



10:30 am Worship Service
Welcome to Saint Luke's!
August 9, 2026

The rose on the table celebrates Aya Sibelle Mammadli born July 11, 2026, to Rachel King and Jeyhun Mammadli.

In Preparation for Worship

"Science takes things apart to see how they work. Religion puts things together to see what they mean."

– Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Earth
arr. Jeff Bennett

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: God spoke into the darkness, and light came to be.
People: **God saw the light and called it good.**
Leader: God filled the seas, the skies, and the land with life.
People: **God saw all that God had made and called it good.**
Leader: God created humankind in the divine image and entrusted the world to our care.
People: **God looked upon the whole creation and called it very good.**
Leader: On the seventh day, God rested and blessed the day.
People: **Let us receive this day as a gift and worship the God who gives life to all.**

Opening Hymn* 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

Prayer of Confession*

Creator God, you made the world and called it good. You see creation and all life as good and worthy of care. Yet we do not always see as you see. We take more than we need, waste what you provide, and overlook the ways our choices harm our neighbors and the earth. Forgive us. Teach us to receive your gifts with gratitude, to recognize the worth of all you have made, and to care for your creation with wisdom and love. ... *(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)*

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

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise* 591

Halle, Halle, Halle

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Passing of the Peace*

Prayer for Illumination

Cathie and Mark Rogers

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

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

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

After Tell Us Our Story, parents may take children ages two and younger to child care in room 117. Children ages three & PreK may go to room 119. Children K and older may go upstairs with adult leaders for learning and fun in the Dock (room 210). Of course, children are always welcome to remain in worship.

Sermon

Why, Not How

Rev. Dr. David Lower

Affirmation of Faith*

from The Confession of 1967, 9.16-17

God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humans. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of the faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator. God has created humans in a personal relation with God's own self that humans may respond to the love of the Creator....Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. Humans are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life. Amen.

Ordination and Installation of New Officer

Deacon: Sydney McGoldrick

Prayer of Ordination 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.

Moment for the Church Assessment Survey

Carol Waller

The Offering

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 inside the Friendship Pads or in the offering plate in the narthex,
- 2) Scan the QR code or give online via slpres.org/giving,
- 3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

If you give electronically, there is a blue, laminated, electronic giving card in the pew rack to place in the offering plate as it is passed.

Offering Music

The Lord's Prayer
Albert Hay Malotte

Andy Lawton

Closing Hymn* 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Benediction*

Postlude*

All Things Bright and Beautiful
arr. Gary Norian

Highlights:



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.

To give:

