



10:30 Worship Service
Welcome to Saint Luke's!
September 8, 2024

In Preparation for Worship

"The first creation account was never meant to be a scientific treatise. It is rather a primary witness to the profound truth of God who created the universe, who created each one of us, who loves and cares for us, and presents God's challenge to us to be responsible stewards of the gift of life that we have been given. It is poetry not science."

– Brisbane Education Resource

Prelude

Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*, III. Moonlight
Benjamin Britten, arr. Anna Lapwood

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: Come with what you have. You who celebrate, you who doubt, you who grieve, you who suffer, you who struggle, you who seek.
People: **We come, all of us, in the comfort of one another to discover God's love for us.**
Leader: Come with what you have. Bring your questions, bring your hopes, bring your fears, bring it all.
People: **We come with all we have, and lay it all down at the altar of grace.**
All: **We come, all of us, in the comfort of one another to discover God's love for us, anticipating this good news with our songs of praise!**

Opening Hymn* 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Prayer of Confession*

O Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life: hear our prayer.
There are chasms in our lives, 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 give ourselves to you, now also doing so with the silent prayers on our hearts...
(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayers. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Thanksgiving*

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1

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 to Room 117 (3 and under) and Room 120 (PreK and K). 1st through 5th graders may gather in the Chapel narthex and walk with leaders to The Dock, where parents will pick up after worship. Of course, all children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families.

Anthem

The Gift of Love
arr. Hal H. Hopson

Festival Ringers & Chancel Choir

Sermon

Who Made God?

David Lower

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

Pour le piano, II. Sarabande
Claude Debussy

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* 157

I Danced in the Morning

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
arr. Paul Manz

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.