

August 20, 2023

Welcome to Saint Luke's!

In Preparation for Worship

"What we don't need in	n the midst of strug	gele is shame for	r being human	" – Brene Brown
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Prelude

O God, Our Help in Ages Past arr. Joel Raney

Kelly Sloan, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: Come, all who are walking through the darkest valleys. **People: Walk knowing you are loved.** Leader: Come, all who feel as though they are treading water. **People: Breathe deeply knowing you are loved.** Leader: Come, all who feel in the presence of their enemies. **People: Rest knowing that you are loved.** Leader: Let us worship the one that leads us to rest, Amen.

Opening Hymn* 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Prayer of Confession*

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, you walk beside us. When we hunger for your love, you fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, you feed us at your table. We cry out for you in the valley. Lord, open our ears to hear your voice while we stand by raging waters and in dark valleys. (a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers) Leader: Lord, in your mercy People: Hear our prayers. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise*

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Welcome of New Members

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

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

Shannon Dill

Sermon

Rough Waters and Dark Valleys

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1983)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. 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

Waltz Op. 39, No. 7

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 in the offering plates as they are passed.

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* 819

Be Still, My Soul

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

It Is Well with My Soul

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

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

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to <u>slpres.org</u> or scan the QR code.



If you would like to share prayer concerns, or know someone who would (with their permission), you may submit prayer requests for inclusion in the Prayer Guide by sending them to <u>prayerrequest@slpres.org</u>.

Johannes Brahms