

ST. LUKE'S CATHEDRAL

The Episcopal Diocese of Maine

Portland, Maine

Celebrating 150 Years

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Homecoming Sunday September 12, 2021

7:30 Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Chapel)

10:00 Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Nave & Livestream)

5:15 Holy Eucharist, Rite II (Chapel)

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! Our Sunday School and Adult Programs are currently being offered on-line. Please see our website for links and ways to participate in the life of the congregation. We thank you for coming today and hope you will make the Cathedral your spiritual home.

The Cathedral of St. Luke sits on land our Wabanaki neighbors previously occupied for millennia. As a descendants of European immigrants, we acknowledge that we continue to benefit from the exploitation and subjugation of those whom our forebears failed to understand and honor. That failure centuries ago is related to the crises of our times. By grace, we pledge to work harder at learning from our human and non-human neighbors in hope of healing and wholeness. Such work must involve our advocacy and action on behalf of the Wabanaki as well as the lands, waters, and non-human inhabitants of this beautiful place many call Maine.

A few notes about or worship during this time of Covid-19

1. We ask that everyone wear masks. Please follow specific instructions for receiving communion.
2. Please ask permission before shaking hands or hugging. We suggest bowing or using a "Namaste" greeting at the peace.
3. All those who are fully vaccinated are welcome to sing, keeping their masks on.
4. If you have a fever or aren't feeling well, we ask that you stay home and watch our services on line.

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.

143 State Street Portland, Maine 04101 (207) 772-5434
www.stlukesportland.org office@cathedralofstluke.org

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heaven is known
 4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, in this your con - cord find:
 5 Sing, suns and stars of space, sing, ye that see his face,

1 may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning sha - dows fall,
 2 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
 3 than, Je - sus Christ be praised! There to the e - ter - nal Word
 4 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 5 sing, Je - sus Christ be praised! God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

1 this rings my cur - few call, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 2 hath none that can com - pare with: Je - sus Christ be praised!
 3 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 4 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 5 both now and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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.

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.
People: **Christ have mercy.**
Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

Celebrant: May God be with you
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson

Reader: Susan McCuller

Proverbs 1: 20-33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.
At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?
Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you.
Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because
you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,
I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a
storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.
Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me.
Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my
counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated
with their own devices.
For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them;
but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. People: **Thanks be to God.**



The heavens de - clare the glo - ry of God, and the fir - ma - ment shows



his hand - i - work. †

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- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Second Lesson

Reader: Susan McCuller

James 3: 1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



1 Earth and all stars, loud rush - ing plan - ets, sing to the
 2 Hail, wind, and rain, loud blow - ing snow - storms, sing to the
 3 Trum - pet and pipes, loud clash - ing cym - bals, sing to the
 4 En - gines and steel, loud pound - ing ham - mers, sing to the
 5 Class - rooms and labs, loud boil - ing test - tubes, sing to the
 6 Know - ledge and truth, loud sound - ing wis - dom, sing to the



1 Lord _____ a new song! O vic - to - ry,
 2 Lord _____ a new song! Flow - ers and trees,
 3 Lord _____ a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre,
 4 Lord _____ a new song! Lime - stone and beams,
 5 Lord _____ a new song! Ath - lete and band,
 6 Lord _____ a new song! Daugh - ter and son,



1 loud shout - ing ar - my, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 2 loud rus - tling dry leaves, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 3 loud hum - ming cel - los, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 4 loud build - ing work - ers, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 5 loud cheer - ing peo - ple, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
 6 loud pray - ing mem - bers, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!



Refrain
 He hath done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
 People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

The Gospel

Mark 8: 27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him

aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn 412 (vs. 4-6)

Earth and all stars

Earth and All Stars

The Sermon

The Very Rev. Benjamin A. Shambaugh

The Nicene Creed

from Enriching our Worship

**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.**

In peace, we pray to you, O God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

Within the Anglican Cycle of prayer we pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania. Within the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. John Baptist, Thomaston; All Saints' by the Sea, Bailey Island. For all Christian Education and Sunday School programs. For the people and clergy of our Companion Diocese of Haiti.

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

For the just and proper use of your creation; we pray especially for the people of Haiti, of the Tigray region, Ethiopia, and all areas at war or in political turmoil. We pray for those affected by climate change.

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.

Let us pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Thomas our Bishop, and for our Cathedral clergy.

For all who serve God in the Church.

We offer prayers of healing and comfort for those on our parish prayer list:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Eliot Field and his wife Taffy | Sarah | Michael Knowland |
| Anne Schink | Nancy Allen | Julia MacDonald |
| Karen Perry | Diana, Norma and Nola | Joe Edgar, Jr. |
| Ludek (Lou) Strnad | Chris Perkins | Jeff Saenz |
| Lynn Dalheim | Pam Stolte | Olivia Wigfall |
| Bruce Deuel | Mikala | Matthew Johnson |
| Leslie Dallas Cooper | Victor Wakefield | Judd Hume |
| Pat Fowler | Lamees Rahma | Diane Wilbur |
| Spencer | Sharon and Paul Hallenbeck | Irene Jensen |
| Cindy Maloney | Fran Riggall | Chuck Hornberger |
| Jeanette Henry | Nazeleh Jamshidi | Harold Stover |
| Caryl McCoy | Pamela Bartol | Tammy Parker |
| Susanne Morin | Lisa Belshaw | |
| Cindy Houghton | Hazel and family | |

Please add your own prayers of intercession and thanksgiving (*pause*)

We especially pray for teachers and students as school begins this week and for our own St. Luke's Sunday school and youth programs.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, God, for all the blessings of this life. We pray for those in the discernment process for Holy Orders, George Cooper, Lisle Blind, and Jonathan Radtke.

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. We pray especially for Don Head (friend of Connie and Peter Bingham) who died last week.

We pray for the 2,997 people who died in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania on 09/11.

We also pray for the 2488 American service members, 3846 U.S. contractors, 66000 Afghan national military and police, 1144 Other allied service members, including from other NATO member states, 47,245 Afghan civilians, 51,191 Taliban and other opposition fighters, 444 Aid workers, and 72 Journalists who died during the Afghan war.

We pray for victims of gun and racial violence. all victims of Covid-19 and the floods in Tennessee. We continue to acknowledge and repent of all the children who died anonymously and needlessly at Indigenous boarding schools and the deep and long lasting effects on their communities. **Amen.**

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Deacon: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit, that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our savior. Amen.

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

Celebrant: May the Peace of the Christ be always with you. People: **And also with you.**

Parish Announcements

Offertory Anthem*Mine eyes for beauty pine*Words: Robert Bridges
Music: Herbert Howells

*My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
Tis named when Goddës name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.*

Offertory Hymn 455*O love of God, how strong and true*

Dunedin



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for
4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the

and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion

bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
high, our life to live, our death to die.
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A – Expansive Version)

BCP p. 361

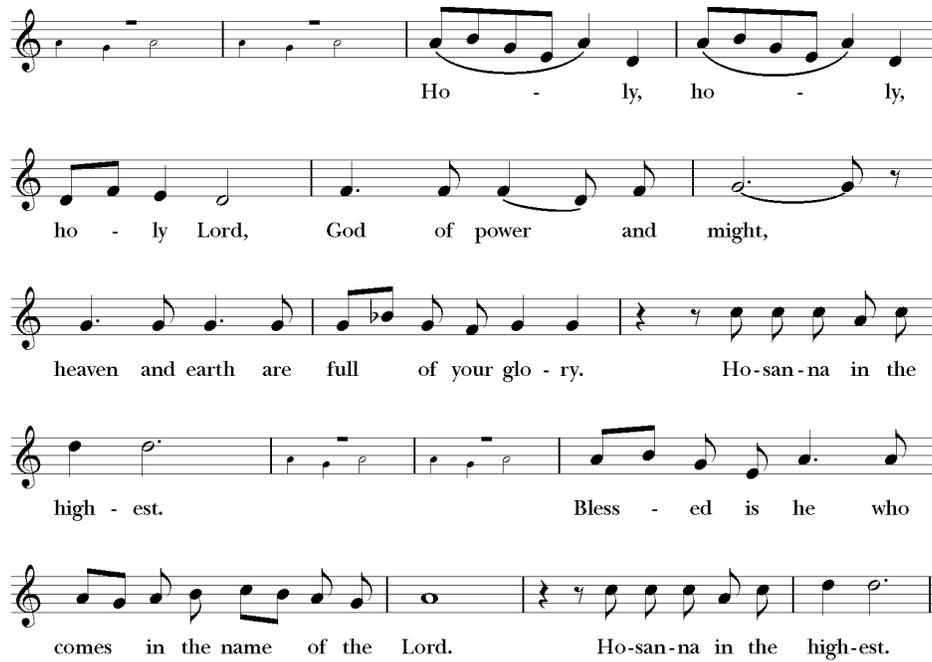
Celebrant: May God be with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

People: **And also with you.**
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
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, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Savior, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S128

Setting: William Mathias



Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

The people stand or kneel. Then the celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

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

Agnus Dei S165

Setting: William Mathias



Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Let us take them in remembrance that Christ gave himself for us, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Deacon: Please join me in this prayer of Spiritual Communion with all who cannot now receive.

God of infinite mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Savior, our true Mother who feeds us and gives us eternal life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. Grant that we may continue forever in the Risen Life of our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(From Enriching our Worship 2)

About receiving communion.

1. Communion will be served at the altar rail. It will be bread only. We return to two lines and kneeling at the altar. Please stay a foot apart from each other as you kneel.
2. Gluten free hosts are available for those who wish.
3. It is perfectly acceptable to stay in your pews and pray.
4. Those who do not wish to receive but desire a blessing instead may also come forward, remaining masked. The priest will offer a blessing without the laying on of hands.
5. Please remain masked while the priest drops the host in your hands, then lift your mask to consume. Let the mask cover your mouth again and return to your pew.
6. Those who wish communion and are physically challenged should indicate their desire to the ushers, remain in their pews and let the priest come to them.

Anthem:

Ave verum corpus

Words: 14th century hymn

Music: Edward Elgar

*Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet]
in the trial of death!*

Hymn 312

Strengthen for service, Lord

Malabar



1 Strength - en for ser - vice, Lord, the hands that ho - ly
2 Lord, may the tongues which "Ho - ly" sang, keep free from
3 The feet that tread thy hal - lowed courts from light do



things have tak - en; let ears that now have
all de - ceiv - ing; the eyes which saw thy
thou not ban - ish; the bo - dies by thy



heard thy songs to clam - or nev - er wak - en.
love be bright, thy bless - ed hope per - ceiv - ing.
Bo - dy fed with thy new life re - ple - nish.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **Eternal God, 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

May the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God. And may the blessing of God, who created you, redeemed you and sustains you be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 719

O beautiful for spacious skies

Materna

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - ci - ous skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
People: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Invention III

Joseph Callaerts

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Announcements

Welcome Visitors: There are greeters at the door who are available to answer any questions you might have about the Cathedral. Please sign our guest register! Please join us for Lemonade hour after the 10:00 am service this morning.

Homecoming Sunday is Today! Sunday school begins this morning with weekly gatherings from 10 – 10:45 am via Zoom. Please contact Sarah Dowling to register your child for Sunday school. **Albert Melton and members of the Cathedral Choir** will offer music at today's 10 am Sunday service. **The 5:15 Sunday service resumes today.**

Great News - the Elevator has been repaired! Thank you for your patience.

Bishop requires vaccination for all clergy and staff: The Bishop of Maine has sent out a letter requiring all clergy and staff in the diocese to be vaccinated. You need to know that St. Luke's has complied. All of our clergy and program staff have been fully vaccinated. St. Luke's is continuing with our policy of having everyone, regardless of vaccination status, mask while indoors, including during worship services (with the exception of those reading or leading the service). There is plenty of space in the nave and we encourage those who wish to practice distancing as well. For the time being, we are continuing our policy of not serving food and will strive to keep lemonade/coffee hour outside as long as weather permits. We ask that parishioners follow these policies and strongly encourage everyone who can to be fully vaccinated. If you have concerns or questions, please contact one of our clergy. Remember that we are doing these things not just to protect ourselves but to love our neighbor, especially the most vulnerable, including children and those who for medical reasons cannot take the vaccine. See the bishop's letter at <https://www.episcopalmaine.org/resource/covid-19-updates>

Covid Guidelines

- We ask people to strive for social distancing, spreading out in the pews, in line, and at the altar rail when receiving communion.
- We will have no wine at the Eucharist for the time being. Eucharistic visiting and pastoral visits have resumed. (Please call if you would like a visit)
- People are instructed to ask permission of others before sharing the peace or greeting one another, and encouraged to "elbow bump" and otherwise avoid hugging or actions that may make others uncomfortable.
- Parishioners are asked to remain masked during worship but those fully vaccinated may unmask outside during Lemonade hour. Those fully vaccinated may sing with masks on. Even if we don't have to, we will remain masked (unless speaking or reading) so that we are welcoming and inclusive of young children, people who are immunocompromised or otherwise cannot get the vaccine for health reasons, and those who are not completely comfortable being in public settings again.

- The choir may sing, with masks on (all coming have been fully vaccinated). Parishioners who have been vaccinated may sing with masks on. We are now scheduling concerts and events with programming on the calendar now through December.

- Dinners/breakfasts/other food related fellowship are on hold for now. We'll continue lemonade hour outside on the lawn or in the cloister if it rains.

Christian Education - Fall 2021

Children and Youth

In consultation with the Cathedral and diocesan medical advisor, we have decided to begin providing childcare during the 10 am service, beginning in early October. With an expected fall COVID surge, we want to be certain we can safely open our nursery. Childcare is for babies to preschoolers.

Sunday School begins today. We will start virtually via Zoom and tentatively plan to go hybrid (virtual and in person) in early October depending on the pandemic status. The link for Sunday school is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84337053815> Sunday School is for **K-4 graders**. The program for Sunday school includes a Godly Play story, a craft (which is sent home ahead of time) and worship time.

There will be a separate Sunday school program for **5th and 6th graders** depending on interest. If you have a child in this age range who wishes to participate, please contact Sarah Dowling sarahbdowling@gmail.com

St. Luke's participates in a collaborative **Youth Group** which also includes: HopeGateway, State Street, Williston Immanuel, and Woodfords churches. This group is for **7th-12th graders**. The Youth Group typically meets twice a month on Sunday afternoons. This collaborative is currently searching for a new leader. Updated information for the Portland Youth Group will be made available as we get it.

The **Youth of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine** will be meeting the third Monday of each month from 7-8:30 pm starting September 21, 2021. Youth grades **6-12** are welcome to join as we check-in and get to know one another and Christ. Please join using this [link](#). FMI contact The Reverend Canon Sara D'Angio-White, Canon for Youth Ministry at sdangiowhite@episcopalmaine.org.

Adults

Sacred Ground is a facilitated ten session study group on race and racism. It is a sensitive, prayerful resource that creates space for difficult but respectful and transformative dialogue. Each session has videos and written material for the participants to use to dialogue with each other. There will be an introductory meeting via Zoom on Thursday September 30, and Session One will meet on October 14. The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86191272654> As there is limited enrollment, please contact Sarah Dowling prior to the introductory meeting, if you are interested in participating. Sarah's contact is sarahbdowling@gmail.com.

Funeral Planning: Have you thought about planning your funeral, but don't know where to start? There will be an information and planning meeting for anyone who is interested in doing funeral planning. Cathedral Clergy will be on hand to help you organize your own funeral. Albert Melton will be there to help you consider music, and the Rev. Ted Gaiser, a priest and financial advisor, will also attend to present how financial planning can be helpful in this area, and to answer questions that you have. In addition, Priscilla Webster will provide information on the Columbarium. We'll meet on October 16, in the Upper Parish Hall from 9 am - 12pm. To register please email eprior@cathedralofstluke.org.

Bob Hanson will be teaching a study group on **“Our Hebrew Lord and Our Hebrew heritage: Our Lord's influences and accomplishments.”** He describes the focus of this group as our Hebrew inheritance, our Jewish traditions, and the two “testaments” which are God’s recurring gifts to us each day. To accept this overwhelming gift from a loving and redeeming Father, in the face of our own admissions of unworthiness and spiritual fatigue, faces us with a favorite polemic of the Jews, ie, “yes, I am unworthy, but not so much so that I can refuse your generosity.” Judaism and Christianity are about one thing. Yes, one life-enhancing commitment: living vitally. For the Jew and the Christian the life lived within God’s grasp is a life lived- on every level- to the fullest. Jesus’ message was not one of caution, fear, withdrawal, or even piety. For two thousand years the Jews have demonstrated the vital life lived in God’s grasp. The Christian life model is the Jew, the Lord Jesus, giving his enormous insights, and his earthly strengths, to living fully, to giving fully, to forgiving fully. This study group will search the scriptures for new insights, pray with Jewish zeal, and experience God’s presence in the newly revived encounter with God’s ancient children. This group will begin after church on Sunday, October 3. Please contact Bob Hanson for more information at jungianresources@gmail.com.

Compline Returns! Compline is an ancient service of night prayers that stretches back to Saint Benedict. A perfect way to have a meditative end to the day and prepare for the quietness of night. We meet online Monday - Friday at 8:00 pm. Join our evening service via zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/767328983>.

Monday & Wednesday, led by Tom and Emma Flinn

Tuesday & Thursday, led by Jon Radtke

Friday, led by Ray Davis Murdoch Curry

Contemplative Prayer has resumed on Thursdays at 4:30 pm on Zoom. Please join us with the link in the Epistle on Tuesday. This is a time to spend 30 minutes of contemplative time with others. We begin with a reading and end in prayer.

Coffee and Lemonade Hosts Needed: We are looking for volunteers to host coffee or lemonade hour as we head into the fall. Please call the office or sign up on the bulletin board! We are looking for a new leader to help organize this ministry. Interested? Please contact the parish office.

Newcomer’s Class: New? Curious about St. Luke’s or the Episcopal Church? Interested in becoming better connected to the life of the parish? Join your cathedral clergy for a Newcomer’s class at 9:00-9:45 on Sundays Sept 19 – Oct 31, using material from [Welcome to the Episcopal Church](#), by Christopher Weber (participants are asked to order their own books). We will meet in the resource room on the lower level of the cathedral. All are welcome! The topic for September 19 will be “Telling our story”

Taizé returns to St. Luke’s starting on October 13th: 5:30 pm gathering, service at 5:45 pm in Emmanuel Chapel. We will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

Check out the front lawn where our Labyrinth will be located! Landscape architect and Labyrinth designer Jennifer Bear was in town last week, did a chalk layout of the labyrinth in the cathedral's front yard, and joined Claire and Mike Hammen in representing St. Luke's at a Historic Information Workshop last night, held with the city's Historic Preservation Board. The Historic Preservation Board was supportive of the idea and raised a few questions that will be addressed before the final hearing about four weeks from now. If all goes well, we anticipate approval of the labyrinth project that meeting, with construction likely beginning in the spring. Come by, check out the layout on the lawn, and see architect's sketches on display in the cathedral tower. FMI, contact Claire Hammen.

Ushers Needed: As we move back into the fall season at St. Luke’s, we need some more ushers. If you enjoy meeting and assisting people, this may be the job for you. If you are interested, please let Anna Messmer (aemessmer@maine.rr.com) know. On the job training is available.

Service Participants

Celebrant & Preacher: The Very Rev. Benjamin A. Shambaugh

Cathedral Musician: Albert Melton; **Deacon:** The Rev. Alice Goshorn; The Rev. Rebecca Grant

Vergers: Thurl Headen, Joe Duclos; **Ushers:** Peter Bingham, Gus Goodwin, Melissa Coy, Susan McCuller
The Flower Guild; The Altar Guild



ST. LUKE'S HOLIDAY FAIR

It's that time of year when we all are asked to check our attics, basements, closets, gardens, and storage units for unneeded items to donate to our Holiday Fair. This year the Fair is taking place on Saturday, November 13th from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM and it will feature 17 booths and some new surprises!

Each Sunday from now until the Fair will be designated for categories of donations: jewelry, toys, gift baskets and more. These special Sundays

help us to receive and sort items long before the busy day rolls around. Fair volunteers will be available before and after the 7:30 AM and 10:00 AM services to accept your items in the downstairs/back door foyer.

Please plan to drop off what you have, visit with volunteers and learn more about the Fair.

For more information: dbrennandaly@gmail.com.

Sept. 12 Knitted and Crocheted Items

We welcome cozy winter items: hats, mittens, fingerless gloves, socks, scarves, ear warmers, heavyweight stroller blankets, 18" by 28."

Sept. 19 Knitted and Crocheted items

Sept. 26 Bring in your empty baskets for Gifts to Go

Oct. 3 Toys & Games

Oct. 10 Toys & Games

Oct. 10 Take home and fill a basket for Gifts to Go

Oct. 17 Jewelry

Oct. 24 Return Gifts to Go baskets

Oct. 31 All donations welcome; volunteers will be giving Halloween treats

Nov. 7 Baked Goods, new goodie tins, and non-perishable garden items

Nov. 8-12 Baked Goods and all cut/perishable greens, ivy, and holly



Thank you for your support