



Welcome to Saint Luke's!
A Special Welcome to the Girl and Boy Scouts Leading Worship Today!
February 4, 2024

In Preparation for Worship

"Being human is to what God committed God's self and therefore, being who we are is what God wants us to be. God brings us back from the brinks of our lives, from despair, from disease, from desperation, to live. Because then, maybe, we will actually know, feel, and get that we are a part, that God needs us to be a part, of what's at stake for God when God decided to become one of us." – Dr. Karoline Lewis, *Working Preacher*

Presentation of the Colors

Nate Ballow, Becca Davis, Carter Dyche, Deshawn From, Allie Riordan

Gathering Prayer

Owen Hamlin

Moment for Scouting

Mischa Douglass and Aidan Keohane

Prelude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
arr. James Biery

Ian Ballow, Jack Riordan, Harrison Stallings

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Owen Hamlin

Leader: Come, rejoice and sing! God's love is showered over you this day.

People: **We gather to praise God and celebrate God's presence with us.**

Leader: God shows compassion to all who are weak and downtrodden.

People: **Jesus Christ offers healing mercies to our troubled souls.**

Leader: Praise be to God who has called us here.

People: **Thanks be to God for God's eternal love. Amen.**

Opening Hymn* 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Ian Ballow, trumpet

Prayer of Confession*

Harrison Stallings

Loving God,

We know in Jesus Christ you are a God who loves us no matter what,
healing our broken places and quieting our confusions and despair.

You mend us with grace, the power by which you also call us to be changed.

You are the one who heals those not well and liberates those not free.

Open our hearts to new faithfulness, and hold us gently in your goodness.

We confess our patterns of passivity and ingratitude, and turn to you with hearts filled with hope,
remembering the promises you have made to us.

May your name be glorified in us and through us, through Jesus Christ, our brother and friend.

(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.

Prayer for Illumination

Aidan Keohane

Scripture Reading

Mark 1: 29-39

Carter Dyche

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

Tell Us Our Story

Rebekah Adams

All children are invited to come forward for the baptism. Afterwards, parents will walk their children via the covered sidewalk to Room 120 for "Frolic" (ages PreK and K) or Room 117 for childcare (birth through 3's.) Since this is Family Worship Sunday all elementary children will remain in worship with their families so that they may participate in Communion. Worship books and other faith formation resources are available on the worship carts and ledges in the narthex. At the conclusion of worship, any family seeking to learn more about children and communion may come to the front of the sanctuary to learn more about communion from a pastor and receive resources to continue the conversation at home.

Sermon

Caution About Being Possessed

David Lower

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Brief Statement of Faith (1983)

Ian Ballow

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.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Words of Institution

Communion Music

Come Before the Table
Karen Marroli

Chancel Choir
Cooper Waller, drum

The Offering

We Praise You, O God
arr. Robert J. Powell

Ian Ballow, Nate Ballow,
Jack Riordan, Harrison Stallings

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* 796

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

Benediction*

Mischa Douglass

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

Postlude on "Coronation"
arr. Jason D. Payne

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

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