

FEAST OF THE INCARNATION



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | DECEMBER 24, 2020, 9:30PM

Shared Home Communion

Together or safely at home, you're welcome in the St. Luke's community, no matter where you are in your spiritual journey. This leaflet is a guide for our service, live-streamed at stlukeswoodland.org. Standing, sitting, kneeling, crossing yourself: all options, as always.

If you received consecrated bread, keep it nearby. If you don't have Communion bread at home, this service is still for you! Use the Prayer for Spiritual Communion (page 17) instead.

Please return the *pyx*, or small Communion bread jar, to the basket on the covered porch of the church. We will sterilize and reuse the jars our next service of Shared Home Communion, at the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, on Sunday, 1/10.

We are grateful for your patience over the past couple of months as we have adapted to the requirements for protecting our most vulnerable community members during this time of pandemic. We are grateful to the dozens of St. Luke's faithful who have given of their strength, energy, ideas, and patience for this ministry. Please plan to make weekly online worship with St. Luke's a part of your new year.

In sharing this Holy Eucharist, each of us has our own incarnate experience. Through this experience, I pray that you will be nourished with God's love, the indwelling Holy Spirit, and the coming of the cosmic Christ.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Carren Sheldon
Interim Rector

Cover image: fresco of a black Madonna and Jesus at the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion, in Axum, Ethiopia

HOLY EUCHARIST

Ring of the Bells

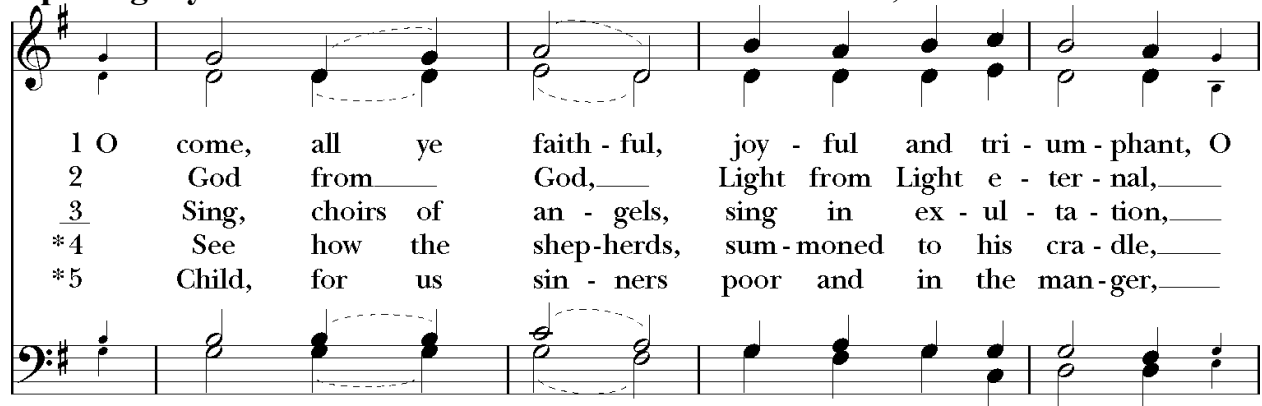
Organ Prelude

Saint-Saens, Alleluia from "Christmas Oratorio"

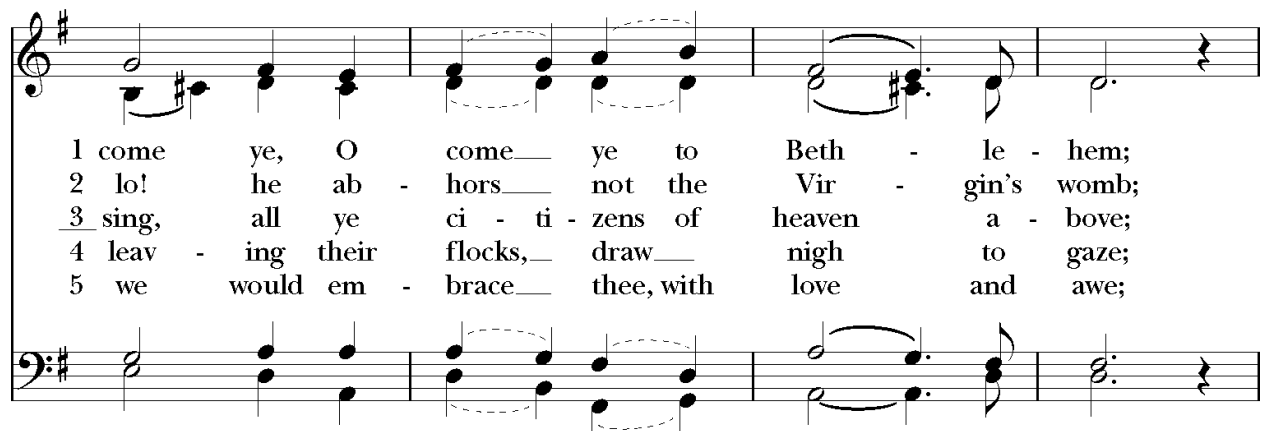
Welcome

Opening Hymn

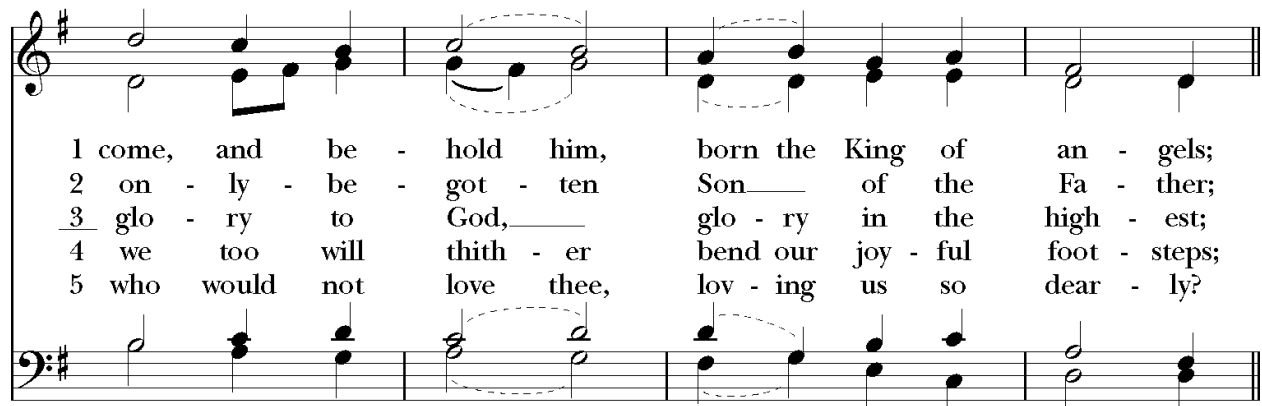
John Francis Wade, O Come All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,



1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Opening Acclamation

Enriching Our Worship I

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Song of Praise

Mathias, Gloria in Excelsis

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
mighty God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 9:2-7

Lector A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.
The Word of God.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Cantate Domino

- All* ¹ **Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.**
- ² **Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**
- ³ **Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.**
- ⁴ **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- ⁵ **As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.**
- ⁶ **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**
- ⁷ **Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.**
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- ⁹ **Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹ **Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.**

¹³ **He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Epistle

Titus 2:11-14

Lector A Reading from the Letter to Titus

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector The Word of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Adolphe Charles Adams, O Holy Night



O Ho - ly Night! The stars are bright - ly shi -
Led by the light of faith se - rene - ly beam -
Tru - ly He taught us love for one a - noth -



ning, It is the night of our dear Sav - iour's birth.
ing, With glow-ing hearts by His cra - dle we stand.
er, His law is love and His gos - pel is peace.



Long lay the world in sin and er - ror pin -
O'er the world a star is sweet - ly gleam -
Chains he shall break, for the slave is our broth -



ning. Till He ap - peared and the soul felt its worth. A
ing, Now come the wise - men from out of the Or - ient land. The
er, And in his name all op - pres - sion shall cease. Sweet



thrill of hope the wea - ry world re - joi - ces, For yon - der
King of kings lay thus in low - ly man - ger; In all our
hymns of joy in grate - ful chor - us raise we, With all our



breaks a new and glor - ious morn. Fall on your
tri - als born to be our friend. He knows our
hearts we praise His ho - ly name. Christ is the

30 Em Dm Am

knees!
need,
Lord!

Oh, hear
to our weak -
Then ev -

the an - gel voi -
ness is no strang -
er, ev - er praise

35 C G C F

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O night
Be - hold
His pow

di - vine,
your King!
and glo

O
Be -
ry

40 C G7 C G

night
fore
ev -

when Christ was born;
him low - ly bend!
er more pro-claim!

O night,
Be - hold
His pow'r -

45 C F C G7

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King!

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50 C C F

vine!
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55 C G7 C

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claim!

Gospeler The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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 for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Nicene Creed

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Form II, BCP

Intercessor I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Megan Traquair; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find, and be found, by God.

I ask your prayers for the dead. Pray for those who have died.

Presider Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

At the Offertory

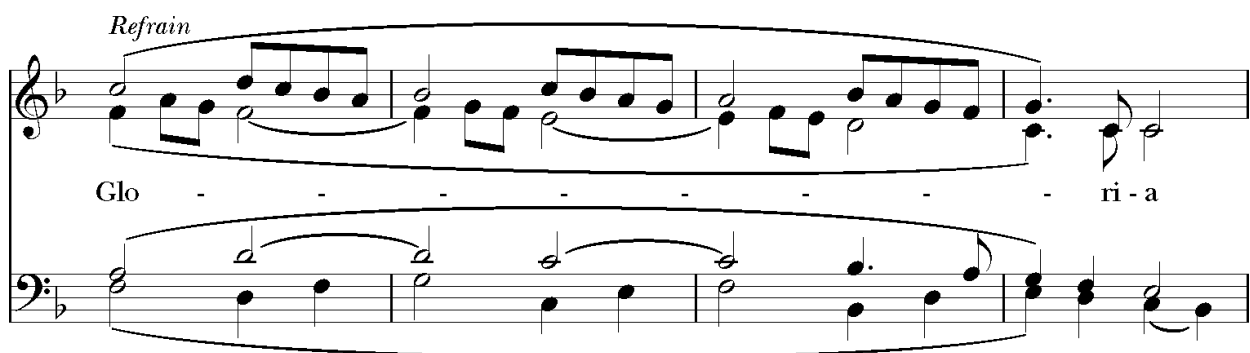
traditional, translation: Chadwick; arr: Barnes, Gloria

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

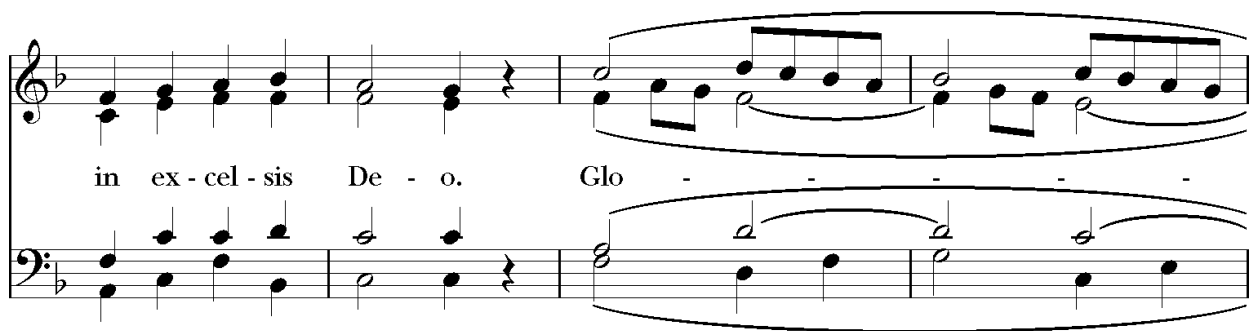


and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

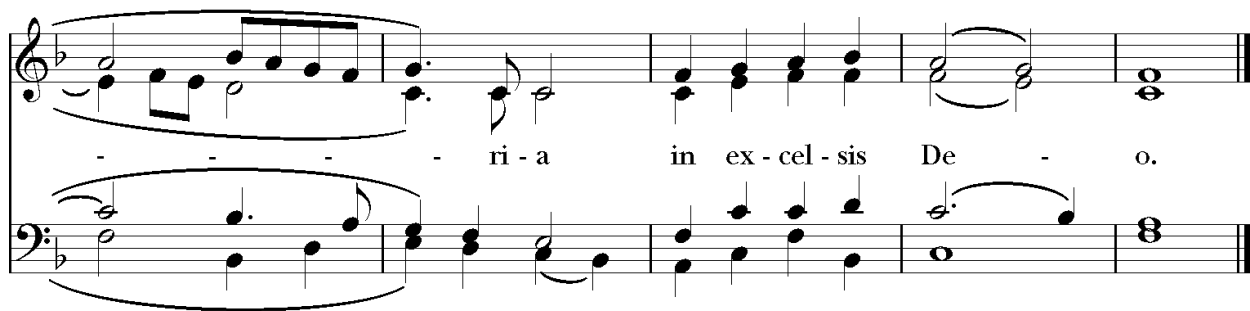
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Offerings are always welcome. Visit our website, or
[click here to make an online donation: https://tithe.ly/give?c=409634](https://tithe.ly/give?c=409634)

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.

Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

All **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

Presider And now, as Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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 thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. Silence is kept.

Presider This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

All **Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who have consecrated bread now share it, saying:

**The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.
Amen.**

*Those who do not have consecrated bread may say the following
Prayer for Spiritual Communion*

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All **Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Final Blessing

Closing Hymn

words: Mohr, (tr.: Young), music: Gruber, Silent Night

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Handel, Hallelujah Chorus, from The Messiah



St. Luke's provides a welcoming sanctuary for all people, takes faithful risks to foster community and proclaim God's love through our words, deeds and relationships.

- Provide a welcoming sanctuary for all.
- Prioritize being and staying in relationship.
- Nurture the next generation.
- Weave God into the fabric of our daily lives.
- Engage the world around us.
- Speak truth in love.
- Honor our legacy and traditions.
- Take faithful risks (courage to evolve).

At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, we affirm God's love for all of God's people. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, whatever your age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious background, social or economic circumstance, or political affiliations, you are welcome here.

*With Christ and in Christ,
We Welcome, Celebrate, Collaborate and Grow*

(530) 662-7152
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www.stlukeswoodland.org



*St. Luke's is committed to full-inclusion
for queer folk in God's Church.*