THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF

St. Luke

THE EVANGELIST

St Luke's: A light to the community drawing all people to Christ

WE WELCOME YOU

in the Name of Christ. May those who sorrow find comfort; the weary, rest; the troubled,

peace; the stranger, friends; the unhappy, joy; and to all, the sense of God's presence in this Holy Place. If you are visiting St. Luke's for the first time, please fill out a visitor card. We invite you to stay and visit with us after the service.

All who seek the grace of God are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing, come to the altar and cross your arms over your chest.



SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

DECEMBER 24, 2024 · 4:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

Instrumental Carols In Dulci Jubilo - Bach arrangement of Ancient Carol Sans Day (Holly & Ivy) - Traditional British Laura DeLoye, Piano (Oak Winds Recorder Ensemble) (Oak Winds Recorder Ensemble)

Bells ring to begin the service. Please observe a few minutes of silence after the prelude to acknowledge God's presence with us in the holy place.

WELCOME

REV. LINZI STAHLECKER

AWAY IN A MANGER

HYMN 101

ROGER TABER, GUITAR

LAURA DELOYE, PIANO



(the children begin to bring up the creche pieces)

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY ARR. MARTIN GREEN REMY SANDRI, BARITONE SOLOIST

A BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Presider: Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

Genesis 3:1–15

Leann Brooks, Colton Patillo

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, ^[a] knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

SECOND READING:

Isaiah 40:1–11

Judy Lewis

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

- ³ A voice cries out:
- "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
- ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
- ⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
- A voice says, "Cry out!"
 And I said, "What shall I cry?"
 All flesh is grass;
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.
- ⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades,
- ... but the word of our God will stand forever.
- ⁹Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN ARR. KIM KRENZER CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR

THIRD READING: Jeremiah 31:31–34 Ann Holley

A new covenant is promised which will be written in our hearts.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.





God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us"

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?/GREENSLEEVES

ARR. WALTER BERGMAN

OAK WINDS RECORDER ENSEMBLE

HOMILY REV. LINZI STAHLECKER

The lights will be lowered in the church. During the singing of Silent Night, the light from the Christ Candle will be passed from person to person. Please hold the candles upright to contain the drips in the small cups.

SILENT NIGHT HYMN III



The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

LAURA DELOYE, PIANO RICH SMUCKER, TRUMPET OAK WINDS RECORDER ENSEMBLE All sing



All sing



Presider: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

LAURA DELOYE, PIANO

RICH SMUCKER, TRUMPET

All sing



RICH SMUCKER, TRUMPET

All sing



DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

MUSICIANS:

Laura DeLoye, Piano & Coordinator Rich Smucker, Trumpet Remi Sandri, Baritone

Oak Winds Recorder Ensemble:

Barbara Bilyeu, Soprano John Burkle, Alto Roger Taber, Tenor Melinda Sterling, Tenor Glenda Goulet, Bass

Choir Members:

Marnie Burkhardt, Alto Chuck Hiigel, Tenor Victoria Lowrie, Soprano Lucy Earlene, Soprano Remi Sandri, Bass John Burkle, Tenor

READERS:

Leann Brooks Colton Patillo Judy Lewis Ann Holley Kathy Hansen Brooks Pecot Owen Pecot Harley Pecot

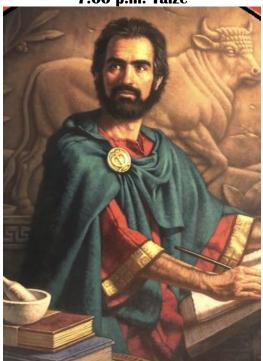


Poinsettias have been donated by
Mike and Sally Ferree in loving memory of their parents, Rev. George Kemp, Martha Kemp,
Marion Ferree and Edward Ferree
Mary Gruber in loving memory of her husband, Bob Gruber

Mary Gruber in loving memory of her husband, Bob Gruber Kathy Hansen in loving memory of her parents, Harold and Katy Sims

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m. Taizé



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The Rev. Linzi Stahlecker, Priest-in-Charge