

ST. LUKE'S CATHEDRAL
The Episcopal Diocese of Maine
Portland, Maine
Celebrating 150 Years

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017

10:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Join us for Christmas Eve 5:00 pm (with the pageant)
10:00 pm (with music beginning at 9:30) and Christmas Day at 10am

Welcome to St. Luke's Cathedral! We are a community of faith with ancient worship and modern thought, catholic traditions and progressive theology, a Biblical perspective for thinking people, a respect for reason, science, and diversity of perspective, compassion and care for the wider community and one another, and a commitment to radical welcome and inclusion... all modeled on the Kingdom of God that Jesus proclaimed. Whoever you are and wherever you may be in your journey through life, we welcome you! During the school year, our Adult Education programs are at 9:00, Sunday School for K-5 begins at 9:45 with children returning at the peace, and Middle and High School groups meet at 11:30. *Child care is available for children four years old and under from 9:30-11:30 all year long.* As is our custom, all baptized Christians are most welcome to receive communion. We thank you for coming today and hope you will make the Cathedral your spiritual home. If you are new, please take a moment to sign our guest book and enjoy the material on our welcome table.

Our mission: As a "believe out loud congregation," St. Luke's welcomes all people to share in the Episcopal Church's mission to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Jesus Christ. As a cathedral, St. Luke's is the seat of the bishop and the chief mission church of the Diocese and people of Maine. With its first service held on Christmas Day in 1868, St. Luke's continues 150 years of reaching out to the city and people of Portland. The Cathedral Church of St. Luke is proud to be part of the 2.5 million member Episcopal Church USA and the 75 million member world-wide Anglican Communion.

About our worship: Our bulletin includes all the words and music of the service. **The congregation's part is in bold.** We stand to sing, sit to listen, and kneel or stand to pray. Worship begins with a prelude and concludes with a postlude. Please respect those who spend these times in quiet and prayer. *This entire program is available as a pdf on our website!* Please help us care for creation by using your tablet, phone, laptop or other device to follow the service! Bulletins will be put on the website on Fridays. The wifi password in the nave is Trinity3.

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www.stlukesportland.org office@cathedralofstluke.org

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Processional Hymn 436

Lift up you heads, ye mighty gates

Truro

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
 3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 *4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
 5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
 2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
 3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 1 thee: here, Lord, a - bid: Let me thy in - ner
 5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
 2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
 3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
 People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity (read by all)

BCP p. 355

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.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: **And also with you.** Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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 First Lesson

Lector: Paul Smith

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26 (spoken)

- 1 Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 "I will establish your line for ever, and preserve your throne for all generations."

- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:
"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him, nor any wicked man bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and love shall be with him,
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
- 25 I shall make his dominion extend from the Great Sea to the River.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

Sequence Hymn (vs. 1-2)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Luke.

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

The Gospel

Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Deacon: This is the gospel of the Lord. People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn (vs. 3-4)

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

The Prayers of the People, Form I

BCP p. 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer this week we pray for Yola - (Jos, Nigeria). In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the congregations of St. Michael's Auburn; Trinity, Lewiston; for Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston. For those who advocate for the poor, the lonely and the oppressed.

Lord have mercy.

For our Presiding Bishop, for our Bishop, and for all clergy and people who minister, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For our president, our congress and all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the whole of creation which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the aged and the infirm, for the widowed and the orphans, and for the sick and the suffering. We pray especially for Susan Winn (friend of Ray Davis Murdoch Curry). Please add your own petitions. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For the poor and oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of resurrection, especially St. Luke's parishioner Monica Ellis, Lee Rogers (friend of Lynne England) and Susan Leigh Moody (niece of Garison Murrell), Please add your own petitions. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

We give thanks for the blessings in our lives. We give thanks for members of our congregation, especially Jean Smart, Frank and Helen Smith, Nancy and Margaret Smith, Sallie Smith and Marjorie Soden. Please add your own thanksgivings. (Pause) In the communion of blessed Luke and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

The Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins to God.

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.

Celebrant: May 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.**

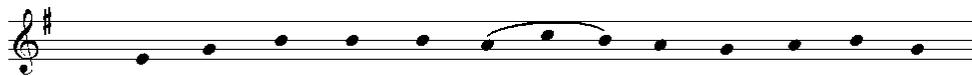
The Peace

Celebrant: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Offering

Every quarter in the offering plate provides a meal for a child in Duny, Haiti.



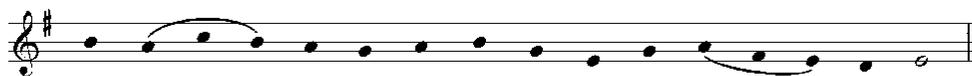
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP p. 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **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, God 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:

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, 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.

The people stand or kneel. Then the celebrant continues

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,

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 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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

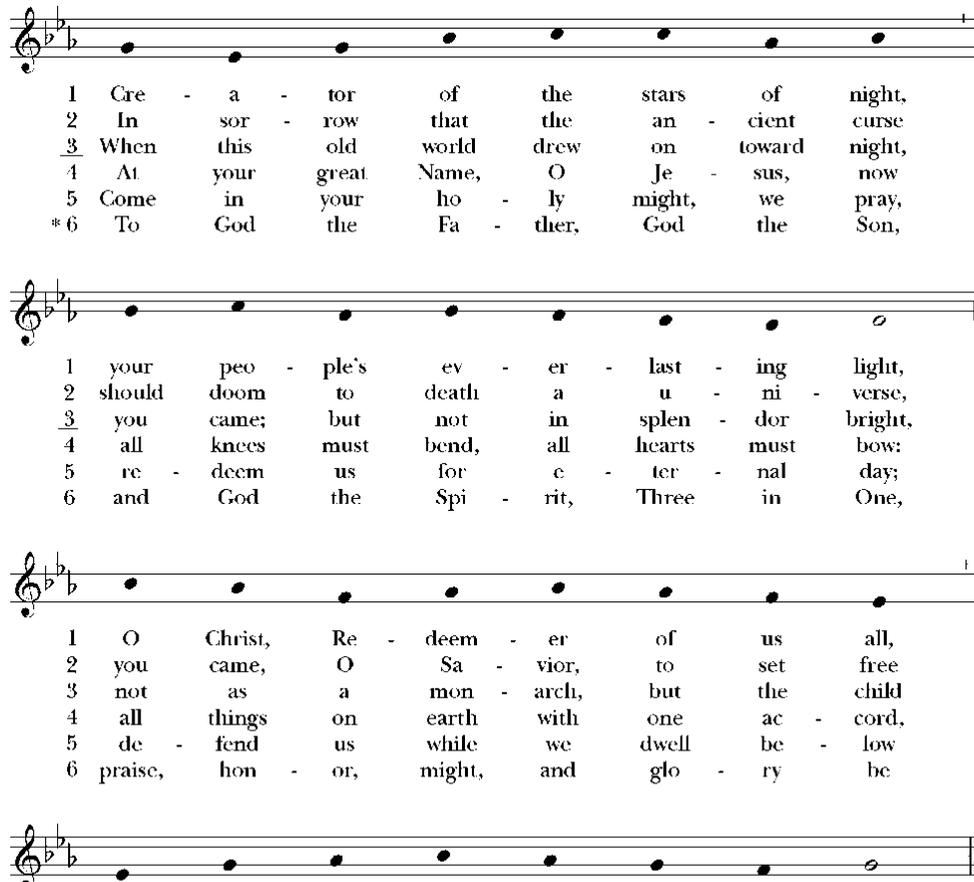
Words of welcome (from the Iona Community): "Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been here for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here." Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. If you do not wish to receive wine, or only wish a blessing, cross your hands over your chest as you come forward. After communion, you may wish to go to All Saints Chapel (to the right of the high altar) for the Laying on of Hands, anointing with holy oil, and prayers of healing.

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!



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 * 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,

1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,

1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be

1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **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 Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 1 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose com - ing is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 barred! Not robbed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

Deacon: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God!**

Organ Postlude

Praeludium

Johann Pachelbel

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Welcome Visitors: There are greeters at the door who are available to answer any questions you might have about the Cathedral. Please join us for coffee hour after the service.

The parish office will be closed from December 25 through January 1, reopening on Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00am. St. Elizabeth's Pantry will be CLOSED on Tuesday, December 26 and the food pantry will be OPEN on Thursday, December 28. Also note that there will be no 12:10 service or Bible Study on Tuesday, December 26. Merry Christmas!

Stewardship Update: As of December 20, we have received 155 pledges for \$344, 234.16. At this time last year our pledges totaled \$311, 748. Thank you for your generosity. Pledge forms and additional information are available in the Nave and on our website at www.stlukesportland.org.

CPR Training at St. Luke's: Members of the Vestry, Usher and Verger Teams, St. Elizabeth's Volunteers and all other interested parties are encouraged to attend the upcoming CPR Training here on Saturday, January 6 from 9-12. Participants will receive CPR and AED Training as well as instruction in administering Narcan. The Fee is \$15.

Lessons and Carols! The Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Cathedral Musician, Albert Melton assisted by organist, Randall Mullin, will celebrate Epiphany and conclude the Cathedral's Christmas celebration with their annual service of Lessons and Carols. The service will be presented on Sunday, January 7 (the first Sunday after the Epiphany) at 4 p.m.

Tai Chi Health and Wellness: An 8 week beginner's class will start Tuesday, January 9, 2018 from 2 to 3pm in the lower hall. Everyone is welcome. All you need are comfortable clothes and flat shoes. There is no charge for the class, however donations will be accepted.

The Holiday Fair is looking for Christmas Decorations. As you decorate your home this holiday season, please consider donating any extra or unwanted decorations to our fair. This is the time of year when such decorations are plentiful and we are always taking donations. Bring them in clearly marked for the fair and drop them off in the upper hall. There will be a "FAIR" table set up each Sunday. All items need to be in good saleable condition. Thank you!

Nominations for election at the Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Cathedral Church of St. Luke will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 11:30 in the Cathedral Nave. The Vestry approved the following slate at its December meeting. Nominations for Vestry: Jane Briggs, Claire Hammen, Misha Pride, Nancy Brain (2 year term). Nomination for Junior Warden: Sam Allen. Nomination for Diocesan Convention and the Electing Convention for the next bishop of Maine (5 to be elected, with the remainder serving as alternates): Sam Allen, Sarah Braik, Michael Brennan, George Cooper, David Fernald, Fred Fowler, Eliot Field, Thurl Headen, John Hennessy, Mary Linneman, Misha Pride, David Savage, Jack Swanton

Adult Ed for Winter/Spring Season

Journey Through Epiphany: *Immigration, Resettlement and the Christian Perspective.* Drawing on the work of Episcopal Migration Ministries, this six part series will look at the world wide refugee crisis and how we are called as Christians to respond. Starts Sunday, January 7, in classroom 8.

Lenten Classes:

Inwardly Digest: *The Prayer Book As Guide To A Spiritual Life.* Working with a book by Derek Olsen this class will explore how the Book of Common Prayer is much more than just a service book; it also is a guide to spiritual practice and a repository of Christian wisdom. We will explore how to use the BCP as a resource in building "rule of life" to deepen our spiritual practice in everyday life. Thursday evenings at 7:00 in the downstairs Resource Room.

The Social Justice Bible Challenge -- *Reflection Group*, Sundays in Lent at 9:00 in classroom 8. Join the challenge! Forty days of readings and reflections based upon the theme of social justice. We will gather each Sunday during Lent to share our insights from the week's readings. You can order the book yourself or let us know and we will provide a copy. (ISBN 978-0-88028-450-9)

Confirmation Class: Second and Fourth Sundays of the month in the Chapter Room at 4:00 P.M. Taught jointly with Trinity Portland, this class will prepare teens for the sacrament of confirmation using the *Confirm Not Conform* curriculum. (Taught by Clergy and myself, some classes may occur at Trinity.)

PRAYERS for the Week of December 24, 2017

In The Anglican cycle of prayer, Yola - (Jos, Nigeria). **In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer,** we pray for of St. Michael's Auburn; Trinity, Lewiston; for Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston. For those who advocate for the poor, the lonely and the oppressed. For the people and clergy of our Companion Diocese of Haiti. We offer prayers of healing and comfort **for Members of our Congregation:** Jane Kolkhorst, June Stevenson, Candy Giroux, Joe Edgar, Susan Hough, Sam Parsons, Peter Mulvey, Harold Donatelli, Heather Robinson, Donald DeRice, Barbara Prime, Gretchen Lane, Nancy Bowker, Ted Wright, Linda Poland, Joe Walker, Steve Sawyer, Deb Potts. **For our Friends and Family** Katharine Doughty (daughter of Mary Doughty), Lydia, Annaelle Safha, Binta and Sabri, (family of Thierry Ndabahagame), Janet Brennan (mother of Michael Brennan), Sabin Streeter (friend of Linda Beane and Celia and Victor Wakefield), Wilbur Easler (uncle of Anna Messmer), Nancy Blanchard (friend of Pat and Fred Fowler), Bob Creighton, (brother of Connie Bingham), Duane Fleming (step brother of Julie Hugo Vidal), Gordon Robinson (friend of Sallie Smith), Paul Schwotzer (friend of Ray Davis Murdoch Curry), Lisa Smith (daughter of Frank and Helen Smith), Meredith MacLeod (niece of Anna Messmer), Beth Morrison (friend of Chuck Sawyer and David Savage), Jerel Chamberlain (son of Dottie Pride), Medjeen Claris (brother of Wisley Claris), Tri Nguyen (friend of Nikki and Lester Evans), Mary Manetti (mother of Ellen Manetti, mother-in-law of Michael Courts), Barbara Curry (sister-in-law of Ray Davis Murdoch Curry), Anna Urban Rothberg (daughter of Lee Urban), Bruce Deuel (brother of Susie Juhl), Jerry Keller (father of David Keller), Jean Scott (friend of Sallie Smith), John Young (nephew of Chuck Sawyer and David Savage), Todd Sisley (friend of Cynthia Morris), Steve Wiggin (friend of Ray Davis Murdoch Curry), Barbara Dodge (aunt of Nancy Mawhinney), Jeff Goddard (brother of Shari Shambaugh), Neve Pourchot (friend of Anne Fowler), Chris Hyfield (friend of Pat and Fred Fowler) and Susan Winn (friend of Ray Davis Murdoch Curry). **We especially give thanks for** Jean Smart, Frank and Helen Smith, Nancy and Margaret Smith, Sallie Smith and Marjorie Soden. **We commend to your mercy** all who have died, especially St. Lukes parishioner Monica Ellis, Lee Rogers (friend of Lynne England) and Susan Leigh Moody (niece of Garison Murrell), that your will for them may be fulfilled. Please add your own prayers. **We pray for** Donald our President and Paul our Governor. **We pray for** our City Council members: David Brenerman, District 5, Jill Duson, at large, Pious Ali, at large. **We pray for** Michael our presiding Bishop, Stephen our Bishop, and for our Cathedral clergy.