

Holy Eucharist
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025—10:00 a.m.



Saint Luke's Episcopal Church
Los Gatos, California

The Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Canticle of the Turning

Ron Schmoltze

Opening Hymn 72

"Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes"



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes,
2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease
3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind,
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace,



the Sav - ior prom - ised long!
in Sa - tan's bond - age held;
the bleed - ing soul to cure,
your wel - come shall pro - claim;



Let ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne,
the gates of brass be - fore him burst,
and with the trea - sures of his grace
and heaven's e - ter - nal arch - es ring



and ev - ery voice a song.
the ir - on fet - ters yield.
to en rich the hum - ble poor.
with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1735; based on Isaiah 61:1-2

Tune: *Richmond*; Thomas Haweis, 1792; adapt. Samuel Webbe, 1

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 joy and salvation, you sent your Son to bring us to new life: Evermore gladden our hearts this Advent Season with the prospect of your arrival, newly-come yet ever-present, that we may always be prepared to welcome you in love, when you come again in glory this Christmas and in the age to come; 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

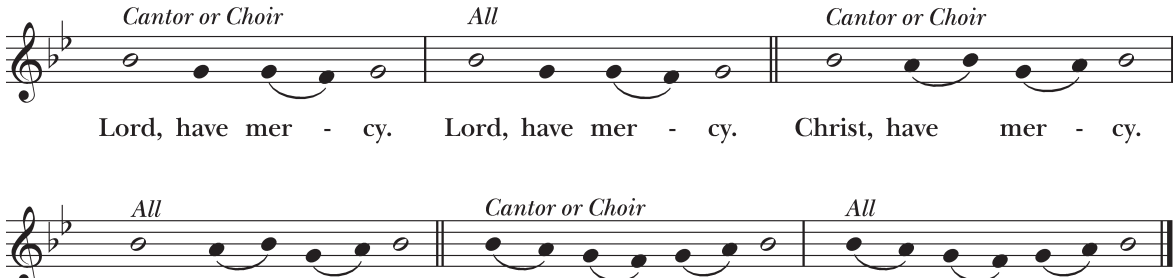
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son 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



The musical notation is written on two staves. The first staff contains three measures: the first measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and the second and third are labeled 'All'. The second staff contains three measures: the first and third are labeled 'All' and the second is labeled 'Cantor or Choir'. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.' The melody is simple, using a G-clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10–16

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1–7, 16–18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Lesson

Romans 1:1–7

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn 56 (verses 1, 6–8)

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

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 Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death’s dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease,
and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

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.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the

child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

<i>Clergy</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Eugene Schlesinger

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

Form II

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sarah,
Archbishop-elect of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Lucinda, our
Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being
of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in
prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that
they may find and be found by God.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence.

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Choir Anthem

Magnificat

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm.
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

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 B

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

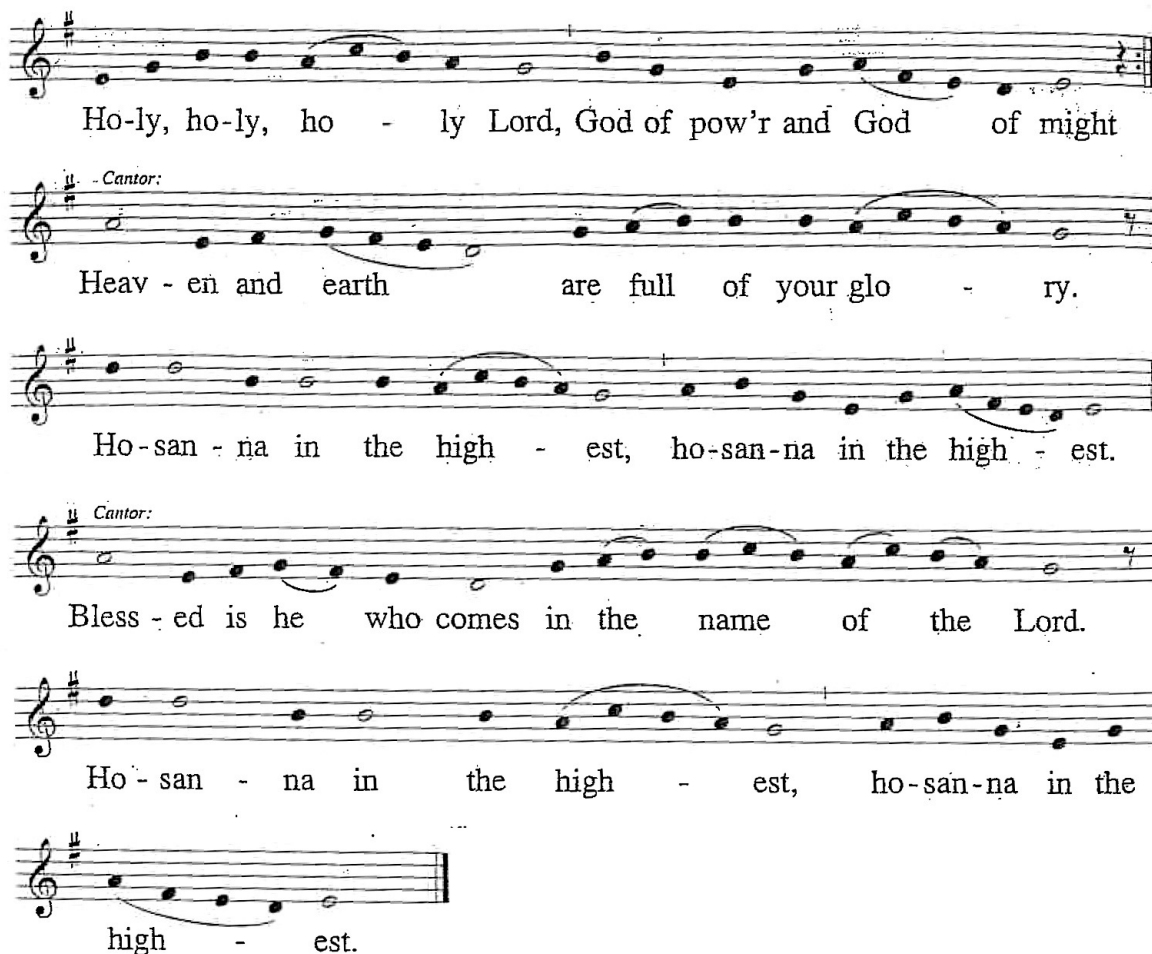
People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might

Cantor:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Cantor:
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the
high - est.

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 Joseph, 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 265

"The angel Gabriel from heaven came"



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943). Copyright © 1961 B. Feldman and Co Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd. 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0LD, England.

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.**

Closing Hymn 14 (LEVAS)

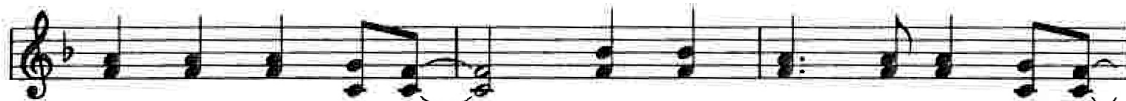
"Soon and very soon"



1. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King, —
2. No more cry - in' there — we are goin' to see the King, —
3. No more dy - in' there — we are goin' to see the King, —
4. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King; —



1. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King, —
2. No more cry - in' there — we are goin' to see the King, —
3. No more dy - in' there — we are goin' to see the King, —
4. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King, —



1. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there — we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there — we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon — we are goin' to see the King,



— Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, — we're goin' to see the King!



— Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -



jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people, and they respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Voluntary on the 100th Psalm Tune

Henry Purcell



FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR

Flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God by Grady Jeter “in memory of my father, Irvin Jeter. Born on the day after Christmas, perhaps the worst day of the year for a birthday.”

Flowers are also given to the glory of God by Nate Wilson: “Happy Anniversary! For 63 wonderful years with my lovely wife Carolyn and the many blessings of our years together.”



Servers—December 21, 2025

Celebrant	The Very Rev. William S. Stafford
Preacher	Eugene Schlesinger
Lay Assistant	Ariana Bates
Acolytes	Pablo Alvarez, Camila Nava
Thurifer	Roger Fleming
Lectors	Girault Jones & Kelly Conway
Organist	Laura Green
Singers	St. Luke's Choir
Live-streaming Director	Art Feather
Usher	Kelly Conway
Altar Guild	Gigi Fait, John Barber, and Caralee Weich

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Cover: *Joseph's Dream* by Rembrandt (1606–1669) b. The Netherlands

*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)	Loren Schlesinger
Ron Victor (Junior Warden)	Joanie Smith
John Culwell	Janet Souza
Paul Fait	Steve Sullins
Roger Fleming	Glenn Katz (Non-Vestry Clerk)

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