



10:30 Worship Service  
Welcome to Saint Luke's!  
August 17, 2025

## In Preparation for Worship

“What were we spending so much time doing if not getting to know each other?” – *Jonathan Safran Foer*

### Prelude

All Creatures of Our God and King  
*arr. Joshua Evanovich*

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship\*

Leader: We are from north and south. We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes. We are from this city and from others far away.  
People: We are from big families and dinners made for one. We are from stages of grief and stages of love.  
Leader: We are from hot summers and cold winters.  
People: We are from kitchens with passed down recipes, and front porches with old, familiar swings. We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.  
Leader: We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.  
People: Today we are together. Holy God, gather us in.

### Opening Hymn\* 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

### Prayer of Confession\*

God of us all,  
When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, they asked, “Can anything good come from Nazareth?”  
We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question. Can anything good come from that side of town? From a school with poor test scores? From a criminal history? From the opposite political party? From a history of addiction? From a faith with doubt? From a church with faults?  
Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all things at all times. Open our eyes to see your goodness, not as something that resides here or there, but as the expansive grace that it is.  
Forgive me, Lord. Forgive me, child of God. I want to know about where you are from. Let’s start again.  
Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking people where they are from, not with judgment, but with wonder.  
And so we take this moment of silent prayer to think of the people in our world, in our lives, who may need me to reach out and ask. We give their names to God.  
*(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)*  
Can anything good come from there? Yes. Always yes.

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

### Assurance of Forgiveness\*

## Song of Thanksgiving\* 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture Reading

John 1:35-51

Kay Loerch

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

## Tell Us Our Story

Shannon Dill

*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 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.*

## Sermon

I've Been Meaning to Ask...Where Are You From?

David Lower

## Affirmation of Faith\*

from the Confession of 1967

**In Jesus Christ, the world was being reconciled to God.**

**Jesus Christ is God with humankind.**

**Christ is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation.**

**Christ is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission.**

**To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.**

**This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other.**

**Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another.**

**In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

**Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, 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

Touch the Earth Lightly

Lindy Farley

*TENDERNESS*

*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](http://slpres.org/giving).*
- 3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.*

## Closing Hymn\* 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

## Benediction\*

## Postlude\*

Plaza Las Glorias  
Dennis Janzer

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

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to [slpres.org](http://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](mailto:prayerrequest@slpres.org).