Holy Eucharist With Baptism The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025-10:00 a.m.



Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

Los Gatos, California

The Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Fantasie on Veni Emmanuel

Angela Kraft Cross

Opening Hymn 59

"Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"



- 1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
- 2 Wak-ened by the sol-emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
- 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex pect ed, comes with par don down from heaven;
- 4 so when next he comes with glo ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
- 5 Hon or, glo ry, might, and bless ing to the Fa ther and the Son,



- 1 "Cast a way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
- 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis pel ling, shines up on the morn-ing skies.
- 3 let us haste, with tears of sor row, one and all to be for given;
- 4 may he with his mer-cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
- 5 with the ev er last-ing Spi rit while un end-ing a ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889);

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Our King and Savior now draws near.

People O come, let us adore him.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God of peace and rest, you sustain us with your love in times of strife and anxiety: Give us grace to trust in you, knowing we are in your hands and that nothing will keep us from your comforting embrace, even in these darkening days of Advent waiting for your arrival; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Penitential Order

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Said by all
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant then says

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

Kyrie Eleison S 95





Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Music: From the Litany of the Saints; adapt. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God. He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4-9

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! * whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; * who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, * and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; * the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; * he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
 Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

James 5:7-10

A Reading from the Letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Ricardo Avila

Holy Baptism

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Priest The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents &

Godparents I present Charles Daniel Leroy to receive the Sacrament of

Baptism.

The Priest then asks the Parents and Godparents

Priest Will you be responsible for seeing that this child you present will

be brought up in the Christian faith and life?

God/parents I will, with God's help.

Priest Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into

the full stature of Christ?

God/parents I will, with God's help.

Then the Priest asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infant.

Priest Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of

wickedness that rebel against God?

God/parents I renounce them.

Priest Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt

and destroy the creatures of God?

God/parents I renounce them.

Priest Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the

love of God?

God/parents I renounce them.

Priest Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

God/parents I do.

Priest Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

God/parents I do.

Priest Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

God/parents I do.

The Priest then addresses the congregation.

Priest Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to

support this person in his life in Christ?

People We will.

Priest Let us join with this child who is committing himself to Christ

and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,

in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin,

repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example

the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,

loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,

and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

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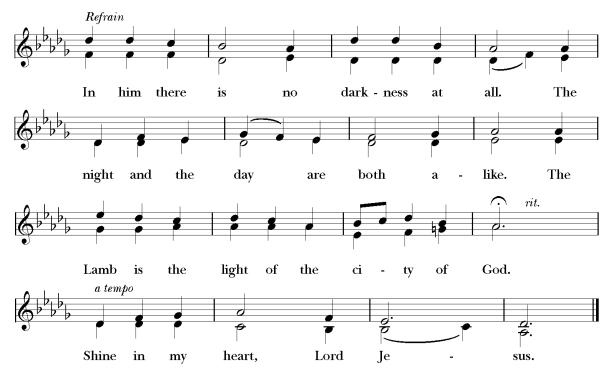
of

Je

sus.

During the following hymn, the baptismal party processes to the baptismal font.





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Prayers for the Candidate

Priest Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of

new birth.

Leader Deliver him, O God, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep him in the faith and communion of your

holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of

Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory;

who lives and reigns now and for ever.

People Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Priest The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

14

The Baptism

The candidate is baptized with holy water.

Charles, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, Priest

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. People

The candidate is annointed with holy chrism.

Charles, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Priest

Christ's own for ever.

Amen. People

Priest Let us pray.

> Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you,

and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.

A candle is lighted from the Paschal Candle and given to the newly baptized.

Receive the light of Christ and let your light so shine before all Priest

that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in

heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized. Priest

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the All

faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and

share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The congregation is asperged as the altar party processes back up to the chancel.

Prayers of the People are omitted on this day, but your prayer slip petitions will be prayed for during announcements.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

And the Glory of the Lord

G.F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

(Isaiah 40:5)

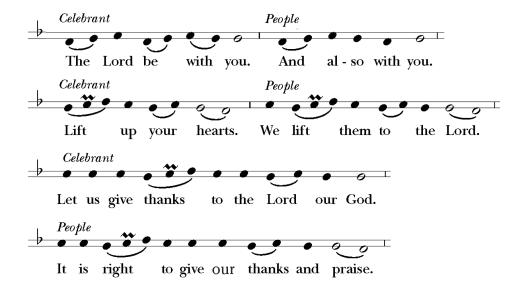
Prayers Over the Gifts

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.**

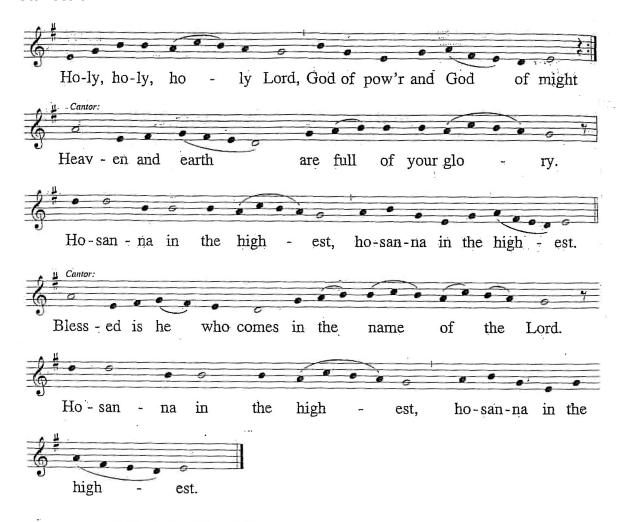
Pray, friends, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty. May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's Name, both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church. Amen.



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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Sanctus



Music: Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist, blessed Luke, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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, Said by all 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

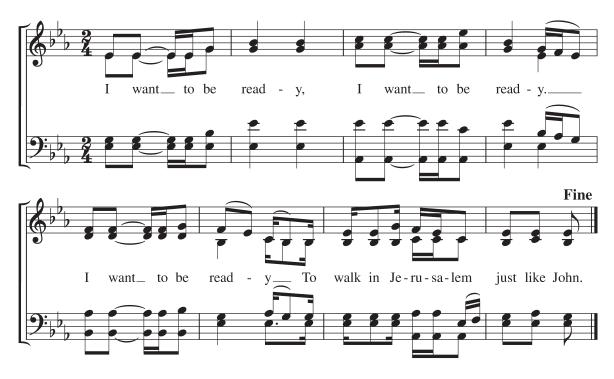
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

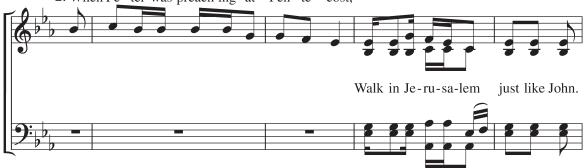
Those receiving Holy Communion may partake of both bread and wine or in just one kind. If partaking from the chalice, please only drink, do not dip your wafer into the cup. You may also touch the wafer to the outside of the chalice if desired. If you wish to receive a Blessing rather than Communion,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

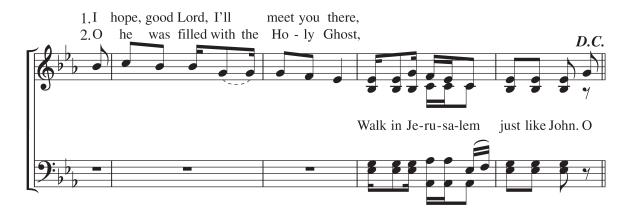
Communion Hymn 7 (LEVAS)

"I want to be ready"



- 1. John said that Je ru sa-lem was four-square,
- 2. When Pe-ter was preach-ing at Pen-te-cost,





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Post-Communion Prayer

Said by all

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you

with gladness and singleness of heart;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of divine blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen**.

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love. **Amen**.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen**.

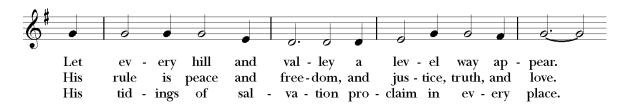
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

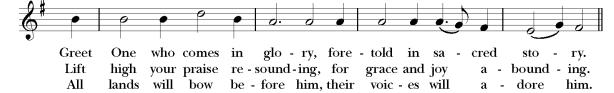


"Prepare the way, O Zion"



- 1 Pre pare the way, O Zi on, your Christ is draw-ing near!
- 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi on; he comes from heaven a bove.
- 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi on; your Sa vior's rule em brace.





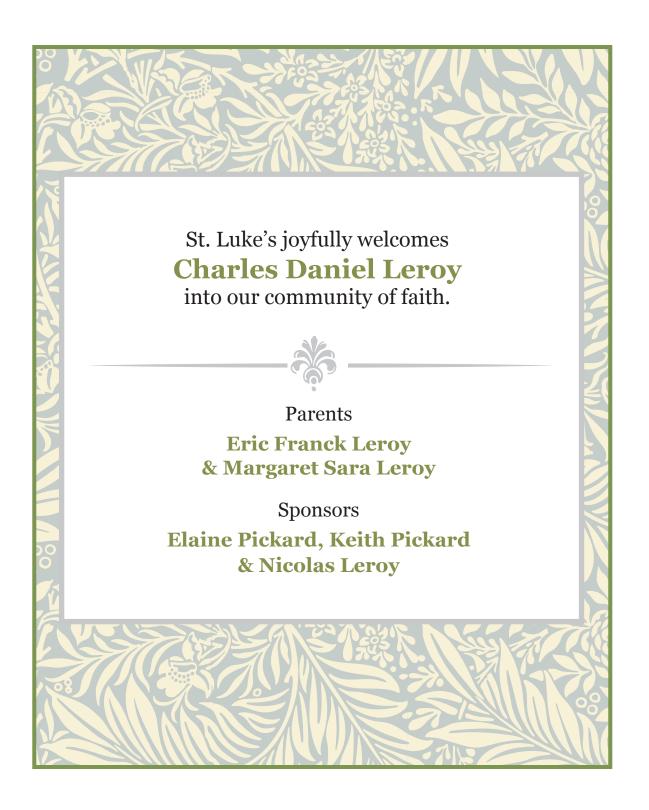


The Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people, and they respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying Robert Benson





FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

Flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God by Jane Voss for her parents, Oscar and Evelyn Williams, Don Voss, and Alan and Julie Williams.

Flowers at the altar are also given to the glory of God by Ray Eitreim in love and memory of his Mom, Mary Eitreim, and wife, Pam King, on the anniversary of their passing in December 2014 and 2021, respectively.



Servers—December 14, 2025

Celebrant/Preacher The Rev. Ricardo Avila

Lay Assistant Roger Fleming

Crucifer Indy Howie

Acolyte Simone Bates & Olivia French Lectors Rebecca Friedman & Rod Cornell

Organist Laura Green Singers St. Luke's Choir

Live-streaming Director Art Feather

Usher Lewis Pollard

Altar Guild Connie Beck & Elaine Smith

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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.

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Treasurer Mr. Art Feather

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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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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)

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