of generosity, hope, and joy. Amen.

JOY UNSPEAKABLE

Sunday | October 18 | All She Had | “She from her hopeless poverty has given everything she had, even what she needed to live on.” (Mark 12:44) *Prayer: God of abundant joy, you have filled our lives with gifts of grace beyond counting. Teach us to respond not from guilt or obligation, but with grateful and joyful hearts. Receive all that we are—our prayers and presence, our gifts and service, our witness and love—and use them for your purposes. Show us that generosity is not simply something we do, but a way of living with open hearts and open hands. Make St. Luke a people who give joyfully, serve freely, love generously, and thrive together in your grace. Amen.*

Monday | October 19 | Prayers | “Bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks.” (Philippians 4:6) *Prayer: Listening God, make us a people of prayer. Teach us to carry one another’s joys and burdens, to listen for the needs of our neighbors, and to hold our community before you with compassion. May our prayers draw us closer to you and closer to one another. Amen.*

Tuesday | October 20 | Presence | “Let’s also think about how to motivate each other to show love and to do good works.” (Hebrews 10:24)

Prayer: God who is always present, thank you for the gift of people who walk beside us. Teach us to offer that same gift to one another—to show up, listen well, worship together, celebrate joys, and carry burdens. Strengthen the bonds among us at St. Luke, so that our life together becomes a place where people are known, encouraged, and able to thrive. Amen.

Wednesday | October 21 | Gifts | “And serve each other according to the gift each person has received.” (1 Peter 4:10)

Prayer: Giver of every good gift, thank you for the unique gifts you have placed within each of us. Help us recognize and celebrate the gifts we see in one another, without comparison or competition. Show us how to use what we have received faithfully and joyfully, so that together we may strengthen your church, serve our neighbors, and help our community thrive. Amen.

Thursday | October 22 | Service | “Serve each other through love.” (Galatians 5:13)

Prayer: Servant Christ, teach us to notice where help is needed and to respond with love. Bless the United Methodist Men of St. Luke as they gather for breakfast and fellowship today. Strengthen their friendships, deepen their faith, and use their willing hands and hearts in service to our church and community. Amen.

Friday | October 23 | Witness | “Let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16) *Prayer: God of light, bless the children of our community and all who nurture, teach, and encourage them. Be with our Academy 4 mentors as they gather with students today. Make our church and our community a place where every child is seen, valued, supported, and given every opportunity to thrive. Let the care we show today be a light that points to you. Amen.*

Saturday | October 24 | Rejoice | “Clap your hands, all you people! Shout joyfully to God with a joyous shout!” (Psalm 47:1)

Prayer: God of abundant joy, open our eyes to signs of your goodness all around us. Let gratitude rise into praise, and let our praise overflow into lives of joyful generosity. Amen.

FAITH UNSINKABLE

Sunday | October 25 | Step Out of the Boat | “Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.” (Matthew 14:29)

Prayer: God who meets us upon every sea, when the winds rise and the future feels uncertain, remind us that you are near. Give us courage to loosen our grip on what feels safe and step faithfully toward you. Help us trust that what we place in your hands—our lives, our gifts, our resources, our church, and our future—is never wasted. Fix our eyes on Christ and lead St. Luke beyond fear into faithful action, planting seeds today for a future we may not yet fully see. Amen.

Monday | October 26 | God is Our Refuge | “God is our refuge and strength, a help always near in times of great trouble.” (Psalm 46:1)

Prayer: Steadfast God, when uncertainty makes us afraid, remind us that you are near. Be our refuge and strength, and give us courage to live generously even when the future is unclear. Amen.

Tuesday | October 27 | What is in Our Hands? | “The LORD asked him, ‘What’s that in your hand?’” (Exodus 4:2)

Prayer: God of possibility, open our eyes to what you have already placed in our hands. Help us see the gifts, experiences, relationships, resources, and opportunities already present among us. Keep us from believing that what we have is too small to matter. Take what we offer, bless it, and use it to strengthen St. Luke, serve our neighbors, and plant seeds of hope for the future. Amen.

Wednesday | October 28 | What We Offer | “A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish.” (John 6:9)

Prayer: Jesus, when what we have seems too small to matter, remind us that you see possibility where we see scarcity. Give us faith to offer what is already in our hands, trusting you to bless and multiply it. Take our time, talents, resources, and willing hearts, and use them to nourish others, strengthen our community, and accomplish more than we could imagine on our own. Amen.

Thursday | October 29 | Plant for Tomorrow | “Build houses and settle down; cultivate gardens and eat what they produce.” (Jeremiah 29:5)

Prayer: God of every generation, teach us to plant seeds whose harvest we may never see. Help us invest faithfully in people, ministries, and possibilities that will bless St. Luke and our community for generations to come. Amen.

Friday | October 30 | A Great Cloud of Witnesses | “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses...” (Hebrews 12:1) *Prayer: Faithful God, thank you for those whose prayers, sacrifices, generosity, and love helped make our journey possible. May their witness encourage us to run faithfully the race you have placed before us. Amen.*

Saturday | October 31 | Generation to Generation | “Because the LORD is good, his loyal love lasts forever; his faithfulness lasts generation after generation.” (Psalm 100:5) *Prayer: Everlasting God, we give thanks for the faith entrusted to us by those who came before. Help us live so that those who follow us at St. Luke may inherit a legacy of hope, generosity, and love. Amen.*

LOVE UNSTOPPABLE

Sunday | November 1 | All Saints Sunday | “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever

believes in me will live, even though they die.’” (John 11:25) *Prayer: God of resurrection and life, today we give thanks for the saints who have gone before us—the people whose prayers sustained us, whose generosity provided for us, whose service strengthened us, and whose love helped shape our faith. Remind us that we are stewards of a story we did not begin. May the gifts entrusted to us continue bearing fruit long after us. As a new month begins, lead us forward with gratitude for all that has been, hope for all that is yet to come, and courage to live faithfully in the days you place before us. May our lives become a blessing to those who follow and a witness to your love that never ends. Amen.*

Join us for coffee & Prayer Team Meeting every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall