



St. Luke's Cathedral

Sunday 1 December 2024

Welcome

The First Sunday of Advent



The Cathedral Church of St. Luke  
in the  
Episcopal Diocese of Maine  
and the  
City of Portland

*Whoever you are,  
and wherever you may be on the journey of the spirit,  
The Episcopal Church welcomes you.*

**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**  
10:00AM *in the Nave & Livestreamed*

## Welcome to St. Luke's Cathedral!

We are a faith community with ancient worship and modern thought, catholic traditions and progressive theology. We proclaim a Biblical perspective for thinking people, a respect for reason, science, and a diversity of perspective. This empowers compassion and care for both the wider community and one another. Our commitment to welcome and inclusion is central to our mission modeled on the Kingdom of God and proclaimed by Jesus Christ. We are part of the 1.7 million-member **Episcopal Church** in the United States, and the 85-million-member worldwide **Anglican Communion**.



**New to St. Luke's?** We are delighted to welcome you to the cathedral and are grateful for your presence with us today. We invite you to fill out our visitor's register at either entrance of the cathedral nave.

**Our Mission: St. Luke's welcomes every person** 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. St. Luke's first service was held on Christmas Day in 1868, and continues over 150 years of reaching out to the city and people of Portland.

**How we worship:** Throughout the bulletin, the congregation is invited to say all **bolded** text aloud, and to sing all music printed in the order of service. There are also times when it is customary to make the sign of the cross by touching your forehead, chest, left shoulder, and right shoulder. If you wish to do so, the ✠ indicates that. Instructions for how to receive communion are provided later in the bulletin, at that point in the liturgy.

**Where are the restrooms?** There are four restrooms in the parish house, through the doors at the front left corner of the church. Men's and women's restrooms are across the large room at the top of the ramp: walk straight across, through the double doors and to your left. On the lower level, there are two accessible, single-stall (non-gender) restrooms, one on either end of the large room. If you need help finding them, please ask an usher.

**Visit our child-friendly gathering space:** beside the baptismal font on the east wall of the nave, a place where children and their guardians can move around and engage with soft toys, books, yet still participate in worship.

**Worship Resources:** Except where otherwise indicated, all spoken texts used in worship are from *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979). And, except where otherwise indicated, all music not in the public domain is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-713087 and/or RiteSong.

**Sunday parking for St. Luke's:** Off-street parking is available in two locations for those attending Sunday services: our lot adjacent to the Parish Hall, accessed from Park St.; and the Cumberland Club's (Spring Street between Park & High Sts.). We are grateful to the Cumberland Club for sharing their space with us (except on Easter and Mother's Day). In addition, limited handicap parking is available in the traffic circle in the State Street churchyard.

### St. Luke's Territorial Acknowledgement

St Luke's acknowledges that we are worshipping on "unceded territory taken by force and previously occupied by the **Wabanaki people**." (*Amended City Charter, Portland, Maine*). Some of the resources that built this cathedral came from industry related to the slave trade in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries. We join our fellow residents in honoring the Wabanaki knowledge and culture that continues to thrive in the Tribal Nations. We ask for Blessing and Peace upon all indigenous peoples that have called, and always will call, this place—"The Dawnland"—HOME.

### We invite you to pray this morning for...

#### *members of our parish family*

Sarah Braik, Maggie Gardner, Karen Perry, Victor Wakefield

#### *members of our extended parish family*

Lisa Gorham (*friend of Peter & Connie Bingham*), Alice Brown (*niece of Gail Swanton*),

Pat Anderson (*sister of Gail Swanton*), Jan Giroux (*colleague of Gail Swanton*), Will Armitage (*son of Nancy Armitage*), Basil Siavelis (*uncle of Rita Siavelis*), Joe (*son of Jeri Edgar*), Janice (*sister of Terry Foster*), Will Oliver (*friend of Sallie Smith*)

*Please silence your electronic devices before worship begins.*

**Prelude**

Prelude on “O come, O come, Emmanuel”

Setting: Harold Stover (b. 1946)

**Words of Welcome**

The Reverend George Stevens, *Interim Dean*

**Introduction to First Sunday of Advent**

*Leader*

Today we begin our celebration of Advent. On these four Sundays leading up to Christmas, we will rejoice in the great gift that is ours in Jesus Christ. To help us celebrate, we will be lighting the candles of the Advent Wreath. The candles signify that Jesus is the light of the world. The evergreens remind us that He is life and brings life to us. All these are arranged in a circle because life in Christ has no end. Each Sunday we will light an additional candle. Then on Christmas Eve, we will light all the candles, including the center one, the Christ Candle. As we do, we will rejoice that Christ has come to us. He is Emmanuel...God with us.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Leader*

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope. Hope is our assurance that all that has been started by God will be finished. Hope is our confidence that all that has been promised by God will be achieved. All the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. He is our hope, today and forever! Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!

# The Word of God

When the tower bell rings, please stand as you are able. The people are encouraged to sing all music printed in the bulletin.

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

For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him barred!  
By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly heard;  
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 need.

Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in power and pomp comes he;  
pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who have not learned to heed  
All power is his, all glo - ry! All things are in his hand,  
Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And light his yoke shall be,

but clad as are the poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!  
the Christ who is the Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.  
all a - ges and all peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!  
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!

*The Hymnal 1982 – #74 “Blest be the King whose coming”*  
Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company.  
Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, 76. 76. D, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930), Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnatt

## An Opening Acclamation for Advent

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* You come to your people and set them free. Amen.

## Collect for Purity

*People* 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 Savior. Amen.

## Song of Praise

*Trisagion*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), Copyright © 1981 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

*Celebrant* May God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* Amen.

*Please sit.*

**First Reading** *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

*Reader* A reading from the thirty-third chapter of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 25.1-9 at the Gradual

The Choir introduces the Refrain, which all then repeat together. The Choir sings the verses of the psalm. The People join in singing the Refrain where indicated.



To you, O God, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. *Refrain*

Show me your ways, O God, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

in you have I trusted all the day long. *Refrain*

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O God. *Refrain*

Gracious and upright are you; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly.

All your paths are love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. *Refrain*

Words: Psalm 25.1-9, *The Saint Helena Psalter*, Copyright © The Order of Saint Helena. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Music: from *The Portland Psalter*, Robert A. Hawthorne, Copyright © 2006 Robert A. Hawthorne, Church Publishing, Inc.

## Second Reading

*1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*

*Reader* A reading from the third chapter of the first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all things might - i - ly;  
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height  
4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny

1 that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
3 in an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
4 that trust thy might - y power to save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*The Hymnal 1982* – #56 “O come, O come, Emmanuel”, stanzas 1-4

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund

Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, LM with Refrain, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

At the ✠ below, you are invited to trace crosses over your forehead, your mouth, and your heart.

*Gospeller* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

**Gospel**

*Luke 21:25-36*

Jesus said, “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

*Gospeller* The Gospel of our Savior.

*People* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

**Sermon**

The Reverend George Stevens, *Interim Dean*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Nicene Creed**

from *Enriching our Worship*

**People**

**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 IV

*Leader*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Leader*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

*Leader*

Lord, in your mercy

**People**

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Remembering especially Joseph, our President; Donald our President Elect; Janet, our Governor; Mark, our Mayor; and all members of local, state, and national government.

*Silence*

*Leader*

Lord, in your mercy

**People**

**Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

*Leader*

Lord, in your mercy

**People**

**Hear our prayer.**



*Leader* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We offer prayers of healing and comfort for members of our congregation and those dear to us, especially those we now name.

*The Leader reads the names from the parish prayer list, printed on the inside cover of your bulletin. Following the reading of names, you are invited to add names, silently or aloud.*

*Silence*

*Leader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** Hear our prayer.

*Leader* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, remembering especially those facing homelessness and their advocates; and individuals struggling with anxiety, depression, and other forms of mental illness; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

*Leader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** Hear our prayer.

*Leader* We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*Leader* Lord, in your mercy

**People** Hear our prayer.

### **Concluding Collect**

*Celebrant* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**People** Amen.

### **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People** 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 Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**People** Amen.

### **Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People** And also with you.

*The People may greet one another in the name of God. Afterward, please sit.*

### **Announcements**

# The Holy Communion

*Celebrant*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as an offering and sacrifice to God.



Give to St. Luke's

*A free will offering in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral is taken at this time.*

*All quarters in the offering plate go to support lunches for the school children in Duniy, Haiti.*

*Online giving is available at <[stlukesportland.org/give/](http://stlukesportland.org/give/)>; or scan the QR at left.*

## The Stewardship In-Gathering at the Offertory

*During the anthem, we invite you to bring your pledge cards up to the altar as your offering. Please walk up the center aisle.*

*If you have already made your pledge or have chosen to give online, cards acknowledging a gift are available at either entrance of the Nave*

*The choir sings*

I give you a new commandment: love one another; as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples.

Words: John 13.34-35; Music: Peter Aston (1938-2013)

*Please stand as you are able.*

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;  
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape tri - bu - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!  
thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

*The Hymnal 1982 - #433 "We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing"; Words: Anon. 1625; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)  
Music: Kremser, 12 11. 12 11, from *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Eduard Kremser (1838-1914)*

## Prayer over Offertory Gifts for Stewardship Season

*Celebrant* Gracious God, we give thanks for these gifts, the promises of our members for giving in the year to come. We pray that you inspire us with the example of your freely-given love to serve our neighbors, heal the world, and strengthen our community. Bless these intentions, pledges, and promises of our wealth, works, and wisdom for the needs of our church.

*People* **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer III

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Celebrant* May God 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.**

*Celebrant* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), Copyright © 1981 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

*Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

*Celebrant* Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you have Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the New Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." And so remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*People* **Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*Celebrant* Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with the blessed Virgin Mary, with Luke, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever.

*People* **AMEN.**

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*People* **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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

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

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant — us peace.

Music: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), Copyright © 1981 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

*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

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. As the Iona Community says, "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 in 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."*

*Ushers will assist you to approach by the center and return by the side aisles. You are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine when presented; we believe that the divine presence is fully present in both the bread and the wine, and you may refuse either. For example, you may choose to receive only the bread, and then walk away; or, if you would like, you may touch the chalice with your hand, and not actually consume any wine. If you would like to receive the blessing of the Church, but not communion, indicate to the clergy by crossing your arms when approached. If you are not able to come forward, please motion to an usher, and communion will be brought to you. Per Diocesan guidelines, the cathedral does not practice intinction (dipping the bread into the wine) at this time.*

**Prayers of Healing** are offered in *All Saints Chapel* (to the right of the kneeling rail). Members of the prayer team will assist you in offering prayer of healing for yourself or a loved one.

1 O ve - ry God of ve - ry God, and ve - ry Light of Light,  
 2 Our hopes are weak, our fears are strong, thick dark - ness blinds our eyes;  
 3 And e - ven now, though dull and gray, the east is bright - ening fast,  
 4 O guide us till our path is done, and we have reached the shore  
 5 We wait in faith, and turn our face to where the day - light springs,

1 whose feet this earth's dark val - ley trod that so it might be bright:  
 2 cold is the night; thy peo - ple long that thou, their Sun, wouldst rise.  
 3 and kind - ling to the per - fect day that nev - er shall be past.  
 4 where thou, our ev - er - last - ing Sun, art shin - ing ev - er - more!  
 5 till thou shalt come our gloom to chase, with heal - ing in thy wings.

*The Hymnal 1982* – #672 “O very God of very God”; Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866); Music: *Bangor*, CM, from *A Compleat Melody or Harmony of Zion*, 1734

1 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of peace;  
 2 Lead us, O Fa - ther, in the paths of right;  
 3 Lead us, O Fa - ther, to thy heaven - ly rest,

with - out thy guid - ing hand we go a - stray, and doubts ap - pall, and  
 blind - ly we stum - ble when we walk a - lone, in - volved in sha - dows  
 how - ev - er rough and steep thy path may be; through joy or sor - row,

sor - rows still in - crease; lead us through Christ, the true and liv - ing Way.  
 of a dark - some night; on - ly with thee we jour - ny safe - ly on.  
 as thou deem - est best, un - til our lives are per - fect - ed in thee.

*The Hymnal 1982* – #703 “Lead us, O Father, in the paths of peace”; Words: William Henry Burleigh (1812-1871), alt.  
 Music: *Song 22*, 10 10. 10 10, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Post Communion Prayer

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### A Seasonal Blessing for Advent

*Celebrant* May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*People* **Amen.**

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior prom - ised long;  
2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's bond - age held;  
3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing soul to cure;  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come shall pro - claim;

let ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
the gates of brass be - fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
and with the trea - sures of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
and heaven's e - ter - nal arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

*The Hymnal 1982* – #72 “Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes”; Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)  
Music: *Richmond*, CM, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1816); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, Revised, 1950

*The Deacon dismisses the people with these words*

Go in peace to love and serve our God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

Fanfare on “Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes” (*Richmond*)

Setting: John Leavitt (b. 1956)

## Service Participants

<i>Preacher &amp; Celebrant</i>	The Reverend George Stevens, <i>Interim Dean</i>
<i>Music Leader &amp; Organist</i>	Harold Stover, <i>Guest Cathedral Musician</i>
<i>Head Verger</i>	Eleanor Roberts
<i>Crucifer</i>	Liam Coy
<i>Reader</i>	William Salomon
<i>Advent Wreath Prayers Leader</i>	Phoebe Blume
<i>Prayers Leader</i>	Elsbeth Grant Pruett
<i>Live Streaming</i>	Jack Swanton, Sam Allen
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Philip Hamilton, William Hoyt
<i>Contributing Ministries</i>	Acolytes, Vergers, Flower Guild, Altar Guild, Kneeler Guild, Cathedral Choir, Healing Team, Ushers

*The Altar Flowers for today's services are given in memory of Susan K. Cabot by her family, who offer thanksgiving for the life she led.*

## HAPPENING TODAY

**Coffee Hour:** Please join us after the 10AM service for fellowship and refreshments in the Upper Hall, through the doors to the left of the altar. All are welcome. Interested in hosting? This important part of our common life provides us with a time for connection. Hosting is fun and easy; it requires only bringing in a baked good and brewing coffee. Please consider volunteering; a lot of gratitude comes with it. Thank you! Check the hosting schedule by visiting <<http://tinyurl.com/coffeeatstlukes>>, and choose a date, then contact Meredith Cough <[meredith.cough@gmail.com](mailto:meredith.cough@gmail.com)>.

**Thank You to this Morning's Guest Musician:** We express our sincere thanks to Harold Stover, who has served as guest organist for this morning's service whilst Canon for Liturgy and Music, Christian Clough is away. We appreciate Harold and the gifts he offers to our community.

**Young and the Restless Friendsgiving:** Join the Young and the Restless this evening at 6PM in the Lower Hall for our annual Friendsgiving! Rotisserie chicken, rolls, beverages and paper goods will be provided. Please bring a veggie side dish and/or dessert to share. Please reach out to Phoebe Blume at [pblume@gmail.com](mailto:pblume@gmail.com) with any questions.

**5:15PM Sunday Worship** You are most welcome to join us this evening in Emmanuel Chapel for worship.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ad Hoc Preparedness Committee:** At its November meeting the vestry unanimously approved the formation of an ad hoc Preparedness Committee. Chaired by Linda and Peter Carleton and Ruth Roemer, the purpose of the committee is to help St. Luke's address for the threatened mass deportations and the growing number of transgender people fleeing from hostile states.

In the coming days, the Committee will gather information as to what ideas and actions are being considered by the State of Maine, the City of Portland, the Maine Council of Churches, the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, and local immigrant and transgender rights groups. The committee will then present findings to the vestry and the Cathedral and will give suggestions as to ways St. Luke's and its members might participate in these efforts.

Please contact Linda Carleton via email at <[lindacarleton01@gmail.com](mailto:lindacarleton01@gmail.com)> with any questions or to join the effort.

**Join the Altar Guild for their December Polishing Party:** The St. Luke's Altar guild is having a silver and gold polishing party to get ready for the holidays! Join us 10AM–12noon Saturday 14 December in the Upper Hall. Everyone is welcome! You don't need to be part of the altar guild to participate. Coffee and goodies will be provided. Contact Kate Leschey <[cleschey@gmail.com](mailto:cleschey@gmail.com)>

**PPEAT Announcement:** Seeking a volunteer! The Public Policy and Environmental Action Team is in need of a co-Chair for the committee as of December 11, 2024. Please contact Ruth Roemer at [roemerr29@gmail.com](mailto:roemerr29@gmail.com) or by phone at 973-901-0345 if you would like more information or would like to volunteer.

**Eco Tips from PPEAT:** Check out the November update of “Maine Won't Wait,” the four year plan for climate action released by the Maine Climate Council on November 21. To read the plan visit <[tinyurl.com/MEwontwait](http://tinyurl.com/MEwontwait)> See the goals of the plan below:

- Reduce Maine’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions While Maine has made meaningful progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, we must reduce these emissions at a faster pace to ensure that we meet the state’s 2030 and 2050 targets and do our part to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius this century.
- Strengthen Resilience to Climate Impacts Maine must take action to ensure that our people, environment, economy, and society are more resilient to the impacts of climate change that are now occurring. While mitigating the causes of climate change and better preparing Maine for its impacts requires significant public and private investment, inaction will cost Maine substantially more, and those costs will accelerate over time.
- Create Jobs and Economic Prosperity Many of the strategies in this climate action plan will grow the economy, protect key economic sectors most at risk from climate change, and foster innovation in new business sectors that will drive climate solutions.
- Bring Climate Action to All Maine People Some Maine people and communities experience climate-change impacts more acutely than others, including rural, older, and lower-income residents, as well as people and places with economies tied to natural resources. As we move forward from climate-action planning to implementation, this plan outlines new and updated strategies and targets to ensure that the benefits of climate investments reach all Maine people.

**Sing Christmas with the Cathedral Choir:** Rehearsals Thursdays 7-9PM (no rehearsal this week); singing for Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols, Sunday 22 December @ 4PM; Christmas Eve; and Sundays @ 10AM. Contact: Christian Clough <[CClough@cathedralofstluke.org](mailto:CClough@cathedralofstluke.org)>

**St. Elizabeth’s Coat Drive:** As the cold weather approaches, St Elizabeth’s is looking for donations of coats and boots (new and gently used) to make available for our neighbors. Please leave your donations in the blue box in the lower hall, next to the stairs. Contact: Byrd Wood <[jacknbyrd@gmail.com](mailto:jacknbyrd@gmail.com)>.

**Renaissance Voices Christmas Concert:** Join Renaissance Voices and maestro Harold Stover, for their Christmas Concerts at the Cathedral, featuring music of Juan Esquivel, Sally Herman, Celia McDowell, and more! 7:30PM Saturday 14 & 2:00PM Sunday 15 December. Purchase tickets @ <[www.renaissancevoices.net/concerts](http://www.renaissancevoices.net/concerts)>

**Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols:** 4PM on 22 December, our first liturgical celebration of Christmas. Please tell friends, neighbors, and family! Especially for folks away for Christmas, this is an excellent opportunity to celebrate in our beautiful space and tradition! Contact: Christian Clough <[CClough@cathedralofstluke.org](mailto:CClough@cathedralofstluke.org)>.

**Parish Prayer List will renew next week:** Next Sunday, December 8, the parish prayer list will renew. Names remain on the prayer list for 3 consecutive weeks unless otherwise requested. If you wish for a name to be added, contact Avery Schott, Parish Administrator <[office@cathedralofstluke.org](mailto:office@cathedralofstluke.org)>.

**Most Recent Minutes of the Lesser Chapter and Finance Committee Available:** The most recent minutes from the Lesser Chapter and Finance Committee meetings are available in this week’s publication of the E-pistle (available on the St. Luke’s website homepage) or by visiting the link below. <<https://stlukesportland.org/vestry/#vestryresources>>



## OPPORTUNITIES & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Prayers of Healing** are offered at the 10AM service each Sunday, during or after communion and to the end of the postlude. Two members of the Healing Team offer these healing prayers in All Saints' Chapel (the small chapel to the right of the communion rail.) The following team members will offer healing prayers for upcoming services:

December 1, 2024	Sara Schmalz, Judd Hume	December 22, 2024	Gail Kesich, Elise Magnuson
December 8, 2024	Elise Magnuson, Peter Carleton	December 24, 2024	Sara Schmalz, Judd. Hume
December 15, 2024	Gail Kesich, Sara Schmalz		

The Healing Team will not be offering prayers on December 30

**The Biblical Study Group** meets in the Conference Room on the ground floor 8:30–10:00AM. The topic for our sessions is the search for the one and only God, Elohim or Adonai, within ourselves. Join us for our study of the search of becoming “who we were meant to be.” We are led by Bob Hanson, retired university professor, Episcopal priest, author, peace activist, and Jungian analyst. With questions, contact Bob at (207)-405-8250.

**Soul Talk** is a monthly coffee and conversation group in which we talk not so much about our beliefs but about our faith and experience of God. It meets at 10 AM on the 4th Thursday of each month. Please join us once a month or once in a while. Contact Linda Carleton <lindacarleton01@gmail.com> if you'd like to receive an email with material for reflection before each meeting. Our next session will be held on 19 November.

**Contemplative prayer** meets every Thursday at 4:30PM on Zoom (*please see the E-pistle for the link*). Please join us for a half hour of silent meditation followed by a brief conversation about our experience. No experience necessary! Contact: Sarah Braik <sbraik642@gmail.com>.

**Volunteer to serve on the Altar Guild:** We love volunteering on the Altar Guild, and think you would, too! Volunteering with Altar Guild is fun and rewarding. Together, we can work to enable our congregation to engage in worship that is filled with order, beauty, peace, and tranquility. Contact: Kate Leschey <cleschey@gmail.com> or Rita Siavelis <ritasiav@hotmail.com>

**Join the Kneelers Guild and Prayer Shawl Knitters** every Tuesday 2:30–4:30PM in the Upper Hall. Everyone is welcome, whether you are curious or want to begin. Kneeler kits cost \$75, which include directions, yarn, needles & canvas. Novices are welcome; we will teach you as needed. Prayer Shawls: 20” x 60”; select your yarn & needles. Coffee & tea are available.

**Join the Young and the Restless,** St. Luke's 20s-30s-year-old ministry, which hosts events both at CSL and outside the church. Join us as we hike, ice-skate, play trivia, or just enjoy each other's company! If you are new to us, welcome! We meet 6-8PM each Tuesday at Maine Beer Company in Freeport for trivia. Other events happen sporadically throughout the month, though trivia is a wonderful opportunity to meet us, if you're joining us for the first time. Contact: Shana Rose <shanaro931@gmail.com>

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**To reserve space for a group, meeting or event,** fill out a space usage form, and check with the cathedral calendar first! Thanks! Contact: Avery Schott (207) 772-5434 or <office@cathedralofstluke.org>

**Thank you in advance for your offering today.** You can donate to St. Luke's through our new and secure “Give and Text” feature. Please text “**TEXTCSL**” to **73256**. Our 2024 Pledge Campaign is ongoing. Pledge materials and information are available at <www.stlukesportland.org>

**The parish prayer list:** Names remain on the prayer list for 3 consecutive weeks unless otherwise requested. If you wish for a name to be added, contact Avery Schott, Parish Administrator <office@cathedralofstluke.org>.

**Access your Realm profile:** The Cathedral's online database, Realm, is a useful tool for parishioners to manage their contact and pledging information. Realm helps our community by improving our record keeping in a more streamlined fashion. When joining Realm you can sign-up to be a part of the online directory. To activate your Realm profile, please contact Wendy Kopera, St. Luke's Bookkeeper at <bookkeeper@cathedralofstluke.org>. Wendy will assist you with the few steps necessary to access your profile.



# The Cathedral Church of St. Luke

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P.O. Box 4141, Portland, ME 04101-0341 (*mailing address*)

*Website:* stlukesportland.org  
*E-mail:* office@cathedralofstluke.org  
*Phone:* (207) 772-5434

## Leadership

### Staff

*Bishop of Maine*

The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown

*Interim Dean*

The Rev. George Stevens

<GStevens@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Parish Administrator & Communications Specialist*

Avery Levesque-Schott <office@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Canon for Liturgy & Music*

Christian M. Clough <CClough@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Deacon*

The Rev. Rebecca Grant <RGrant@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Bookkeeping*

Wendy Kopera

<bookkeeper@cathedralofstluke.org>

*St. Luke's Food Pantry Executive Director*

Mary Brighthaupt <mbrighthaupt@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Sexton*

Curtis Maurand

*Housekeeping*

Donna Cirriello

### Volunteer Clergy

The Rev. Christopher Worthley

<christopher.worthley@aya.yale.edu>

### Lesser Chapter

*Wardens*

*Senior Warden* Sam Allen (2025)

*Junior Warden* Jamie Cough

*Treasurer*

Randi Hogan

<treasurer@cathedralofstluke.org>

*Clerk*

John Bancroft

*Vestry Members*

*Class of 2025*

Dan McDonald, Catherine Hyde

*Class of 2026*

Nancy Brain, Jamie Moore, Randi Hogan

*Class of 2027*

Stanley Kuziel, Eleanor Roberts, Mary Linneman