

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**  
**4 December 2022 ✕ 10:00 am**

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

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**The Word of God**

The Organ Voluntary      "Saviour of the heathen, come"      J.S. Bach

*The people observe silence as they prepare for worship.*

The Opening Hymn      "On Jordan's Bank"      Hymnal #76

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.  
 Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalshes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

### The Opening Acclamation

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

### Kyrie "Missa Conditor alme siderum" Frank Boles

*Cantor* *All*  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
*Cantor*  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
*All*  
 Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
*Descant*  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
*All*  
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Setting: Frank W. Boles © 2002 Frank W. Boles, based on *Conditor alme siderum*.  
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## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The People stand or kneel as able.*

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. **Amen.**

*The People sit.*

## The First Lesson

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Reader* A Reading from Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall

live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

**Plainsong**

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \*  
who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
Amen. Amen.

## The Second Lesson

Romans 15:4-13

*Reader* A Reading from Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

The Sequence Hymn "Lo, how a rose e'er blooming" Hymnal #81

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath sprung!  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
\* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2, German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). st. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng.* 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

## The Holy Gospel

## Matthew 3:1-12

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea,

proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

*Celebrant*    The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The People sit.*

The Sermon

### **The Nicene Creed**

*Celebrant*    Standing together we confess our faith in the words of the ancient Nicene Creed.

*The people stand as able.*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became Incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

*Celebrant* We continue with the Prayers of the People.

*The People stand or kneel and the Prayer Leader and **People** pray responsively.*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Terry, our Bishop, and Mark, our Interim Rector; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for Church of the Advent, Louisville; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for Joe, our President, Andy, our Governor, and Neil and Greg, our Mayors, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will especially through our Monthly Mission Partner, Wellspring, and in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to all the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Ethiopia, and Myanmar (Burma) and all those who face war and strife; we pray for peace and the laying down of weapons; we pray for those with power over war and peace that wisdom, discernment, and compassion may guide their decisions; and above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold, comfort, and protect them.

We give thanks for the Altar Flowers given to the Glory of God by Lou and Bonnie Young in loving memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Louis D. Young and Mr. & Mrs. William E. Burch.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially for Eva, Linda, Mindy, Nancy, Don, Ira, Melanie, Kirk, Lynn, Rose, Joan, Al, Robbie, Jen, Dot, John, Walt, Calvin, Martha, Ursula, Nina, Monica, Diana, and EJ; for others listed in our bulletin; and for any others we now name (*the People add names*).

We remember those celebrating birthdays this week, including, Diana, Jamiee, Paula, David, Kathy, and Jim.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, look graciously on our parish. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life and guide us to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church as we seek together to call the next rector for our parish; that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us to pursue the mission and ministry which you desire us to undertake, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### The Confession of Sin

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

*Silence*

*Everyone* **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.**

#### The Absolution

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

#### The Peace

*The People stand as able.*

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

## The Announcements

### The Celebration of Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Celebrant* Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem      “I look from afar”      Laura Lea Duckworth

I look from afar: and lo, I see the pow’r of God coming,  
And a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people, Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another.

Go ye out to meet him and say:

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,

Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people, Israel?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

World without end. Amen.

*While the offerings are presented, the People stand as able.*

*Celebrant* All things come from you, our God,

*People* **And of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*

Lift up your hearts.

*People*

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

*Celebrant and People*

Sanctus

“Missa conditor alme siderum”

Frank Boles

*Cantor* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, *All* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of po - wer and might, heavn and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est  
*Cantor* Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*All* Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



*The People stand or kneel, and the Celebrant continues*

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

*Celebrant* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day, bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*Everyone* **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.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: *Missa conditor alme siderum*

Frank Boles

*Antiphon: Cantor, then All*



Be know to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

*Verses sung by Cantor or Choir*

1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, is the com-mun-ion of the bo-dy of Christ. [Ant.]

2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

**Celebrant** The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The People receive communion.*

*All of God's children are welcome to receive the gifts from God's table. You fully participate in the communion whether you receive the bread only, both bread and wine, or neither. Under our COVID precautions, we are offering bread and wine at the center aisle. If you choose not to receive bread, you may cross your arms over your chest, and we will be happy to offer you a blessing or a sign of God's presence in your life.*

The Communion Solo "Charity abounds towards all" Hildegard von Bingen  
Phoebe Rosquist

*Karitas habundat in omnia*  
Charity abounds toward all  
*de imis excellentissima super sidera*  
most exalted out of the depths above the stars  
*atque amantissima in omnia*  
and most loving toward all  
*quia summo regi*  
for to the High King  
*osculum pacis dedit.*  
the kiss of peace has she given.

The Post-Communion Prayer

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

*The People stand or kneel.*

**Everyone** **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of**

**your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Sending of Eucharistic Visitors

*Celebrant* In the name of God and the people of St. Luke's Church, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts from this table, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel" Hymnal #56 (vs. 1-4)

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

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

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

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

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

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adpt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

*The People are invited to turn toward the exit ways.*

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into God's world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*The People may stand or sit in silence to enjoy the Postlude or exit as desired.*

## The Postlude

"Lo, how a rose"

Johannes Brahm

## Announcements

We are so glad you have joined us for worship at St. Luke's Church. If you are our guest, we would love to know what brought you here today and how we can support you in your spiritual journey. If you are comfortable doing so, please fill out one of our information cards in the pew rack in front of your seat and drop it in the offering plate or give it to one of our clergy or greeters, or just call us with any questions. We would welcome the opportunity to get to know you better.

### **Beautify and Enhance Our Worship This Christmas**

This Christmas Season, **help decorate our worship space with poinsettias and wreaths and provide special music with your gift of \$10.00 or more** in memory of, in thanksgiving for, in honor of, or in celebration of a person or event in your life. Pick up a special envelope at the entryways, make your gift online, or call the parish office at (502)245-8827. Let us hear from you no later than December 20 so that we can include your dedication in our Christmas bulletins.

### **Enjoy Some Fellowship**

Join us in Board Hall for coffee and cookies, and great fellowship immediately **following our 10:00 am Sunday worship.**

### **Support EACM**

In our joint ministry through Eastern Area Community Ministries (EACM), each month we collect food and household supplies, like our current priorities: **crackers, pancake mix and syrup, and pull-ups size 4-5T** for December. To help remind you, we are inviting everyone to take a “Big Red Bag” home after worship and bring it back to worship on the second to last Sunday of each month. What an **amazing Thanksgiving – with your support EACM distributed over 275 complete meals to our grateful neighbors!** Now **share some Christmas joy** with our neighbors **by purchasing \$25 gift cards** (from Target and Walmart only) by December 7. Learn more about EACM and sign up for the EACM Newsletter at [eacmonline.org](http://eacmonline.org).

### **Consider Ongoing COVID Precautions**

While three Kentucky counties are “Red” and others are “Yellow,” Jefferson County remains at the “Green” (low) COVID risk level. As we continue to protect the most vulnerable in our community (particularly those who are immunocompromised or have diabetes, heart disease, COPD, or asthma) please consider these suggestions:

- **Wear a face mask** during worship if you choose to do so. (We will have masks available at the doors if you need one.)
- **Exchange the Peace through gestures** that do not involve physical touching. (And, respect those who are wanting to minimize contact.)

- **Receive communion with bread and wine** but limit exposure by filing down each side of the main aisle where clergy will give you a wafer (or a blessing) after which you may dip in or sip from the cup and return to your seat by the side aisle. (We will not be using the altar rail in order to limit exposure.)

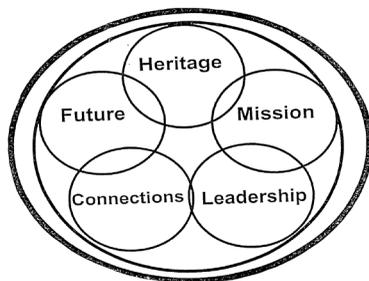
On average, 330 people a day still die from COVID, and 70% of those people are 75 and older. If you are fully boosted and get treated after a breakthrough infection your chances of dying are close to zero. So, while we will continue to monitor COVID risks, and of course, will keep you advised, in the meantime, please get your 3<sup>rd</sup> COVID booster (and the flu shot, too) if you are able.

### **Buy a Ham**

Get a delicious hickory smoked "bourbon honey glazed" bone-in spiral-sliced holiday ham (average weight 10 lbs) for \$49.95 or a half ham for \$29.95. Call the church office at 502-245-8827 by 3:00 pm on Tuesday December 20<sup>th</sup>, and pick up your ham at the church on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> between 9:00 am and 12:00 noon. 100% of the proceeds go to support local mission opportunities in our community.

### **Celebrate Our Search Progress as We Look Toward Leadership**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we shared a wonderful lunch together as we pondered our values and dreams for St. Luke's Church. Soon you will be hearing more about the important observations you have provided about our Heritage and Mission. Also, your Search Committee and (soon to be elected new) Vestry will gather in a joint retreat in February to review all the information you have offered and **address our parish Vision, Mission Statement, short-term Strategic Plan, and a unified logo for our parish.** In addition, starting in January we are planning to help everyone explore **spiritual gift identification for Leadership in the Church.** What talents do you have that you can offer to God and God's people in and through the Church? Your participation in our Search Process is incredibly important, so continue to let us hear from you!



### **Come to Our Wednesday Bible Study**

Join us on **Wednesday mornings at 9:45 am** for bible study in person in the downstairs Vestry Room of our new building. We will start using N. T. Wright's Bible Study Guide for Thessalonians this week. You can get a free copy Wednesday or in the Church office. Just bring your Bible!

### **Rejoice This Sunday That God Gives Us "More Than Enough"**

Over the last four weeks, we have invited everyone to **make a financial commitment to support God's mission and ministry** through St. Luke's Church in 2023. As God's people, we believe that as in the story of Jesus multiplying a few loaves and fishes to feed thousands, when we share what God has given us, miracles happen, for God gives us "More Than Enough." **This weekend at worship, we will be rejoicing in and pronouncing God's blessing over the commitments that so many people have made** – and we will be especially rejoicing that two-thirds of all commitments received so far represent new or increased giving! If you have turned in your commitment card – THANK YOU! **If you have not turned in your card, bring it this weekend, or fill out a card when you come to worship.** Our goal is simply a commitment in any amount from everyone. Then, all commitment cards (including those already received) will be offered to God. We really do have "More Than Enough" – we just need to be a part of God's miracle and share some of what God has already given us.

### **Support Our Monthly Mission Partner**

Our Monthly Mission Partner for December is **Wellspring**. Founded by local Episcopalians forty years ago, Wellspring **serves the needs of persons with serious and persistent psychiatric illnesses**. With nearly 20 diverse

housing units and hundreds of scattered-site apartments, **Wellspring is the region's leader in helping individuals build healthy and hopeful lives** through person-centered care by providing crisis stabilization, housing, employment services, and other support for adults with mental illness. Keep Wellspring in your prayers, learn more about them at [wellspringky.org](http://wellspringky.org), and give generously this Christmas on the last weekend of this month to support this important ministry. And by the way, **you gave \$1,271 in October to buy school supplies to help flood victims in Eastern Kentucky** – fantastic!

### **Invite Everyone to Our Christmas Open House**

On **December 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**, we will host a Community Christmas Open House for all our family, friends, and neighbors. During this festive event, we will feature **great music, good food, holiday crafts, tours of our wonderful new and refurbished facilities, and opportunities for fellowship and some Christmas Cheer**. We will be rolling out our very best St. Luke's hospitality, so do invite everyone – and we mean everyone – you know to come. God has given us so much to be thankful for, and this is our long-awaited chance to share with all of those around us the excitement of what God has given us.

### **Make an Extra Year-End Gift**

As part of our move toward year-round stewardship, the Vestry has decided to update the parish regularly on the state of our finances. As anticipated, over the course of this year our surplus (the result of our delay in calling an Interim Rector) has gotten smaller. Through October, that **surplus is now just \$1,610**. If you can, please **complete the payment of what you intended to give in 2022**, and better yet, **make an extra year-end gift** to help keep us in the best possible financial position.

### **Join in Adult Formation**

Every **Sunday at 9:00 am in Board Hall we offer breakfast and Adult Formation on a variety of topics**. This Sunday, Mark, our Interim Rector, will lead an open forum addressing (but not necessarily answering) your theological, Biblical, spiritual, liturgical, practical, functional, or other questions. On December 11, Dave Kirchinger continues a series on "Celtic

Christianity.” If you can’t be there in person, join us by Zoom with Meeting ID: 82160796302 and Password: 798722.

### **Gather Together in a Foyer Group**

Foyer Groups have returned to St. Luke’s Church! Each Foyer Group consists of six people (assigned at random) – with **plenty of extra room for folks who want to join in as substitutes or latecomers**. Foyer Groups will **meet on a rotating basis at group members’ homes or a designated location like a local restaurant for about six months to share a meal, conversation, and fellowship**. These are strictly social evenings, and the key is simply to get to know one another better and strengthen our sense of community. Contact the parish office to **add your name to our “substitute list”** for Foyer Groups.

### **Enjoy Breakfast with The Brotherhood of St. Andrew**

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a worldwide ministry to men and boys with the vision to inspire, empower, and equip members to fulfill the Great Commission through prayer, study, and service. Our St. Luke’s Chapter meets (usually) on the **first Saturday of every month for breakfast at 8:45 am** and a program at 9:00 am. All men and boys are welcome to attend. Contact Doug Sanders at 502-889-1005 for more information.

### **Join in Centering Prayer**

Through Centering Prayer, we open ourselves up to be guided by God’s will for us. Our Centering Prayer group gathers the first and third Tuesday of each month. Join us on **December 6 and 20 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm** on Zoom with Meeting ID: 89768653053 and Password: 2458827.

### **Welcome the Scouts**

We are excited that Cub Scout Pack 274 is now officially meeting at St. Luke’s Church, with Drew Hensel as the Committee Chair, Steve Kaebnick as the Cubmaster, Walt Anderson as the parish contact, and your Interim Rector as the temporary Executive Officer. **All boys and girls from kindergarten through fifth grade (5 to 10 years old) are invited to join**. For more information or to learn about activities planned for the year, go to [AnchoragePack274.com](http://AnchoragePack274.com) or call Drew at 612-810-7217. Thanks to all the scouts for being a part of our community!

### **Spread the News About Our St. Luke's Music Academy**

Your Vestry has established the St. Luke's Music Academy to **provide opportunities for music education for our community's children, youth, and adults.** Piano, organ, and voice lessons are now available, with other instrumental instruction being offered upon request. Stayed "tuned" for more details to come, or contact the parish office or Lisa Lewis at 502-593-8417 for more information.

### **Shop at Kroger (Seriously)**

Join Kroger's Community Rewards Program! Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on the amount you spend. Any transactions using your Shopper's Card number will be applied to the program at no added cost to you. To get started, **go to [www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards) and use our church name or the code UG196.**

### **Move Forward Day by Day**

Forward Movement, a ministry of The Episcopal Church, grew out of the determination of the General Convention in 1934 to counter a period of anxiety, distrust, and decline in The Episcopal Church with a "forward movement" charged to "reinvigorate the life of the church and to rehabilitate its general, diocesan, and parochial work." **Pick up one of the free Forward Day by Day booklets to access the daily meditations based on scripture readings appointed by the lectionary and Daily Office.** Or, go online to [prayer.forwardmovement.org](http://prayer.forwardmovement.org) to access Forward Day by Day and a wide variety of other resources to enhance your spiritual life.

### **Let Us Know How We Can Help**

**We have a dedicated group of faithful people in our Lay Pastoral Care Ministry who can offer a listening ear, a caring word, a helping hand, and especially a heartfelt prayer.** Give us a call when you are seriously ill, hospitalized, or facing surgery; when you encounter a spiritual, emotional, or financial crisis; when you experience a birth, death, job change, move, or other transition; when you would like communion brought to you; or when you just need someone to talk to. **Call The Rev. Mark Feather at 502-338-4817 (cell) anytime in case of emergency.** Otherwise, contact him at [rector@stlukesanchorage.org](mailto:rector@stlukesanchorage.org) or leave a message at the parish office at 502-

245-8827 and he or one of our Lay Pastoral Care Ministers will reach out to you.

### **Celebrate That Commissions Are Coming!**

Your Vestry has formed “**Commissions**” designed to help organize what we do: **Teaching, Stewardship, Mission, Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Worship, and Prayer**. These Commissions will serve as centers to gather common ministries together and to encourage and enrich our ministries, without supplanting any leadership or the function of those ministries. Everyone will still be encouraged to claim individual and collective ministries, but **Commissions will complement (come alongside) those ministries to more effectively support the gifts of time and talent that are being offered**. Look for more details to come as we make our new Commissions a reality.

### **Try Online Giving**



To give online, go to [stlukesanchorage.org/give](http://stlukesanchorage.org/give) or use this QR code. We welcome gifts by cash, check, ACH transfer, or through Tithely, our online giving resource.

### **Today's Ministers**

Ushers: Darrell Casada, John Ridoux, and Doug Sanders

Celebrant: The Rev. Mark Feather

Readers: Marc Harris and Barbara Staats

Prayer Leader: Rick Rummel

Eucharistic Ministers: Gregory McFall and Patti LaMontagne

Audio/Visual: Jacob Anderson

Vestry Person: Barbara Staats

### **Pray For Others This Week**

Please include in your prayers these parish members:

Eva Bush	Lynn Cline	Walt Anderson
Linda Schaaf	Rose Butcher	Calvin Pinney
Mindy Frank	Joan Gallenstein	Martha Colston
Nancy Menz	Al Seiferheld	Ursula Brooks
Don Morrison	Robbie Hallenberg	Nina Seigle
Ira Creasman	Jen Currens	Diana Durham-Smith
Melanie Skeeters	Dot Hood	EJ Golightly
Kirk Brandon	John Markham	Monica Layton

Pray also for these persons (who are included at the request of parish members):

Dan Kosek (Lynn Cline)	Missy Bradford (Ira Creasman)
Jemima Menkhus (Jackie Gibbs)	Lee Ridoux (John Ridoux)
Norman Luba (Lorraine Luba)	David Gregory (John Ridoux)
Mary Gray-Simmons (Jean Carroll)	Susie Gregory (John Ridoux)
Jacqueline Gray-Simmons (Jean Carroll)	Winston Maddix (Mitch Wilson)
Ann Petty (Linda Brandon)	Beecher Creasman (Ira Creasman)
Jim McLallen (Linda Brandon)	Helga Bailey (Gene Bechtel)
Jim Moser (Jane Moser)	MaryBeth McLallen (Linda Brandon)
Karen Spiegler (Ruth Neaveill)	Amy Wakeman (Linda Brandon)
James Brady (Nancy Menz)	Ken Updike (Rob Snyder)
Michael Bush (Eva Bush)	Terry Stanberry (Dawn White)
Rick Kiper (Bob LaMontagne)	Hugh Armstrong (Georgette Fletcher)
Don Staley (Janice Toebbe)	Bethann Heilers (John Ridoux)
Briar Metz (Linda Brandon)	Christy Chard (Judy Chard)
Liz Bullock (Beth Bullock)	Alex Snipes (Gene Bechtel)
Thomas Coomer (Evell Coomer)	Casey Snipes (Gene Bechtel)
Cindy Ernspiker (Martha Colston)	Pat Chard (Judy Chard)
Cam Rucker (Lynn Cline)	Seth Monroe (James Layton)

Remember those parish members celebrating birthdays:

Diana Durham-Smith	David Ray
Jamiee Goodman	Kathy Regneri
Paula Grover	Jim Walls

**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
DIOCESE OF KENTUCKY**

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday: 5:30 pm (Rite II)

Sunday: 10:00 am (Rite II)

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White, *Bishop*

The Rev. Mark Feather, *Interim Rector*

STAFF

Lauren Schwartz, *Parish Administrator*

Lisa Lewis, *Organist and Choirmaster*

Judy Chard, *Bookkeeper*

William Tsueda, *Sexton*

Brench Boden, *Parish Composer*

OFFICERS

John Ridoux, *Senior Warden*

Bob LaMontagne, *Junior Warden*

Peter Finnis, *Treasurer*

Barbara Staats, *Clerk*

VESTRY MEMBERS

Fofa Johnson  
John Ridoux  
Barbara Staats  
Nelson Toebe

Jane Casada  
Caroline Eddleman  
Bob LaMontagne  
Doug Sanders

Mike Berry  
Rip Phillips  
Rick Rummel  
Bob Towler

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