



Welcome to Saint Luke's – October 15, 2023

The red rose on the pulpit is in honor of Kathryn Jane Kellams, born on August 5, 2023, to Emma Kathryn (Pile) Kellams and Alex Richard Kellams.

In Preparation for Worship

"The essence of the beautiful is unity in variety." – Felix Mendelssohn

Prelude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

William M. Runyan, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: We have come together to praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

People: **The firmament, the covering of earth and seas, is the roof of our sanctuary.**

Leader: And so, we dwell in the house of God all the days of our lives as one people.

People: **We will sing songs of praise and give thanks for God's steadfast hope in us.**

Opening Hymn* 409

God is Here!

Prayer of Confession*

Holy God, Creator of all that is, hear our prayer.

There are chasms in our world, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from you.

We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out.

You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with you.

Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray....

(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* 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.

Welcome of New Members

Prayer for Illumination

Nan Keel

First Lesson

Isaiah 25:1-9

Second Lesson

Matthew 22:1-14

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

David Lower

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

Open My Eyes

K. Lee Scott

Sermon

Accepting the Invitation

Rev. Dr. Victor Aloyo

Affirmation of Faith*

from The Belhar Confession (2016)

**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 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

Sonata K. 333, II. Andante cantabile

W.A. Mozart

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* 711

Lord of All Good

Benediction*

Postlude*

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Arr. Melody Bober

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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