



Welcome!

Following CDC guidelines, wearing masks is optional.

We encourage everyone to wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk.

We recommend those who are unvaccinated and have not had COVID in the last 90 days mask to protect yourself and others.

Thank you for being careful and gracious toward one another as we live into these times.

In Preparation for Worship

“Blessed are you who realize there is simply not enough—time, money, resources. Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw effort is the secret to perfection. It’s not. And you know that now. Blessed are you who need a gentle reminder that even now, even today, God is here, and somehow, that is good enough.”

- Kate Bowler, *Good Enough*

Prelude

“Prelude”

William H. Harris

Jill Hudson

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: Children of God: welcome!

People: **Welcome to this place of love and grace.**

Leader: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

People: **God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community.**

Leader: God invites all of us to share in the good news:

People: **We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

Leader: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

Opening Hymn* #326

For All the Saints

Prayer of the Day*

Loving God,

Somehow joy and sorrow can coexist.

During these tiresome and challenging days, surprise us with a capacity for delight.

Remind us that every moment can contain a wide range of experience.

When we look for the good in what is also hard, we can still find you.

Thank you for the capacity to hold both at the same time.

We praise you for the gifts of wonder and delight.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise* #609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:36-43

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Children are welcome to come forward, with masks optional, for Tell Us Our Story. After Tell Us Our Story, parents may walk children across courtyard to Room 117 (3 and under) and Room 119 (PreK and K). 1st through 3rd graders may gather in the narthex, make a nametag, and then walk with a leader to the Dock. Of course, all children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families.

Special Music

The Call
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Alex Pryor, Baritone

Sermon

"Buoyed by the Absurd"

David Lower

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1983)

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Offering

All are invited to participate in support of God's work at Saint Luke's, in one of three ways:

- 1) Giving envelopes, available in each pew, may be placed inside the Friendship Pads or in the offering plate in the narthex,
- 2) Give online via slpres.org/giving,
- 3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

Grateful Recognition of Erin Rugh

Expressions of Gratitude

Litany of Recognition

Leader 1: For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven; a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, a time to pluck up what has been planted; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to let go.

All: So too there is a time for coming together and a time for parting. As Erin Rugh departs from us to go to a new place of ministry, we celebrate our time together and the many and varied gifts she has shared.

Leader 2: We celebrate Erin's time at Saint Luke's Presbyterian Church as Youth Intern and Pastoral Resident, and the many ways she has built up the body of Christ in this place.

All: Thank you, Gracious God, for leading Erin to Columbia Theological Seminary and to Saint Luke's. We are grateful to have been part of her training and growth as a minister.

Leader 1: We celebrate her imagination in planning programs, especially during the COVID pandemic; her worship leadership and preaching; her adaptability in planning mission trips, conferences, and other gatherings; and her creativity in opening new horizons of communication within the congregation.

All: Thank you, Sustaining God, for the way Erin has served with compassion, humor, and Christian love; making each person feel valued and included; and developing trusting and deep relationships with those to whom she has ministered.

Leader 2: We celebrate the lives of young people who have been so richly blessed by Erin's work with children and youth at Saint Luke's over the past five years.

All: Eternal God, we pray for your continued blessing upon Erin as she is ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA) and continues in ministry at the Faith Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee, Florida. We are proud to have been formative in her growth as a minister and leader and will follow her future endeavors with fervent prayer and much love. Amen.

Closing Hymn* #740

Lead Me, Guide Me

Benediction*

Postlude*

Prelude and Fugue

G.F. Handel

Please join us in the Great Hall for a light reception in honor of Erin Rugh!

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to slpres.org.

