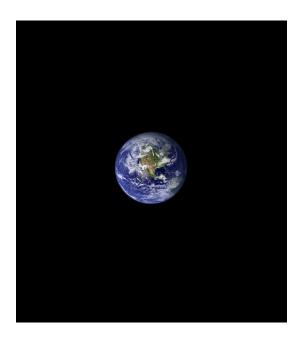
# Holy Eucharist **July Fourth Commemoration**The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

July 6, 2025-10:00 a.m.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Los Gatos, California



Look again at that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives.

The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies, and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilizations, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every "superstar," every "supreme leader," every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there—on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.

The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena. Our imagined self-importance, the delusion that we have some privileged position in the Universe, are challenged by this point of pale light. To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.

Carl Sagan

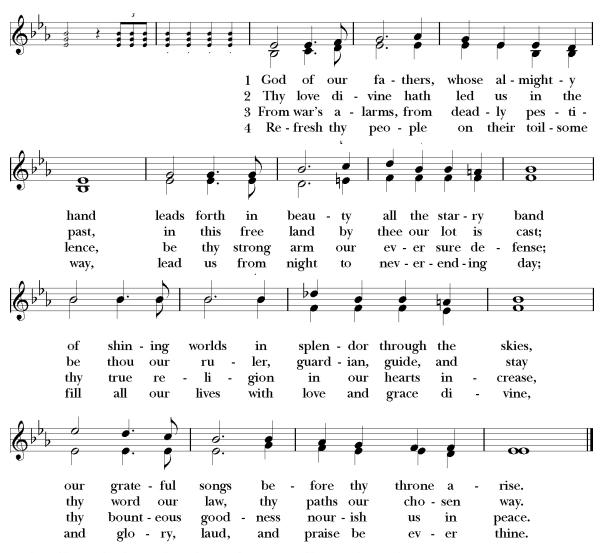
# The Holy Eucharist

#### **Prelude**

Oh Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Ward/arr. Smith

# **Hymn 718 (verses 1 & 3)** "God of our fathers, whose almighty hand"



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

Celebrant Blessed be God, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies.

People And 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.

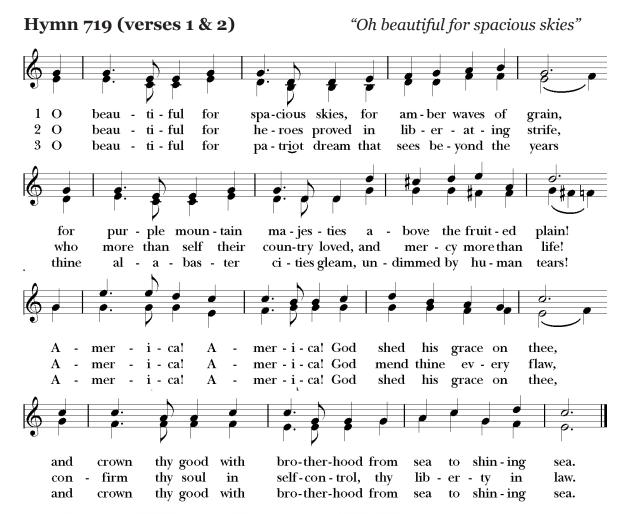
# Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

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.



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 Toni Dick

"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 (verses 1 & 3)** "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 Rod Cornell

"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).

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

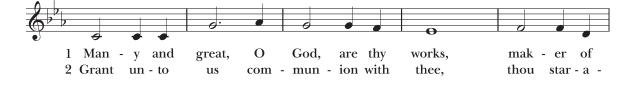
# Words from Hopi Indian Chief White Eagle 2025

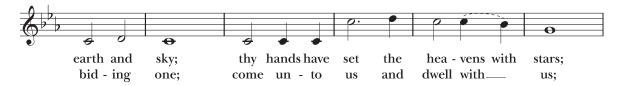
Read by Grady Jeter

The moment that humanity is living through can be considered a door or a hole. The decision to fall into the hole or go through the door is yours. If you consume information 24 hours a day, with negative energy, constantly nervous, with pessimism, you will fall into this hole. But if you take the opportunity to look at yourself, to rethink life and death, to take care of yourself and others, you will go through the door. Take care of your home, take care of your body. Connect with your spiritual home. When you take care of yourself, you take care of others at the same time. Do not underestimate the spiritual dimension of this crisis. Adopt the perspective of an eagle that sees everything from above with a broader vision. There is a social demand in this crisis, but also a spiritual demand. The two go hand in hand. Without the social dimension we fall into fanaticism. Without the spiritual dimension we fall into pessimism and futility.

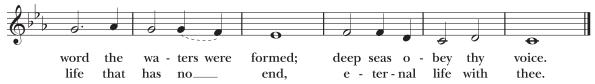
# **Hymn 385**

# "Many and great O God are they works"









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

#### **Words from Harriet Tubman**

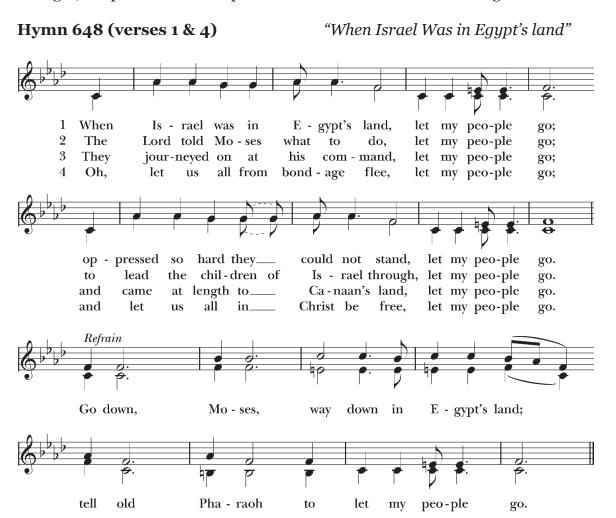
Read by Arlene McClelland

I grew up like a neglected weed – ignorant of liberty, having no experience of it. Slavery is the next thing to hell.

So if you hear the dogs, keep running. If you see the torches, keep running. If they're shooting at you, keep running. Don't ever stop. Keep going. If you want a taste of freedom, keep going. Keep going.

I was the conductor of the Underground Railroad for 8 years, and I can say what most conductors can't say: I never ran my train off track and never lost a passenger.

I crossed the line to freedom and looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. Hovering over me was such a glory over every-thing. The sun came up like gold through the trees and it felt like I was in heaven. Remember: every dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the power to reach for the stars and change the world.



# A reading from Deloros Huerta, co-founder of the United Farm Workers

Read by Elane O'Rourke

I quit teaching because I couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry and needing shoes. I thought I could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children. Every single day we sit down to eat, breakfast, lunch and dinner, and at our table we have food that was planted, picked or harvested by a farm worker. Why is it that the people who do the most sacred work in our nation are the most oppressed, the most exploited. Honor the hands that harvest your crops. The great social justice changes in our country have happened when people came together, organized, and took direct action. It is this right that sustains and nurtures our democracy today. The civil rights movement, the labor movement, the woman's movement, and the equality movement for our LGBT brothers and sisters are all manifestations of these rights. We can't let people drive wedges between us because there's only one human race. Stop being a vegetable. Work for justice. Walk the street with us into history. Get off the sidewalk. Viva the Boycott!

#### **Choir Anthem**

"Donde Hay Fe Amor"

Paul F. Page

Donde hay fe hay amor Donde hay amor Hay paz Donde hay paz

Esta Diós y donde está Dios no faltanada.

Donde hay fe amor fe amor, amor.

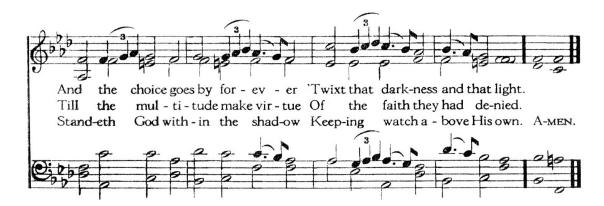
Donde hay amor, amor, amor, hay paz;

donde hay paz, está Diós; y donde está Diós. No faltanada. Where there is faith, there is love; where there is love, there is peace; where there is peace, there is God; and where there is God, where God is, then nothing is lacking.

# Hymn (Verses 1 and 3)

# Once to Every Man and Nation





# The Holy Gospel

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

A quiet "Amen" is sung by the choir & congregation

Matthew 5:1-12

How blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

How blessed the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

How blessed those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

How blessed those who hunger and thirst for what is right;

they shall be satisfied.

How blessed the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

How blessed the pure in heart: they shall see God.

How blessed the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

How blessed those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

Theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

How blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of evil against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven; this is how they persecuted the prophets before you.

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### The Nicene Creed

The choir sings quietly while the congregation says the Creed.

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

Read by Roger Fleming

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.

#### Hymn

"Dear Lord and Father of mankind"



DEAR Lord and Father of mankind, Forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

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

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

# **Welcome and Announcements**

# **The Holy Communion**

# **Choir Anthem**

Battle Hymn of the Republic
Julia Ward Howe

The congregation stands when the Officiant stands to sing the final chorus: "Glory, glory halleluja! His truth is marching on!"

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored. He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword. His truth is marching on.

#### Chorus:

Glory, Glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps. They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps. I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps. His day is marching on.

#### Chorus

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel. "As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal." Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel Since God is marching on.

#### Chorus

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat. He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat. Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on.

#### Chorus

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me. As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free While God is marching on.

Chorus

# **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.** 

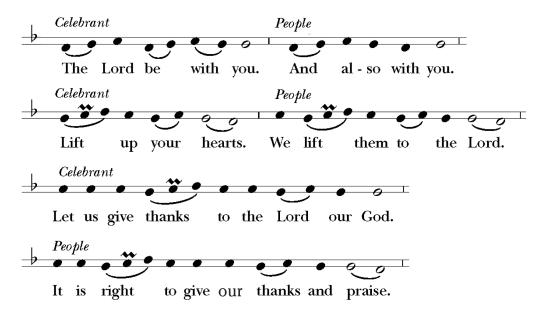
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven. **Blessed be God for ever.** 

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

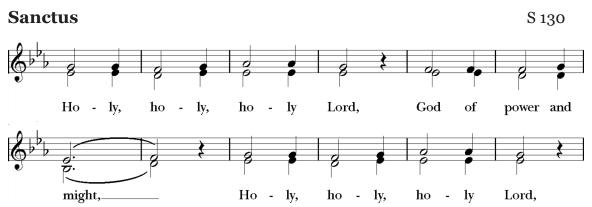
#### Eucharistic Prayer A

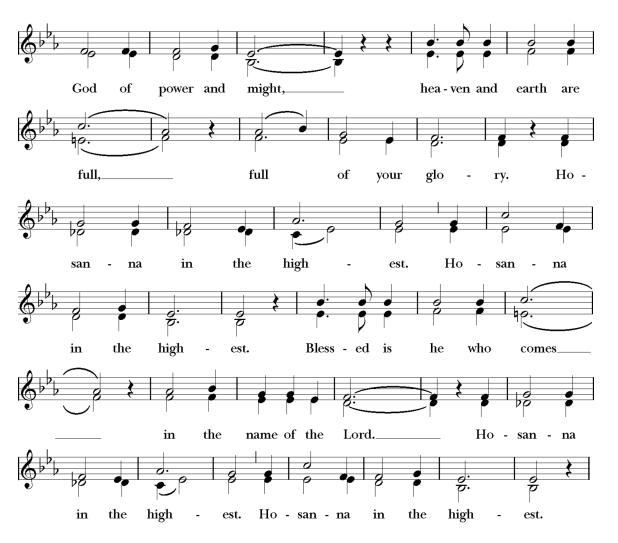


It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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





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.

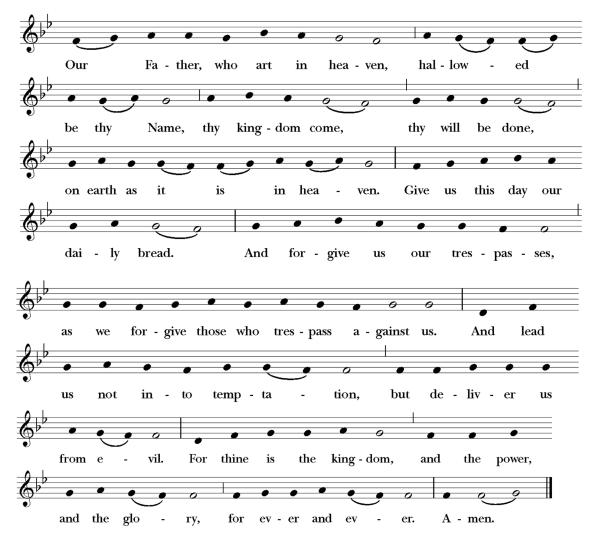
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Those receiving Holy Communion may partake of both bread and wine or in just one kind. If partaking from the chalice, please only drink, do not dip your wafer into the cup. You may also touch the wafer to the outside of the chalice if desired. If you wish to receive a Blessing rather than Communion, come forward and stand or kneel with your arms crossed over your chest.

# **Communion Hymn**



WORDS: Pamela J. Pettitt

MUSIC: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

Words © Pam Pettitt

# **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!** 



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).

#### **Dismissal**

Celebrant

People

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Voluntary** 

Trumpet Tune on "Old 100th"

David Lasky



# FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

Flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God by Joanie Smith in loving memory of her mom on her birthday, which would have been July 3.



# Servers—July 6, 2025

Officiant The Rev. Penelope Duckworth

Director & Celebrant The Rev. Ernest Cockrell

Lay Assitant Ariana Bates & Roger Fleming

Lectors Toni Dick, Rod Cornell,

The Rev. Nayan McNeil, Grady Jeter,

Arlene McClelland, Elane O'Rourke

Organist Laura Green

Trumpet Armen Krakirian

Bass Recorder Charles Manchester

Singers St. Luke's Choir

Usher Kelly Conway & John McDonald

Altar Guild Linda Walton, Bruce & Darlene Friesen

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Cover: US Flag, 1992, by Roy Lichtenstein (1923–1997) b. New York

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

Rector The Rev. Ricardo Avila

revrico@stlukeslg.org

Assisting Clergy The Rev. Ernest Cockrell

The Rev. R. Clark Emerson The Rev. Nayan McNeill, Ph.D.

The Very Rev. William S. Stafford, Ph.D.

Music Director Ms. Laura Green

lauragreen@stlukeslg.org

Parish Administrator Mr. Michael King

office@stlukeslg.org

Treasurer Mr. Art Feather

afeather@stlukeslg.org

Altar Guild Coordinator Ms. Carol Graham Outreach/Pantry Director Ms. Jo Greiner

Rector Emeritus The Rev. David R. Breuer

# Saint Luke's Vestry • vestry@stlukeslg.org

John Cleveland (Senior Warden)

Ron Victor (Junior Warden)

John Culwell

Paul Fait

Loren Schlesinger

Joanie Smith

Janet Souza

Steve Sullins

Roger Fleming Glenn Katz (Non-Vestry Clerk)

# Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

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