

ADEUS ANGLICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Grades 4–8 | The Saints Series

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 18 | LITURGICAL COLOR: RED

LESSON THEME: USING OUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

KEY SCRIPTURE: COLOSSIANS 4:14 (NKJV)

Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

Main Message: God gives each of us different talents and abilities. Like St. Luke, we can use our gifts to serve others, share the Gospel, and help people know Jesus Christ.

TEACHER BACKGROUND: WHO WAS ST. LUKE?

St. Luke was one of the four Evangelists, the men who wrote the four Gospels of the New Testament. He is traditionally recognized as the author of both the Gospel according to St. Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.

Luke was not one of the original twelve Apostles. He became a faithful companion of St. Paul and helped spread Christianity throughout the ancient world.

Luke the Physician

In Colossians 4:14, St. Paul refers to Luke as the "beloved physician." This tells us that Luke practiced medicine and cared for people who were sick.

Luke's profession reminds us that serving God does not always mean becoming a priest or missionary. Doctors, teachers, artists, parents, and people in every profession can serve God through their work.

Luke the Writer

Luke carefully gathered information about the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. At the beginning of his Gospel, he explains that he wanted to provide an orderly account of the things Christians had been taught.

His Gospel includes some of the most beloved stories in Scripture:

- The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1:26–38)

- The birth of Jesus and the shepherds (Luke 2:1–20)
- The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37)
- The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32)
- The disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35)

Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles, which tells how the early Church grew after Jesus' Ascension and the coming of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost.

Luke the Missionary

Luke traveled with St. Paul during portions of his missionary journeys. In Acts, the writer sometimes uses the word "we," suggesting that he personally participated in some of these journeys.

He witnessed the challenges of spreading Christianity and remained a loyal companion to Paul.

In 2 Timothy 4:11, Paul writes:

Only Luke is with me.

This simple statement reminds us of the importance of friendship, faithfulness, and standing beside others during difficult times.

Luke and Christian Art

Christian tradition associates St. Luke with painting and particularly with images of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Although these traditions cannot be historically verified, Luke has long been honored as a patron saint of artists, physicians, and those who care for the sick. His traditional symbol is the winged ox; one of the four creatures associated with the Evangelists. The ox represents sacrifice and service, connecting to the opening of Luke's Gospel and the priestly ministry of Zacharias.

ANGLICAN FAITH CONNECTION

The Anglican Church commemorates St. Luke the Evangelist on October 18.

In the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, the appointed readings for St. Luke's Day include:

- Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:5–15
- Gospel: Luke 10:1–7

In the Gospel reading, Jesus sends His followers to share the Good News and minister to others.

The Collect for St. Luke's Day asks God for healing of the soul through the wholesome medicines of the Gospel.

Teaching Connection: Luke cared for physical health as a physician, but through his Gospel he also helped bring people to Jesus Christ, who offers forgiveness, salvation, and spiritual healing.

Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Identify St. Luke as a physician, Evangelist, and companion of St. Paul.
- Explain that Luke wrote the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles according to Church tradition.
- Recognize the winged ox as Luke's traditional symbol.
- Describe how Luke used his gifts to serve God.
- Identify at least one personal talent they can use to help others and share their faith.

CLASSROOM TEACHING PLAN

Approximately 35 minutes

Activity	Time
Opening Prayer and Introduction	5 min
Story of St. Luke	8 min
Scripture and Discussion	8 min
Craft Activity	11 min
Closing Reflection and Prayer	3 min

OPENING PRAYER

Begin with your regular Sunday School opening routine, including the Pledge, the Lord's Prayer, and opening prayer.

Suggested Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for St. Luke, who used his gifts to care for others and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Help us discover the talents You have given us and teach us to use them with kindness, courage, and love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OPENING DISCUSSION

Ask students:

"Have you ever thought about what you want to be when you grow up?"

Allow students to share their ideas.

Explain that St. Luke was a doctor, but God also called him to do something very special: write down the story of Jesus and help spread the Gospel.

Ask:

"Can someone serve God by being a doctor? A teacher? An artist? A mechanic?"

Emphasize that God can use every honest occupation and every gift for His glory.

SCRIPTURE STUDY AND DISCUSSION

Reading 1 — Luke 1:1–4

Luke explains why he wrote his Gospel.

Ask: Why is it important that the story of Jesus was carefully recorded?

Reading 2 — Luke 10:1–7

Jesus sends His followers to share God's message.

Ask: How can we share the love of Jesus without traveling to another country?

Reading 3 — 2 Timothy 4:9–11

Paul mentions that Luke remains with him.

Ask: What does it mean to be a faithful friend, especially when someone is having a difficult time?

Questions for Older Students (Grades 7–8)

1. Why is it important that Christianity is based on events recorded and passed down through eyewitness testimony?
2. How might Luke's training as a physician have influenced his attention to detail?
3. What can we learn from Luke's loyalty to Paul?
4. How can Christians use modern technology, writing, or art to share the Gospel responsibly?

HANDS-ON CRAFT ACTIVITIES

Choose one craft for the regular Sunday School period. The remaining projects can be used for extended classes, take-home activities, or special programs.

Craft 1 — St. Luke's Gospel Scroll

Grades 4–8 | Easy | 10–15 minutes | Low cleanup

Materials: Brown kraft paper or parchment-colored paper, wooden dowels or craft sticks, markers, ribbon, glue, and printed Scripture verses.

Directions:

- Give each student a rectangular piece of parchment-colored paper.
- Write "The Gospel According to St. Luke" across the top.
- Select a favorite verse from Luke's Gospel, such as Luke 6:31 or Luke 10:27.
- Decorate the edges with Christian symbols, crosses, or small illustrations.
- Attach craft sticks to both ends and gently roll the paper into a scroll.
- Tie with ribbon.

Faith Connection: Luke carefully recorded the story of Jesus so future generations could hear and believe the Good News.

Craft 2 — The Winged Ox of St. Luke

Grades 4–8 | Moderate | 15–20 minutes | Medium cleanup

Materials: Cardstock, construction paper, wing templates, scissors, glue, markers, gold paper, and craft sticks (optional).

Directions:

- Draw or trace the head and body of an ox onto cardstock.
- Cut out two large wings from white or gold paper.
- Attach the wings to the ox.
- Decorate the figure using markers or colored pencils.
- Add a banner reading "St. Luke — Faithful Servant of Christ."
- Older students may add a small Gospel book beneath the ox.

Faith Connection: The winged ox is Luke's traditional symbol, reminding Christians of sacrifice, faithful service, and the Gospel.

Craft 3 — Healing Hands of Kindness

Grades 4–8 | Easy | 10–15 minutes | Low cleanup

Materials: Colored construction paper, pencils, scissors, glue, markers, and a large paper heart.

Directions:

- Students trace both hands onto construction paper and cut them out.
- On each finger, write an act of kindness or service.
- Attach the hands around a large heart.
- Write "Use Your Gifts to Serve God" in the center.
- Decorate with small crosses or Scripture references.

Faith Connection: Luke used his medical skills to help others. We can use our hands, words, and talents to show Christ's love.

Craft 4 — St. Luke's Mini Gospel Book

Grades 5–8 | Moderate | 15–20 minutes | Low cleanup

Materials: Several sheets of paper, cardstock, stapler or hole punch and yarn, markers, and colored pencils.

Directions:

- Fold sheets of paper in half to create a small booklet.

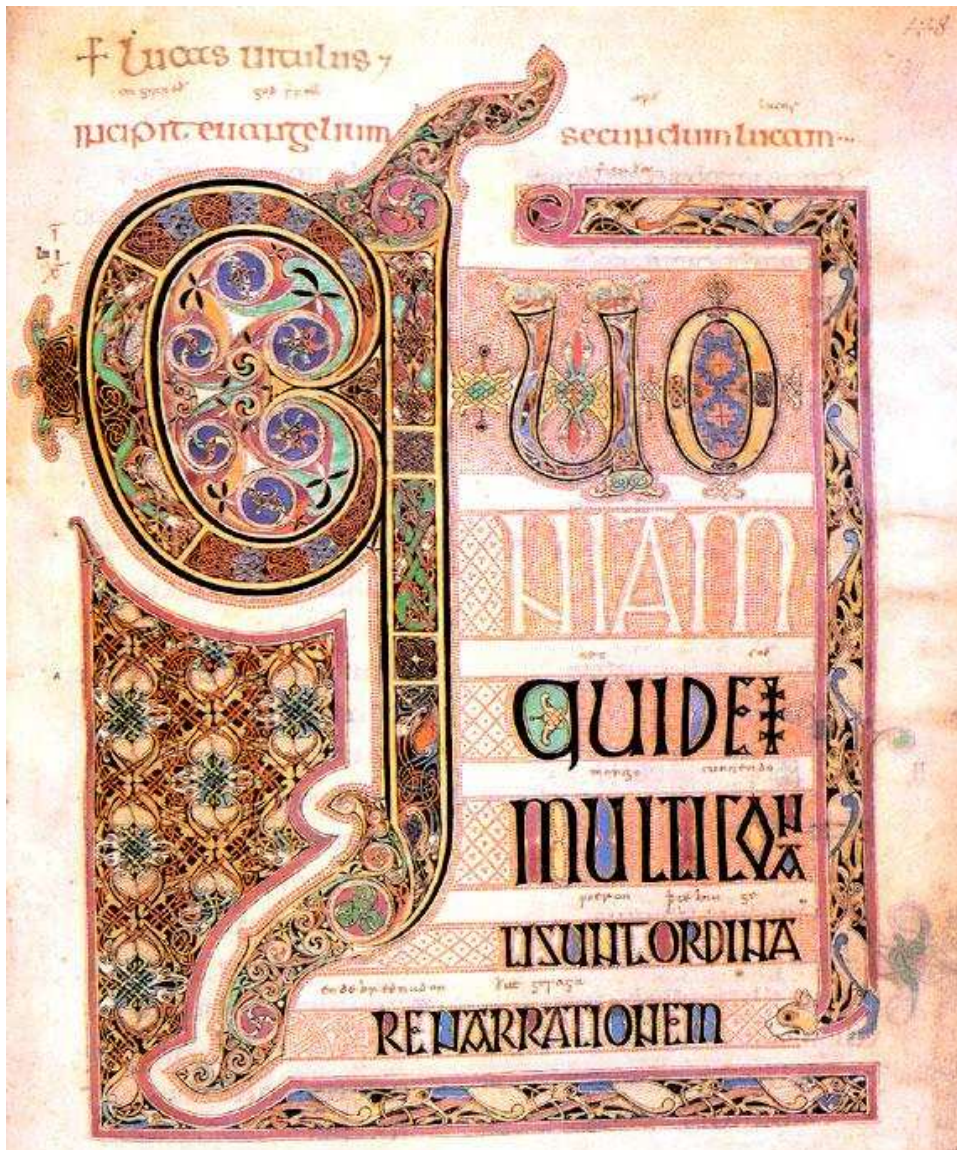
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- Make a cover titled "The Good News According to St. Luke."
- Create four illustrated pages featuring important events or parables from Luke's Gospel.
- Suggested stories include the Nativity, Good Samaritan, Prodigal Son, and Resurrection.
- Add a brief explanation or Scripture reference to each illustration.
- Bind the booklet with staples or yarn.

Faith Connection: Just as Luke shared the story of Jesus through writing, students can share the Gospel through their own creativity.

Extended Craft — Illuminated Gospel Manuscript

Grades 5–8 | Extended | 45–60 minutes | Medium cleanup



Project: Create a beautiful illuminated manuscript page inspired by the decorated Gospel books produced by Christian scribes throughout history.

Materials: Heavy parchment-colored cardstock, metallic gold markers, watercolor paints, colored pencils, rulers, fine-tip markers, printed Bible verses, and optional gold foil.

Directions:

- Explain how monks and scribes copied Scripture by hand before printing presses existed.
- Give each student a large sheet of parchment-colored cardstock.
- Choose a passage from Luke's Gospel, such as Luke 2:10–11 or Luke 10:27.
- Create a large decorative first letter using Celtic knots, vines, or geometric patterns.
- Carefully write the Scripture passage beside the illuminated letter.
- Add an ornamental border containing Christian symbols, including the cross, Gospel book, and winged ox.
- Use gold and rich colors to highlight the design.
- Mount the finished manuscript on contrasting cardstock for display.

Faith Connection: Christians have preserved and shared Scripture for generations.

Creating an illuminated Gospel page reminds students that God's Word is precious and worthy of our care.

Classroom Display Idea: Arrange completed pages under the title "Sharing the Gospel Through Art — Inspired by St. Luke."

Journaling — Grades 7–8

Optional for Grades 5–6

Journal Theme: My Gifts for God's Glory

St. Luke was a physician, writer, and faithful friend. He used his abilities to care for others and help people learn about Jesus Christ.

Ask students to reflect on the following:

1. What is one talent or ability God has given you?
2. How could you use that gift to help someone in your family, church, or community?
3. Why is it important to remain faithful to our friends during difficult times?
4. If you could tell someone one important thing about Jesus, what would you want them to know?

Personal Challenge: Choose one way to use your gifts in service to someone this week.

Write about what you plan to do and why.

CLOSING REFLECTION

Remind students that St. Luke did not become a saint because he was famous or wealthy. The Church honors him because he faithfully followed Christ and used his gifts to serve God's purposes.

We may not write a Gospel or travel with an Apostle, but every Christian can show God's love through everyday actions.

Closing Question: "What is one thing you can do this week to serve God with the gifts He has given you?"

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we thank You for the life and witness of St. Luke the Evangelist. Help us to love Your Holy Word, remain faithful to our friends, and use our gifts to serve those around us. Guide our hearts and hands so that everything we do may bring glory to Your Name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TEACHER'S PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Preparation

0 of 5 completed

- Print Scripture passages and review the 1928 BCP readings.
- Prepare a short introduction to St. Luke and his winged ox symbol.
- Choose one classroom craft and prepare materials.
- Print journaling prompts for older students.
- Prepare optional take-home or extended craft materials.

Note: A curriculum suggestion: Because St. Luke's feast day falls on Sunday, October 18, 2026, this lesson is particularly well suited to that Sunday. I would emphasize the Gospel scroll or illuminated manuscript project, since they connect beautifully to Luke's contribution to Scripture and the Anglican tradition of preserving and teaching God's Word.