

**Holy Eucharist**  
**The First Sunday After Christmas**  
**Sunday, December 28, 2025— 10:00 a.m.**



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
**Los Gatos, California**

# The Holy Eucharist

## Prelude

## Medley of Carols

arr. Betty Cook &  
Becca Friedman

## Opening Hymn 87

*“Hark! the herald angels sing”*



The musical score consists of five staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one sharp. The music is divided into three sections: a prelude, a medley of carols, and an opening hymn. The hymn section begins with the text "Hark! the herald angels sing" and continues through several stanzas, including "Peace on earth and mercy mild," "Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise," and "with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!" The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some bassoon parts indicated by thicker lines.

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right-eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

Celebrant

Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

## The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Gloria (Hymn 96)

*"Angels we have heard on high"*



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

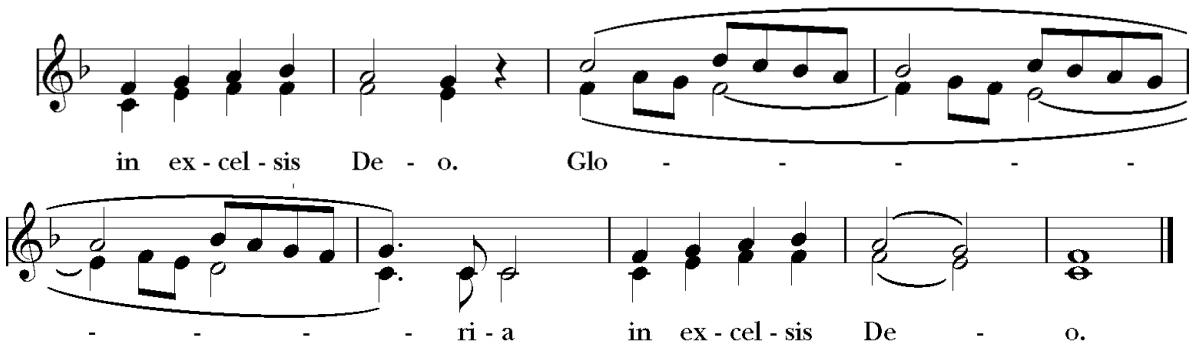


and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.  
What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

*Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 61:10–62:3*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

## Psalm 147

- 1 Hallelujah!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*  
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.
- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## The Second Lesson

*Galatians 3:23–25; 4:4–7*

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

## Gospel Hymn 115

*“What child is this, who, laid to rest”*

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
 2 Why lies he in such mean estate, where  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

## The Holy Gospel

*John 1:1–18*

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

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Clergy*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Very Rev. William S. Stafford

## **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 VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, Sean, our Presiding Bishop,

Lucinda, our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in God's Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, and we will exalt you,  
O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal  
kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*Silence.*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.*

## The Peace

*Celebrant*      The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**

## Welcome and Announcements

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory Anthem

*Shepherd's Farewell  
to the Holy Child*

Hector Berlioz

Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling, the humble crib, the stable bare.  
Babe, all mortal babes excelling, content our earthly lot to share.  
Loving father, loving mother, shelter thee with tender care!

Blessed Jesus, we implore thee with humble love and holy fear.  
In the land that lies before thee, forget not us who linger here!  
May the shepherd's lowly calling, ever to thy heart be dear!

Blest are ye beyond all measure, thou happy father, mother mild!  
Guard ye well your heav'nly treasure, the Prince of Peace, The Holy Child!  
God go with you, God protect you, guide you safely through the wild!

## 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*

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

*Celebrant*

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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

S 130

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. 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.

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;**

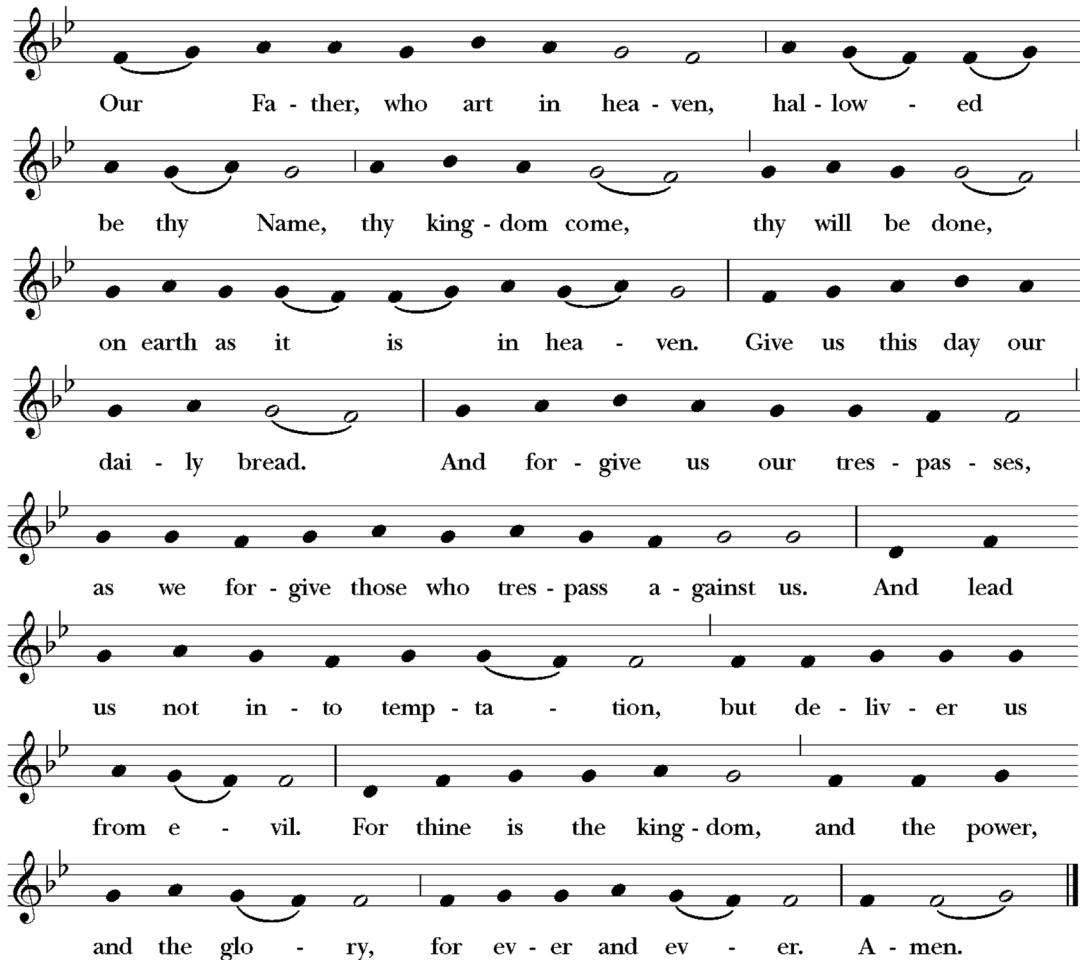
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

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 John the Baptist, 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,



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Setting plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). ©1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.  
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## 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 82

“Of the Father’s love begotten”



## Post-Communion Prayer

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

*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.

## A Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of divine holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the angels to proclaim glad tidings of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, grant you peace and favor. **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 99

## *“Go tell it on the mountain”*

### *Refrain*

Go, tell it on the mount - ain o - ver the hills and ev - ery- where;

A musical score for a two-part composition. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The music consists of two measures of music, with the first measure ending on a half note and the second measure ending on a dotted half note.

go, tell it on the mount - ain, that Je - sus Christ is born.

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,

2 The sheep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo! a - bove the earth

3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born.

be - hold, through-out the hea - yens there shone a ho - ly light.

rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.

and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

### *to Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.

rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.

and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African-American spiritual, adapted by John W. Work (1872-1925)

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## The Dismissal

### *The clergy dismisses the People and they respond*

# Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

## *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

arr. Michael Praetorius









## Servers—December 28, 2025

Celebrant	The Rev. Ricardo Avila
Preacher	The Very Rev. William S. Stafford
Lay Assistant	Linda Walton
Acolyte	Pablo Alvarez & Indy Howie
Lectors	Girault Jones & Lillian McMath
Organist	Laura Green
Musicians	Betty Cook & Rebecca Friedman
Live-streaming Director	Art Feather
Usher	Ron Victor
Altar Guild	Carol Graham, Alice Marciel, Jane Voss



Cover: Detail from *Madonna and Child with Saints*  
by Fra Angelico (c. 1395–1455) b. Italy

*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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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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