



Welcome to Saint Luke's – September 24, 2023

In Preparation for Worship

“Faith is not limited to affirming the existence of God. No, faith tells us that God loves us and demands a loving response. This response is given through love for human beings, and that is what we mean by a commitment to God and to our neighbor.” – Gustavo Gutiérrez

Prelude

Troubled Water

Margaret Bonds

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: We gather in the presence of God whose love sets us free.
People: **We do not come desiring to stay the same but seek an experience that leaves us changed.**
Leader: Together, we practice courage in resisting evil and rejecting complicity and complacency.
People: **Trusting that the Spirit leads us.**
Leader: Our faith is placed in Love Eternal that lifts broken spirits and brings new life from places of ruin.
People: **With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we follow Christ.**

Opening Hymn* 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Prayer of Confession*

God of Justice and Compassion, through every wilderness or valley of death, you have guided us. Time, and time again you demonstrate your love for all of creation and yet we struggle. We struggle to see your image in ourselves and in others. We pray that you meet us here in this place. Meet us here with the good news that liberates us to oppose systems that oppress, allowing us to love as you loved us. Amen.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayers. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise* 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Exodus 14:19-31

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

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 120 (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

The Prayer

Carole Bayer Sager & David Foster, arr. Tom Fettke

Sermon

Across the Sea

Michael Sanchez

Affirmation of Faith*

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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

How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine, arr. Mark Hayes

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* 743

O God, You Are My God

Benediction*

Postlude*

How Great Thou Art, continued

Stuart K. Hine, arr. Mark Hayes

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

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



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SLPRES.ORG

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