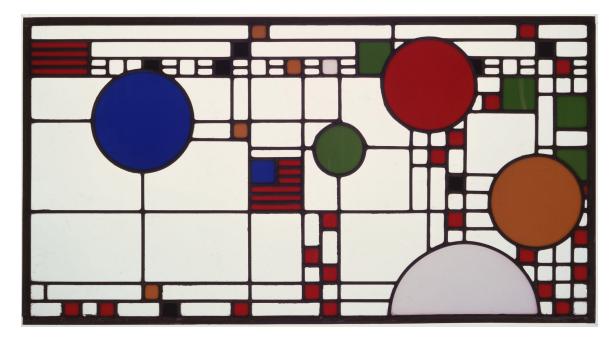
Holy Eucharist July Fourth Commemoration The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

July 2, 2023–10:00 a.m.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church Los Gatos, California

A Reminder

This is your periodic reminder that the U.S. Constitution was written by a handful of rich dudes who didn't know what atoms were, practiced medicine based on the four humors, had no idea that dinosaurs existed, used guns that fired four rounds per minute, regarded women as literal property, and would have considered a lightbulb to be pure witchcraft.

The Holy Eucharist

Prelude

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" "The Star-Spangled Banner" J.R. Johnson J. S. Smith



Words: Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907) Music: National Hymn, George William Warren (1828-1902)

CelebrantBlessed be God, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies.PeopleAnd blessed be the Realm of God,
now and forever. Amen.

The Bidding Prayer

It is on July 2, 1776, that delegates at the second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia officially separated the 13 American colonies from Britain by approving a motion for independence. Hear these words from The Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

As Christians who are Americans, we gather this day to thank God for the gifts of our freedom and liberty, to honor those whose vision, wisdom and sacrifice secured these "unalienable Rights" for us and every generation, to confess that while we believe that all are created equal, we have not allowed others to enjoy that freedom or those rights. We ask God's forgiveness and call upon God's unconditional love and boundless mercy to grant that we may be given strength and courage to live more fully into our faith and beliefs. Let us pray:

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of states, Mayors of cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in states, cities, and towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Judges and Officers of our courts, give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.

Celebrant Let us pray together:

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Hymn 719 (verses 1 & 2)

"Oh beautiful for spacious skies"



Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: Materna, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903)

The Celebrant says: Let us remember our history, that our past may inform our future.

The People sit.

The Readings

A Reading from A Pilgrim's Diary

Read by Judi Jones

"I am interested to reflect, my dear friend, on a most recent moment in the life of this brave colony. The winter past had been a bitter one, beyond memory of any of our group. The dead of many of this band had disheartened our spirits and weakened our wills; our bodies, too, suffering from myriad deficiencies. However, moved by a spirit beyond their understanding or ours, the natives taught us new ways of growing and preserving food, and after a more pleasant summer we found ourselves facing approaching winter on the heels of a good crop. Our harvest gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruits of our labours. Wishing to give thanks to Almighty God for these benefits our leaders proclaimed a day of thanksgiving, inviting our native friends to feast with us in gratitude to God for their aid and comfort.

"On the day set, all gathered, bringing produce and game in such abundance as to match any board at home. And after solemn thanksgiving, a glad festival was held, and afterwards games to delight the soul, and much laughter. Larders are full, bodies are well, and houses more secure from impending cold. In the face of coming winter we no longer fear, and we look to the future of our godly enterprise with hope, that God's help surrounding us, we may survive to plant again. Such is His mercy to us beyond deserving. Our gratitude is complete, for God has blessed us with life and hope." Hymn 433

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing"



Words: Anonymous Dutch Hymn, 1625; Tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). Music Kremser, from Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank, 1626; arr. Eduard Kremser (1838-1914)

A Reading from the Preamble to the Constitution

Read by Girault Jones

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Hymn 717 (verses 1 & 2)

"My country, 'tis of thee"



Words: Samuel francis Smith (1808-1895). Music: traditional; earliest known version by John Bull (1562-1628).

"Heroine"

Sybil Ludington (1761–1839) was a heroine of the American Revolutionary War. On April 26, 1777, at age 16, she made an all-night horseback ride to alert militia forces in the towns of Putnam Country, NY, and Danbury, CT, of the approach of British forces.

Listen, my daughters, oh, hear with pride of a seventeen, seventy-seven ride. With Longfellow's Paul we have no quibble, but now it is time to proclaim our Sybil. Women live longer, of that I'm sure So there may be some who have heard of her. One night in April when Danbury burned and the daring mission brave men spurned, Sybil (aged 16) mounted her steed and through the farmlands she did speed.

In three hours' time she went forty miles and quickly soldiers o'er walls and stiles rushed with muskets strong in hand to ferret the British from their land. The brave girl mustered New York's defense and saved five towns from war's expense. Though poets long ignored her name, we offer Sybil Ludington to women's hall of fame. Lest you think the bicentennial is macho sauce, women did more than provide Betsy Ross.

Nayan McNeill, July 1976

Hymn 717 (verses 3 & 4)

"My country, 'tis of thee"

Read by Toni Dick

A Lakota Prayer

Great Mystery, **Great Spirit**,

Teach me to trust my heart, teach me to trust my mind, **Teach me how to trust my intuition.**

Teach me how to trust my inner knowing, the senses of my body, **Teach me the blessings of my spirit.**

Teach me to trust these things so that I may enter my Sacred Space, **Teach me to love beyond my fear and thus Walk in Balance** with the passing of each glorious Sun.

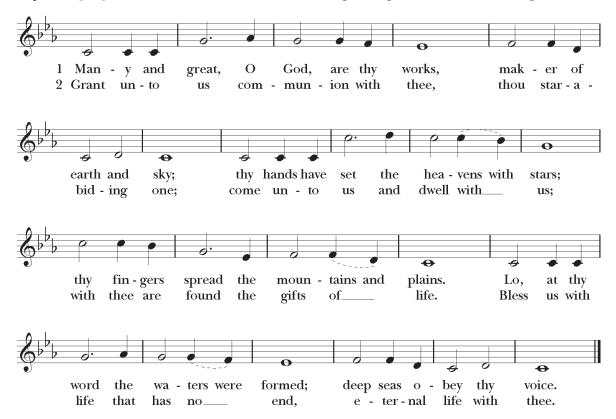
An Apache Prayer

May the sun bring me new energy by day. May the moon softly restore me by night.

May the rain wash away my worries, **May the breeze blow new strength into my being.**

May I walk gently through the world, And may I know its beauty all the days of my life. Hymn 385

"Many and great, O God, are thy works"



Words: American folk hymn; rev. Philip Frazier (1892-1964), alt. Music: Dakota Indian Chant [Lacquiparle], Native American melody

A Reading from Martin Luther King, Jr.

Read by Grady Jeter

In 1963 Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke to the crowd assembled on the Mall:

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given its colored people a bad-check, a check that has come back marked "insufficient funds."

But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. We have come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and security of justice.

We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is not time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism.

Now is the time to make real the promise of America. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality to all of God's children.

Let us not wallow in the valley of despair. I say to you, my friends, we have the difficulties of today and tomorrow. I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the meaning of its creed. We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal.

I have a dream that one day out in the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by their character.

I have a dream today.

Hymn 648 (verses 1 & 4)

With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to climb up for freedom together, knowing that we will free one day.

When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every tenement and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old spiritual, "Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty we are free at last."

"When Israel was in Egypt's land"

When 1 Is - rael was in my peo-ple E - gypt's land, let go; 9 The Lord told Mo-ses my peo-ple what to do, let go; 3 They his my peo-ple jour-neved on at com - mand, let go; 4 Oh, let all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple us go; õ op - pressed so hard they____ could not stand, let my peo-ple go. chil-dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple to lead the go. let my peo-ple length to_ Ca-naan's land, and came at go. Christ be let my peo-ple and let all in____ free. us go. Refrain Go down. Mo - ses, down in E - gypt's land; wav Ò. tell old Pha - raoh peo-ple to let my go.

Words: Afro-American spiritual. Music: Go Down, Moses, Afro-American Spiritual; arr Horace Clarence Boyer (1935-2009), ©1984, Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted, podcast and streamed with permission under One License #A-706525. All rights reserved.

A reading from President Jimmy Carter's Farewell Address to the Nation, 1981

In a few days I will lay down my official responsibilities in this office, to take up once more the only title in our democracy superior to that of President, the title of citizen. We've faced great challenges together, and we know that future problems will also be difficult. But I'm now more convinced than ever that the United States, better than any other country, can meet successfully whatever the future may bring. ... The struggle for human rights overrides all differences of color or nation or language. Those who hunger for freedom, who thirst for human dignity, and who suffer for the sake of justice. They are the patriots of this cause. I believe with all my heart that America must always stand for these basic human rights at home and abroad. That is both our history and our destiny.

America did not invent human rights. In a real sense, it's the other way around. Human rights invented America. Ours was the first nation in the history of the world to be founded explicitly on such an idea. Our social and political progress has been based on one fundamental principle: the value and importance of the individual. The fundamental force that unites us is not kinship or place of origin or religious preference. The love of liberty is the common blood that flows in our American veins.

If we are to serve as a beacon for human rights, we must continue to perfect here at home the rights and the values which we espouse around the world: a decent education for our children, adequate medical care for all Americans, an end to discrimination against minorities and women, a job for all those able to work, and freedom from injustice and religious intolerance.

Please stand.

Hymn

"Once to every man and nation"

Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide, In the strife of truth with falsehood for the good or evil side; Some great cause, God's new Messiah, offering each the bloom or blight, And the choice goes by for ever 'Twist that darkness and that light.

The Holy Gospel

ClergyThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 5:1–12

Blesséd are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blesséd are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted.

Blesséd are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.

Blesséd are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be satisfied.

Blesséd are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.

Blesséd are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.

Blesséd are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God.

Blesséd are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blesséd are you when the world reviles you and persecutes you; and utters all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake:

Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

ClergyThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed

Said by all.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory, to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Thanksgivings for National Life

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

Heal us, O God.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

Forgive us, O God.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

Inspire us, O God.

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

Enlighten us, O God.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

Renew us, O God.

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

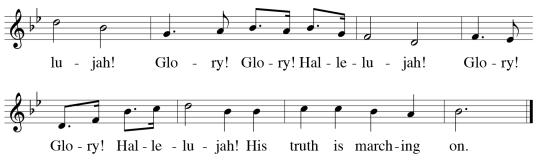
The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of Christ be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn "Mine eyes have seen the glory" 1. Mine the have seen the glo of eyes _ ry 2.I have seen in the watch - fires him of а 3. He has sound - ed forth the trum pet that shall 4. In the beau - ty of the lil ies Christ was com - ing of the Lord; He is tram - pling out the hun - dred cir cling camps; They have build - ed him an call re - treat; He is sift - ing all nev er out glo - ry born a - cross the With in his sea. a vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath eve - ning dews al - tar in the and damps; Ι can his judg - ment seat; be - fore hu - man hearts 0 be bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me; As he loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift the right - eous sen - tence by the read dim and flar - ing swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my died to make us ho - ly, let us die that all be 0 sword; His truth is march-ing on. lamps; His day is march-ing on. Glo - ry! Glo-ry! Hal - le feet! Our God is march-ing on. free! While God is march-ing on.



Text: Julia W. Howe, 1819-1910 Tune: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC, 15 15 15 6 with refrain; attr. to William Steffe, d.1911

Prayers Over the Gifts

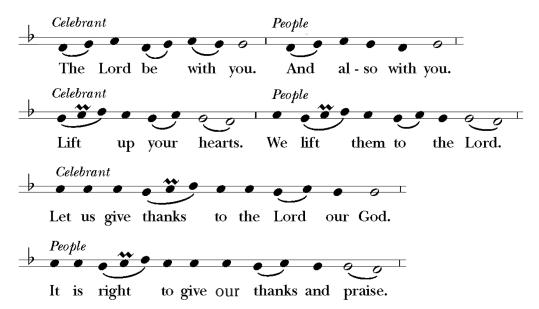
Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, **and of your own have we given you. Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the Cup of Salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, friends, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty. **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's Name, both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving



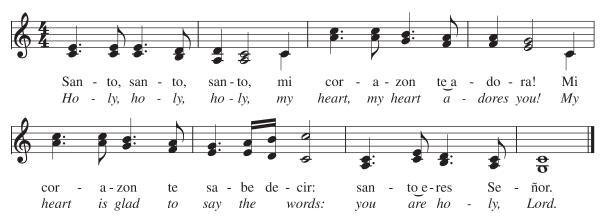
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Sing first in Spanish, then in English.



Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text. Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

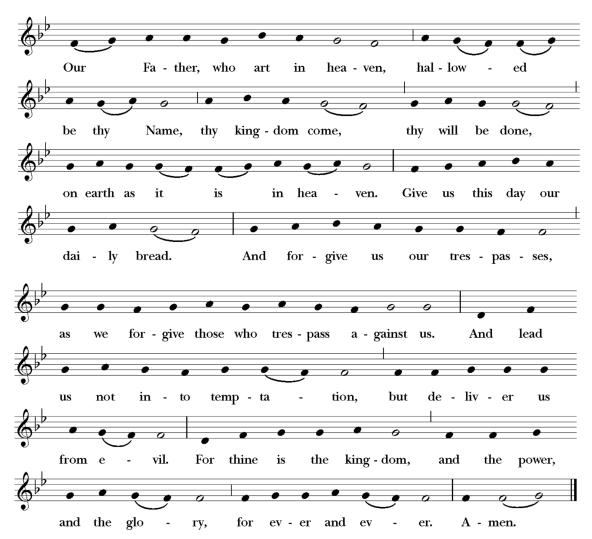
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,



Setting plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). ©1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted, podcast and streamed with permission under One License #A-706525. All rights reserved.

The Breaking of the Bread

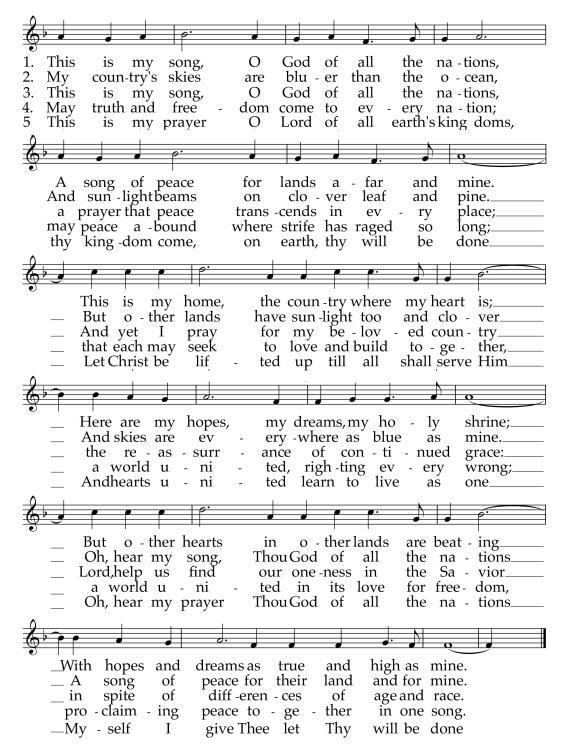
CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn

"This Is My Song"



This is my song: Words: vv 1, 2: Lloyd Stone (1912 – 1993); v3: Georgia Elma Harkness (1891-1974) 2007 Lorenz Publishing Corporation. All rights reserved. Reprinted, podcast and streamed with permission under One License #A-706525. All rights reserved. Music: Finlandia. Jean Sibelius (1865–1957)

Post-Communion Prayer

The People stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Said by all.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Benediction from Jerusalem

May the Babe of Bethlehem bring you Joy! May the Youth of Nazareth bring you Hope! May the Man of Galilee bring you Strength! May the Risen Lord of Jerusalem bring you Love! And the God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustaining Spirit bring you Peace! AMEN! Hymn 716 "God bless our native land" tive land; firm 1 God bless may she our na 2 For her shall rise God, our prayers to а ϕ \bar{o} er stand through storm night: when the wild and ev wait; the skies; him who bove on we thou art of wind tem pests rave, ru ler and wave, guard nigh, ing with watch ful ev \mathbf{er} eye, might. do thou try save by thy great our coun thee loud God save the state! we cry, to а _

Words: Siegfried August Mahlmann (1771-1826); tr. Charles Timothy Brooks (1813-1883) and John Sullivan Dwight (1812-1893), alt. Music: traditional; earliest known version by John Bull (1562–1628).

CelebrantLet us go forth to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Voluntary

Fanfare for the Common Man

Aaron Copeland



FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR Flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God by Ann Whyte.



Servers–July 2, 2023

Celebrant	The Rev. Ricardo Avila
Lay Assitant	Toni Dick
Lectors	Judi Jones, Girault Jones,
	The Rev Nayan McNeill,
	Toni Dick, Grady Jeter,
	Ron Victor
Organist	Laura Green
Producer & Gospeler	The Rev. Ernest Cockrell
Cantor	Ted Lorraine
Usher	Ann Whyte & Warren Hackbarth
Altar Guild	Stephen Wells & Linda Walton

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Cover: *Clerestory Windows from the Avery Coonley Playhouse* by Frank Lloyd Wright (1867–1959) b. Wisconsin

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a place of peace, beauty, and relationship that reflects God's saving presence through our rich Tradition, our intellectual curiosity, and our work in the wider community.

Saint Luke's Clergy & Staff

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	The Rev. R. Clark Emerson
	The Rev. Nayan McNeill, Ph.D.
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Altar Guild Coordinator	Ms. Carol Graham
Outreach/Pantry Director	Ms. Jo Greiner
Rector Emeritus	The Rev. David R. Breuer

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Toni Dick (Senior Warden) Genevieve Cleveland (Junior Warden) Glenn Katz (Clerk) Kelly Conway John Culwell

Grady Jeter Jane Ogle Martha Sterne Colin Whitby-Strevens

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