



Welcome!

Following CDC guidelines, wearing masks is optional.
Thank you for being careful and gracious toward one another as we live into these times.

In Preparation for Worship

“As Christians our baptism joins us to Christ. We share in being named and claimed by God... When we forget our baptism, we forget who and whose we are. The world insists that we belong to ourselves, our employer, our family, our children’s school or sports team, or the government of our country. As Christians we reject all these claims of ownership; we belong to God. It is about God’s purposes, and through our baptism we no longer live for ourselves, we now live to, for and with God.” – Heather Carlson, Ekklesia Project

Prelude

Arioso in C Major

G. F. Handel

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: God who creates, your Spirit swept across the formless waters of chaos, making light and earth and life.
People: **God who calls, your Spirit spoke over the waters of the Jordan naming Jesus as your beloved child.**
Leader: God who blesses, your Spirit moves with grace in our lives.
People: **As proclaimed in our baptism, you call us as your children to bear your grace for the world.**
We praise you, Holy One, for the washing and refreshing waters of your grace, with our worship.

Opening Hymn* 12

Immortal, Invisible

Prayer of Confession*

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and allow the past to hold us hostage.
In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin.
Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may have new life, and live in the grace you give.
Hear now also the prayers on our hearts...

(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise* 606

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayer for Illumination

Jessica Hussain

Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Children are welcome to come forward for Tell Us Our Story. After Tell Us Our Story, parents will walk children across courtyard to Room 117 (3 and under) and Room 119 (PreK and K). 1st through 5th graders will gather in the narthex and walk with leaders to 252Kid and 252Preteen. Parents will pick up from The Dock and The Lighthouse. Of course, all children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families.

Anthem	Dear Lord and Father of Mankind	Hubert Parry The Chancel Choir
Sermon	"An Outward Sign of Inward Grace"	David Lower
Affirmation of Faith*	from the Belhar Confession (1986)	

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family.
And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active,
in that we love one another;
that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another,
that we share one baptism together,
that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together,
that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope,
which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for the Waters of Baptism

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.

Remembrance of Baptism

Those wishing to renew the promises of baptism are invited to come forward to the font, hold out your hands to receive droplets of water, and return to your pew by the side aisle.

Moment for Saint Luke's Little Saints Preschool

Carol Perry

The Offering

Arioso in A Major

J. S. Bach

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.*

Closing Hymn* 408

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place

Benediction*

Postlude*

Fantasia

J. Pachelbel

Please join us in the church lobby for fellowship and conversation!

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to slpres.org or scan the QR code for the latest Highlights.

