



St. Luke's Cathedral

# The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 8 December 2024

Welcome



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 Dawmland"—HOME.

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

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

Sarah Braik, Maggie Gardner, Karen Perry, Larry Roadman, Kathy Watt

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

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

Elizabeth Christy (*mother of Kate Leschey*), 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**

My Lord, what a mornin’

music: Negro spiritual, arr. Michael Hassell (1952-2019)

**Words of Welcome**

The Reverend George Stevens, *Interim Dean*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Leaders*

On this second Sunday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of peace. Jesus Christ is our peace. He is the Prince of Peace, And the fruit of his presence is peace. Christ comes to bring justice, wholeness, and harmony to every relationship throughout all creation. He wants to continually grant us peace in every situation. Jesus, we pray, guide our feet into the path of peace.

## The Second Sunday of Advent



# 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 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a-stounds us, the shout of ram-part guards sur-rounds us:  
 2 Zi-on hears the watch-men sing-ing; her heart with joy-ful hope is spring-ing,  
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a-dore you; let saints and an-gels sing be-fore you,

"A-wake, Je-ru-sa-lem, a-rise!" Mid-night's peace their cry has bro-ken,  
 she wakes and hur-ries through the night. Forth he comes, her Bride-groom glo-rious  
 as harps and cym-bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the ci-ty's por-tals:

their ur-gent sum-mons clear-ly spo-ken: "The time has come, O maid-ens wise!  
 in strength of grace, in truth vic-to-rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
 through them we stream to join the im-mor-tals as we with joy your throne sur-round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride-groom is in sight. Al-le-lu-ial  
 Now come, most worth-y Lord, God's Son, In-car-nate Word, Al-le-lu-ial  
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de-light: Al-le-lu-ial

Your lamps pre-pare and has-ten there, that you the wed-ding feast may share."  
 We fol-low all and heed your call to come in-to the ban-quet hall.  
 There-fore we sing to greet our King; for ev-er let our prais-es ring.

The Hymnal 1982 - #61 "Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us"  
 Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944), Copyright © 1982, by Hope Publishing Company  
 Music: *Wachet auf, Irr.*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

## An Opening Acclamation for Advent

from *Enriching Our Worship*

*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* Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* Amen.

*Please sit.*

## First Reading

*Malachi 3:1-4*

*Reader* A reading from the third chapter of Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

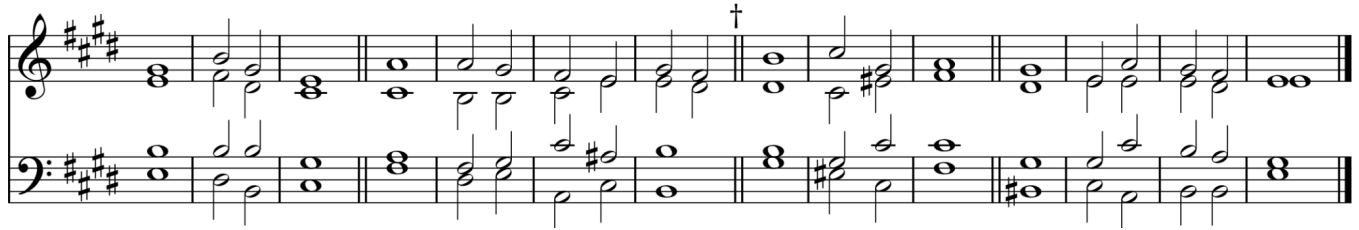
*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated and sing

**Canticle 16**

The Song of Zechariah: *Benedictus Dominus Deus*



Blessèd be the Lord, the / God of / Israel; \*  
he has come to his / people • and / set them / frèe.  
He has raised up for us a / mighty / savior, \*  
born of the / house of • his / servant / David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would / save us • from our / enemies, \*  
from the / hands of / all who / hate us.  
He promised to show / mercy • to our / fathers \*  
and to re/member • his / holy / covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our / father / Abraham, \*  
to set us / free • from the / hands of • our / enemies,  
Free to worship him with/öut / fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his / sight • all the / days of • our / life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the / Möst / High, \*  
for you will go before the / Lord • to pre/pare his / wäy,  
To give his people / knowledge • of sal/vation \*  
by the for/giveness / of their / sins.

In the tender com/passion • of our / God \*  
the dawn from on / high shall / break up/on us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the / shadow • of / death,  
and to guide our / feet in•to the / way of / peace.

Words: Luke 1: 68-79, *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979)

Music: *The Hymnal 1982, Service Music* – #251, Anglican chant: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

**Second Reading**

*Philippians 1:3-11*

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

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

*First Time Cantor/Choir then All*

Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way. Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way. **Fine**

*First Time Cantor/Choir then All*

Christ is com - ing. Christ is com - ing. **D.C.**

*Lift Every Voice and Sing II* – #6 “Christ is coming: prepare the way”; Words & Music: from *Advent Jazz Vespers II*, Edward V. Bonnemere (1921-1996), Copyright © Amity Music Corporation, 1475 Gaylord Terrace, Teaneck, NJ 07666. Reprint permission requested.

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

**Deacon** ✕ The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

**Gospel**

*Luke 3:1-6*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

**Deacon** 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, *The Book of Common Prayer*

*Leader* Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Leader* Remembering especially St. Martin, Palmyra; St. Nicholas, Scarborough; the work of Episcopal Relief and Development; 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

*Deacon* 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.



*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 Duny, Haïti.  
Online giving is available at <stlukesportland.org/give/>; or scan the QR at left.*

*The choir sings*

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light  
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,

As stars about thy throne, set in the height  
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight  
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:  
Our nature all shall feel eternal day  
In fellowship with thee, transforming ray  
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

Words: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833-1917); Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Please stand as you are able.

1 Songs of praise the an - gels sang, heaven with al - le - lu - ias rang,  
2 Songs of praise a - woke the morn when the Prince of Peace was born;  
3 Heaven and earth must pass a - way; songs of praise shall crown that day;  
4 And shall Chris - tians fail to sing till on earth Christ come as King?  
5 Saints be - low, with heart and voice, still in songs of praise re - joi - ce,  
6 Borne up - on their lat - est breath, songs of praise shall con - quer death;

1 when cre - a - tion was be - gun, when God spoke and it was done.  
2 songs of praise a - rose when he cap - tive led cap - tiv - i - ty.  
3 God will make new heaven and earth; songs of praise shall hail their birth.  
4 No; the Church de - lights to raise psalms and hymns and songs of praise.  
5 learn - ing here, by faith and love, songs of praise to sing a - bove.  
6 then, a - midst e - ter - nal joy, songs of praise their powers em - ploy.

The Hymnal 1982 – #426 “Songs of praise the angels sang”; Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.  
Music: Northampton, 77. 77, Charles John King (1859-1934), Copyright © Hope Publishing Company.

## 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 gave 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.**

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us." The first two staves end with a double bar line, and the third staff continues the melody and lyrics, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics for the third staff are "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 Re - deem - er of the na - tions, come; re - veal your - self in vir - gin birth,  
2 From hu - man will you do not spring, but from the Spi - rit of our God;  
3 You came forth from the e - ter - nal God, and you re - turned to that same source.  
4 With God the Fa - ther you are one, and one with us in hu - man flesh.  
5 Your cra - dle shines with glo - ry's light; its splen - dor pierc - es all our gloom.  
6 All praise, O un - be - got - ten God, all praise to you, e - ter - nal Word,



1 the birth which a - ges all a - dore, a won - drous birth, be - fit - ting God.  
2 O Word of God, come; take our flesh and grow as child in Ma - ry's womb.  
3 You suf - fered death and har - rowed hell, and reigned once more from God's high throne.  
4 Oh, fill our weak and dy - ing frame with god - ly strength which nev - er fails.  
5 Our faith re - flects those ra - diant beams; no night shall o - ver - come it now.  
6 all praise, life - giv - ing Spi - rit, praise, all glo - ry to our God Tri - une.

*The Hymnal 1982 – #55 "Redeemer of the nations, come"; Words: Att. to Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Copyright © 1982, Charles P. Price  
Music: *Veni Redemptor gentium*, LM, plainsong, Mode 1, Einsiedeln MS., 12th cent.; acc. David Hurd (b. 1950)*

1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power,  
 2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid,  
 3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,  
 4 Bring to our world of strife thy sov - ereign word of peace,  
 5 O day of God, draw nigh as at cre - a - tion's birth,

1 come with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.  
 2 the qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.  
 3 and fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.  
 4 that war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.  
 5 let there be light a - gain, and set thy judg - ments in the earth.

*The Hymnal 1982* – #601 “O day of God, draw nigh”; Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (1899-1987). Copyright © Emmanuel College, Toronto. Used by permission.  
 Music: *St. Michael*, SM, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1899)

*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.

Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,  
Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er pla - ces plain;

com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.  
call - ing us to new re - pen - tance since the king - dom now is here.  
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
let the val - leys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

*The Hymnal 1982* – #67 “Comfort, comfort ye my people”; Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.  
Music: *Psalm 42, 87. 87. 77. 88*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*

*The Deacon dismisses the people with these words*

Go in peace to love and serve our God.

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

**Postlude**

Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 645 Setting: Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

### Service Participants

<i>Preacher &amp; Celebrant</i>	The Reverend George Stevens, <i>Interim Dean</i>
<i>Assisting</i>	The Reverend Rebecca Grant, <i>Deacon</i>
<i>Music Leader &amp; Organist</i>	Christian M. Clough, <i>Canon for Liturgy &amp; Music</i>
<i>Head Verger</i>	Eleanor Roberts
<i>Crucifer</i>	Alec Thorne
<i>Advent Wreath Prayers Leader</i>	Lucy Pride
<i>Reader</i>	The Reverend Anne Fowler
<i>Prayers Leader</i>	Sam Allen
<i>Ushers</i>	Peter Bingham, Chester Bishop, Gail Swanton, Maggie Gardner
<i>Live Streaming</i>	Jack Swanton, Sam Allen
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Joseph deKay, Kate Leschey
<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 to the glory of God  
& in loving memory of Sally Poland,  
by her loving husband, the Reverend Theodore Poland*

## 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)>.

**Collecting Signatures for the “Safe Schools, Safe Communities” Initiative:** This morning parishioner Gus Goodwin will be collecting signatures for the “Safe Schools, Safe Communities” community initiative, after church during coffee hour. The “Safe Schools Safe Communities” citizen initiative to pass an Extreme Risk Protection Order law in Maine will help keep our kids, families, schools and communities safe by empowering family members to get help when a loved one is in crisis. Extreme Risk Protection Orders provide a much-needed tool for families and law enforcement to intervene before a crisis becomes a tragedy. Firearms are now the leading cause of death for American children and teens. Other states have used these laws to disarm people who threatened school shootings. Additionally, these types of laws are effective in reducing incidents of suicide—the leading cause of firearm death in Maine, especially among men. The goal is to do everything that we can to prevent gun violence and by signing the petition, you will show support to encourage the Maine legislature to pass an ERPO Law. If they fail to take action then this petition will let us put this common sense proposal to prevent gun violence out to the voters. The Safe Schools, Safe Communities campaign is a coalition effort by gun responsibility advocates, health care and mental health professionals, teachers, gun owners, veterans groups and faith leaders, including The Maine Council of Churches and the Episcopal Diocese of Maine.

**5:15PM Sunday Worship & Potluck** You are most welcome to join us this evening in Emmanuel Chapel for worship. Following the service, please join us for a potluck in the Lower Hall for a time of fellowship. The potluck menu will consist of a hearty soup, bread, salad and dessert. The kitchen will be available to prepare a dish starting at 3PM. With any questions please contact Tim Wilkins at <[timswilkins57@gmail.com](mailto:timswilkins57@gmail.com)>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Note from the Interim Dean about our search for Clergy Leadership:** On Wednesday 20 November, the Lesser Chapter gathered with our search consultant, the Rev. Pamela Mott, to consider the nominations for the four committees that will search for our next Dean. We had robust interest and wonderful nominees. After the meeting, we learned that some nominations made late in the process were inadvertently omitted from consideration. Additionally, following our meeting, members of our Vestry raised questions about the process of populating the committees that necessitated further conversation and consideration. All this is to say that the work of the Vestry around establishing the search committees is ongoing. A substantial part of the December Lesser Chapter meeting (December 18) will be to talk about our search for new clergy leadership with the Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, our Bishop. I'm grateful for your deep commitment to the Cathedral of St. Luke and for prayers in this time of transition.  
–with gratitude, The Rev. George R. Stevens, *Interim Dean*

**Jonathan Radtke to be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate:** We are delighted to announce that the Commission on Ministry and Standing Committee of the Diocese of Maine has approved Jon Radtke for ordination to the Transitional Diaconate, with ordination to the priesthood likely in June. Jon's ordination to the Transitional Diaconate will take place at 7:00PM on Thursday 12 December at Trinity Episcopal Church, 580 Forest Avenue, Portland. All are most welcome to attend. As a member and leader, Jon has served St. Luke's for 30 years in many roles including Lay Reader, Christian Education Coordinator, Junior Warden, and guest preacher. Following a discernment program, the Cathedral of St. Luke sponsored Jon's application for Postulancy in 2020. Jon has since completed a program with other postulants from Region I to further prepare for ordination. In 2023, the Lesser Chapter of St. Luke's approved Jon's application to become Candidate for Holy Orders. For the past year Jon has been completing his field placement as part of the ministry team at Trinity Episcopal Church, Portland.

**Nominations Open! Annual Meeting 11:30AM Sunday 2 February in the Cathedral Nave:** Nominations for Vestry, Senior Warden, and delegates to Diocesan Convention are being received by the Nominating Committee of the Lesser Chapter. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Sam Allen, Catherine Hyde, Dan McDonald and the Rev. George Stevens. At our Annual Meeting, we'll elect a Senior Warden for a two-year term, three vestry members for three-year terms, and five delegates (as well as alternates) for Diocesan Convention. For 'job descriptions', or to nominate yourself or someone else, contact George Stevens: <gstevens@cathedralofstluke.org>  
\* Please have permission of the person you'd like to nominate before submitting their name.

**Ad Hoc Preparedness Committee:** At its November meeting, the Lesser Chapter unanimously approved the formation of an *ad hoc* Preparedness Committee. Chaired by Linda & Peter Carleton and Ruth Roemer, the committee's purpose is to help St. Luke's prepare for threatened mass deportations and the growing number of transgender people fleeing from hostile states. In the coming days, the Committee will gather information on 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, and then will present findings to the Lesser Chapter and the congregation, and will give suggestions for ways St. Luke's and its members might participate in these efforts. Contact Linda Carleton <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 prepare for Christmas! 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>

**PPEAT Announcement:** Seeking a volunteer! The Public Policy and Environmental Action Team is in need of a co-chair for the committee as of 11 December 2024. Contact Ruth Roemer <roemerr29@gmail.com> or (973) 901-0345 for more information &/or to volunteer.

**Paul Winter Consort Winter Solstice Celebration:** Join the Paul Winter Consort on Friday 13 December, 7:00PM, at Hannaford Hall (88 Bedford Street Portland, ME 04101) for a joyous and profound celebration of this season of renewal and the greater family of life. The Consort will include Paul Winter on soprano sax, cellist Eugene Friesen, Brazilian pianist Henrique Eisenmann, Bulgarian bassist Peter Slavov, Brazilian drummer Rogerio Boccato, and the renowned voice of Theresa Thomason. Tickets are available at <https://tinyurl.com/paulwinterconsortdec13>

**Eco Tips and upcoming meeting information 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 21 November. Read the plan @ <[tinyurl.com/MEwontwait](https://tinyurl.com/MEwontwait)>. Goals:

- Reduce Maine's greenhouse gas emissions: While Maine has made meaningful progress in reducing emissions, we must reduce them at a faster pace to 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.

Interested in learning more about PPEAT? Join us for our next meeting 6-7PM Tuesday 10 December 10. All are welcome! Join us via Zoom at <<https://tinyurl.com/PPEATDECMEETING>>. Contact Ruth Roemer: <roemerr29@gmail.com>



**Sing Christmas with the Cathedral Choir:** Rehearsals Thursdays 7-9PM (no rehearsal this week); singing for Christmas Festival of Lessons & Carols, Sunday 22 December @ 4:00PM; Christmas Eve; and Sundays @ 10AM. Contact: Christian Clough, Canon for Liturgy & Music: <CClough@cathedralofstluke.org>

**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>

**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>.

## OPPORTUNITIES & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Updates from the Episcopal Youth Service Corps:** The Youth Service Corps had a fabulous time together 24 November at Trinity Episcopal Church. There were 15 youth and 14 adults from 8 different churches in attendance! We packed meals for End Hunger New England that will be distributed to local food banks. If you were there, thanks so much for your help! Our fourth Youth Service Corps (YSC) event will take place 12NOON—2:30PM Sunday 15 December at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Portland. We will gather together to enjoy pizza, hot cocoa and cookies while we pack warmth kits for delivery to Maine Needs. If you have youth who are interested in attending, contact Amber Burks <amber@stalbanmaine.org> or text: (207) 239-7159. If you haven't already filled out a YSC Participation Form (available in the most recent E-pistle), please submit it to Amber by e-mail. RSVP no later than 12 December to ensure enough space and pizza for those who want to participate.

**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:

8 December	Elise Magnuson, Peter Carleton	24 December	Sara Schmalz, Judd Hume
15 December	Gail Kesich, Sara Schmalz	29 December	<i>no healing prayers</i>
22 December	Gail Kesich, Elise Magnuson		

**The Biblical Study Group** meets in the Conference Room on the ground floor Sundays 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.” Led by Bob Hanson, retired university professor, Episcopal priest, author, peace activist, and Jungian analyst. 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.

**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

143 State Street, Portland, Maine 04101 (*street address*)  
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



THE CHOIR OF  
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH  
OF ST. LUKE  
PRESENTS

# A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

*Featuring an evening of music from the  
Christmas Season*

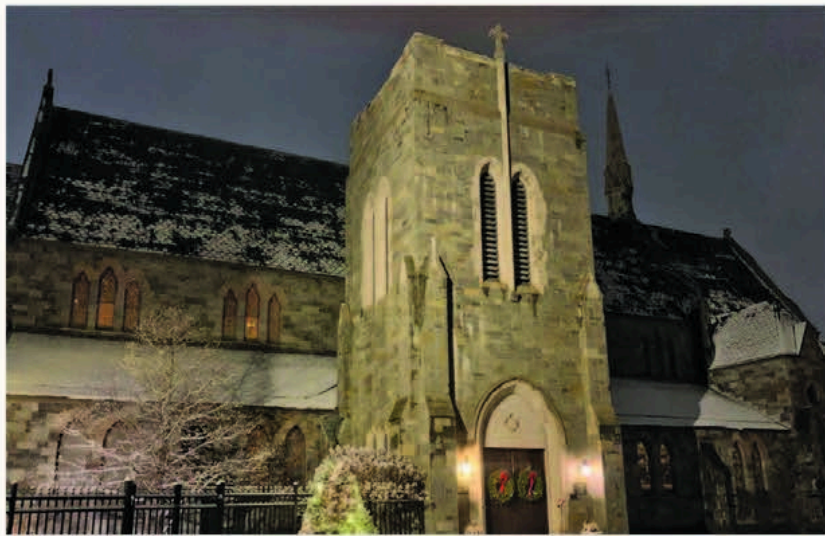


22 DECEMBER 2024 | 4:00 PM  
THE CATHEDRAL NAVE

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. LUKE  
143 STATE STREET  
PORTLAND, ME 04101

For More Information Visit  
[stlukesportland.org/events](http://stlukesportland.org/events)  
[office@cathedralofstluke.org](mailto:office@cathedralofstluke.org)  
207-772-5434

# Join Us for Christmas at St. Luke's Cathedral



## Worship Service Schedule

Christmas Eve Family Service  
*with the Bishop of Maine* | 5pm

Candlelit Christmas Service  
*with the Bishop of Maine* | 10pm  
(*prelude with organ and brass at 9:30pm*)

Christmas Day Service | 10am

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