



St. Luke's Cathedral

The First Sunday after Christmas
29 December 2024

Welcome!

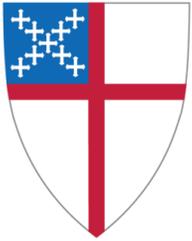


The Cathedral Church of St. Luke
in the
City of Portland
and the
Episcopal Diocese of Maine

*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, Larry Roadman, Ray & Heather Murdoch Curry

members of our extended parish family

Pam Stolte (*sister of Gail Swanton*), Elizabeth Christy (*mother of Kate Leschey*), Pat Anderson (*sister of Gail Swanton*), Jan Giroux (*colleague of Gail Swanton*), Basil Siavelis (*uncle of Rita Siavelis*), Joe (*son of Jeri Edgar*), Susan Yandell (*friend of Jeri Edgar*), Janice (*sister of Terry Foster*), Will Oliver (*friend of Sallie Smith*), Steven & Denise Kuziel (*brother & sister-in-law of Stan Kuziel*), Matt & Liz Schott (*parents of Avery Levesque-Schott*), Kim Strepka (*aunt of Avery Levesque-Schott*)

Please silence your electronic devices before worship begins.

Prelude

Noël Grand Jeu, et Duo

Music: Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

Words of Welcome

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 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vis - ions beam a - far:
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,

ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with you is now re - sid - ing; yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

Refrain
come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

The Hymnal 1982 – #93 “Angels, from the realms of glory”; Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.; Music: *Regent Square*, 87. 87. 87, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the One, Holy, and Living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

The Book of Common Prayer, 355

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.

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all seat - ed on the ground,
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou - bled mind;
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town, this day is born of Da - vid's line
 4 "The heaven - ly Babe you there shall find to hu - man view dis - played,
 5 Thus spake the ser - aph, and forth - with ap - peared a shin - ing throng
 6 "All glo - ry be to God on high and on the earth be peace;

1 the an - gel of the Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
 2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man - kind.
 3 the Sa - vior who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
 4 all mean - ly wrapped in swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."
 5 of an - gels prais - ing God, who thus ad - dressed their joy - ful song:
 6 good will hence - forth from heaven to all be - gin and nev - er cease."

The Hymnal 1982 – #94 “While shepherds watched their flocks by night”; Words: Nahum Tate (1625-1715), alt.
 Music: *Winchester Old*, CM, melody from *The Whole Book of Psalms*, 1592; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1922

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

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
People Amen.

Please sit.

First Reading *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

Reader A reading from the sixty-first chapter of Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Psalm 147.13-21

The people read the psalm in unison.

Worship God, O Jerusalem; praise your Sovereign, O Zion;

For the Holy One has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.

Peace has been established on your borders; you are satisfied with the finest wheat.

You send out your command to the earth, and your word runs very swiftly.

You give snow like wool and scatter hoarfrost like ashes.

You scatter your hail like bread crumbs; who can stand against your cold?

You send forth your word and melt them; you blow with your wind and the waters flow.

You declare your word to Jacob, your statutes and your judgments to Israel.

You have not done so to any other nation; to them you have not revealed your judgments. Alleluia!

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Reader A reading from the third chapter of Galatians.

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

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant, king, to own him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

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

The Hymnal 1982 - #115 "What child is this, who, laid to rest?"; Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)
Music: *Greensleeves*, 87. 87 with Refrain, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

Gospel

Deacon

John 1:1-18
The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People

Glory to you, O Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was

before me.” From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

Sermon

The Right Reverend Thomas J. Brown, *Bishop of Maine*

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

BCP 388

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

Leader Remembering especially St. Brendan the Navigator in Deer Isle; Saint Mary in Falmouth; and for all the children of the world, 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 Remembering especially Joseph, our President; Janet, our Governor; and all elected officials; the people of Sudan, Ukraine, Israel and Palestine; and all those who face injustice and oppression, 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,

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.**

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.**

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

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

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People

Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Please sit.

Announcements

Offering

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, Häiti.

Online giving is available at <stlukesportland.org/give/>.



Music at the Offertory

organ voluntary

Please stand as you are able.



1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright, when Christ our Lord was
 2 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure of ho - ly Anne, that brought in - to this
 3 Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child; to guard him, and pro -
 4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne; for he whom Ma - ry



born on Christ - mas night. *Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus*
 world the God made man. She laid him in a stall at
 tect his mo - ther mild; the an - gels hov - ered round, and
 bore was God the Son. O come, then, let us join the



Do - mi - num. Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 Beth - le - hem; the ass and ox - en shared the roof with them.
 sang this song, *Ve - ni te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.*
 heaven - ly host, to praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

The Hymnal 1982 – #110 “The snow lay on the ground”; Words: Source unknown, 19th cent.

Music: Venite adoremus, Irr. with Refrain, melody adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944); harm. Leo Sowerby (1895-1968), 1941, Copyright © 1941 Leo Sowerby

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

Music: from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (1937-2010), adaptation Copyright © 1985 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

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.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;
 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - ell

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) Music: *St. Louis*, CMD, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

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.

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.

After the organ voluntary

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
che - ru - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
yet what I can I give him — give my heart.

The Hymnal 1982 – #112 “In the bleak midwinter”; Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894); Music: Cranham, Irr., Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934)

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant
All

Let us pray.
Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP p. 365

Pontifical Blessing for Christmas

The Book of Occasional Services

Bishop Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

People **The Maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

People **From this time forth for ever more.**

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

People **Amen.**

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

People **Amen.**

Bishop May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People **Amen.**

Bishop And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

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

mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled! Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise,
hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth. Risen with heal - ing in his wings,

join the tri - umph of the skies; with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in
hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em -
light and life to all he brings, hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born

Beth - le - hem!
man - u - ell! Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
Prince of Peace!

The Hymnal 1982 – #87 “Hark! the herald angels sing” Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, 77. 77. D with Refrain, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915); introduction & final stanza by Gerald Near (b. 1942) (adapt. CMC)

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve our God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Postlude Improvisation on *Il est né, le divin Enfant* setting: Michael A. Joseph

Service Participants

<i>Preacher & Celebrant</i>	The Right Reverend Thomas J. Brown, <i>Bishop of Maine</i>
<i>Assisting</i>	The Reverend Rebecca Grant, <i>Deacon</i>
<i>Music Leader & Organist</i>	John Sullivan, <i>Guest Cathedral Musician</i>
<i>Reader</i>	Georgia Bancroft
<i>Prayers Leader</i>	John Bancroft
<i>Ushers</i>	Bob Parshley, Martha Parshley, Chester Bishop, Stan Kuziel
<i>Live Streaming</i>	Jack Swanton, Sam Allen
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Joseph deKay, Elizabeth Burger
<i>Contributing Ministries</i>	Acolytes, Vergers, Flower Guild, Altar Guild, Kneeler Guild

HAPPENING TODAY

Coffee Hour: Please join us after the 7:30AM & 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/coffeestlukes>>, and choose a date, then contact Meredith Cough <meredith.cough@gmail.com>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome CSL parishioner John Sullivan as our Visiting Music Leader & Organist today. Thank you, John, for sharing your talents with the people of St. Luke’s!

Thank you to all members of our community at Christmas: On behalf of the cathedral staff and wider community, thank you to all volunteers who helped to support our ministries during the Christmas season. Your efforts helped to make the cathedral a welcoming space of worship for all during the holiday season.

Happy New Year From the Cathedral! On behalf of the St. Luke’s community, we wish you a happy, healthy and joyous New Year! We look forward to welcoming you to the Cathedral in 2025.

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.

PPEAT Book Discussion Group: The Public Policy and Environmental Action Team (PPEAT) would like to host a 6 to 8-session book discussion on *Citizen: Faithful Discipleship in a Partisan World*, by Andrew Doyle, an Episcopal bishop from Texas. It would begin in mid to late January. *Citizen* provides a biblically and theologically grounded guide to how we can be both citizens of the kingdom of God and citizens of our community, state and country. The discussion will be led by Sarah Braik. If you are interested please email <sbraik642@gmail.com> and indicate your preference for Monday or Wednesday evening, and whether you would prefer in-person or Zoom.

Celebrate Twelfth Night (and share your Christmas sweets) at our hymn-sing and potluck coffee hour in the Upper Hall following the 10AM liturgy next Sunday 5 January. Bring goodies to share and be prepared to request Christmas hymns and carols on the last day of Christmastide. If we need to copy your selections for distribution, please e-mail them by 9AM Friday 2 January to Christian @ <CClough@cathedralofstluke.org>.

A Note from the Interim Dean regarding the departure of Parish Administrator, Avery Levesque-Schott: Join us Next Sunday at Coffee Hour for an Opportunity to Thank Avery

Dear Friends,

Over the last few weeks, we have communicated that our beloved Parish Administrator, Avery Levesque-Schott, will be leaving the Cathedral for a position with the University of Southern Maine Foundation. Avery joined the staff in June of 2022. Since that time, he has generously shared his gifts with this community. He is a great listener and clear communicator, has brought organization and technical skills to the office, and possesses a keen attention to detail. But his most important gifts are his patience, warmth and sense of humor. I am truly grateful for his work among us. Avery's work concludes with the cathedral at the end of December.

Please join us this coming Sunday 5 January at Coffee Hour following the 10:00AM service to thank Avery and wish him well on his next venture.

There will be more to say later about hiring a new Parish Administrator. Until then I hope you will join me in sharing appreciation for all Avery's hard work. — *George Stevens*

OPPORTUNITIES & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Biblical Study Group meets in the Conference Room on the ground floor Sundays 8:30–10:00AM. In January, we will learn about the development of Jesus. We will look at how he grew from being a rural peasant apocalyptic preacher to later become the son of man, the son of God, the Risen Christ, the person of God, and finally the sovereign Ruler of the Universe. In February, we will consider how to live the vital life of Christ. Stay tuned! We are 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 2025 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.

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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Leadership

Staff

Bishop of Maine

The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown

Interim Dean

The Rev. George Stevens

<GStevens@cathedralofstluke.org>

Canon for Liturgy & Music

Christian M. Clough <CClough@cathedralofstluke.org>

Deacon

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

Bookkeeping

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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