

WELCOME TO

ST. LUKE'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PARISH IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 18, 2026

HOLY EUCHARIST

10:30 A.M.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are welcome!

Whether you are a guest or a long-time member, we are blessed by your presence today.

Children are most welcome and always celebrated as a part of our church community. Nursery care is available during worship for children 0 - 4 years old in "The Children's Space," first floor, Parish Hall building. Children's Church is offered for children 4 years old - elementary. We gather in the rear of the church and process to the Parish Hall for a lesson and activity, returning to worship at the Peace. Our trained staff and volunteers lead both of these ministries. The Parish Hall is also home to nursing and changing facilities and a comfortable, quiet space (St. Agnes room). Please ask an usher or greeter if you need assistance finding any of these locations.

Restrooms are in the hallway on the Church Street side of the building - exit through the Baptistry, turn left at the end of the ramp and then left at the sidewalk that runs alongside the church.

If you are visiting today, please complete a Guest Card (in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate.

May the God who brought you here today bless you throughout the coming week.

The Rt. Rev'd William O. Gregg, Ph.D., *Interim Rector*

VI Bishop of Eastern Oregon, res.

Assistant Bishop of North Carolina, ret.

The Rev. Thomas Carter, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Bonnie Duckworth, *Deacon & Coordinator for Older Adult Ministry*

Stephen Williams, *Director of Music Ministry*

Caroline Stephenson, *Parish and Family Ministry Coordinator*

Jessica Moorman, *Parish Administrator*

Daphne Safrit, *Director, The Children's Space*

Fernando Lopez, *Facility & Event Assistant*

Come and See
the difference Christ makes



THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

Rhapsodie on two Noël's

Jean Langlais

HYMN IN PROCESSION #497 How bright appears the Morning Star *Please stand. Sung by all.* *Hymnal 1982*

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

Book of Common Prayer, 355

People: **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name: through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA S-280 *Sung by all.*

Hymnal 1982

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Please be seated.

Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the
survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 40:1-12*Sung by the choir.*

chant, Percy Buck

- 1 I waited patiently upon the Lord; *
he stooped to me and heard my cry.
- 2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; *
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God; *
many shall see, and stand in awe,
and put their trust in the Lord.
- 4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! *
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
- 5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for us! *
there is none who can be compared with you.
- 6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *
but they are more than I can count.
- 7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *
(you have given me ears to hear you);
- 8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *
and so I said, "Behold, I come.
- 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
'I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart.'
- 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O Lord, you know.
- 11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; *
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.
- 12 You are the Lord;
do not withhold your compassion from me; *
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

THE EPISTLE**1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with
all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in
every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has
been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our
Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Please be seated.

The Rt. Rev'd William O. Gregg, Ph.D.

*VI Bishop of Eastern Oregon, res.
Assistant Bishop of North Carolina, ret.*

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand.

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Please kneel or stand.*

Deacon: Creator God, you have formed us for a purpose. Enter more deeply into our hearts that we might more fully know you and the role you have created us for, and accept our prayers as we say, Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Empower your Church to speak truth and to stand boldly against the dark powers of this world, that it might be a refuge and a place for hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Embolden your people to hold to account the leaders of the world, that they might pursue policies of peace and fellowship. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant us discerning and generous hearts that your blessings might be made known to our neighbors through our actions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Equip us and sustain us to forestall environmental catastrophes, and to preserve the glorious abundance of creation for future generations. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Support those who suffer and make your healing presence known to them. Especially we pray for Tom, Jason, Bob, Terry, Gary and Dawn. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accept the dying into your loving arms and greet us also in the hour of our death that we might rise again in your new age. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Speak to us and guide us in our life's path so that we might be fully the people you created us to be. All we have and all we ask comes from you, O Lord, who with the Son and Holy Spirit reigns for ever, one God.
Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE CALLING OF OUR NEXT RECTOR

Gracious and loving God, who calls faithful leaders and has blessed St. Luke's with gifts of love, compassion, diversity, fellowship, inspiring liturgy, and historic spaces within which to worship: Send your Holy Spirit to guide us in our discernment as we seek the one you are calling to be our next rector. Continue to form us through intentional worship, empower our efforts in becoming your beloved community, and keep your abundant grace always before us. In the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

BCP 360

THE PEACE *Please stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS *Prayed by all.*

Those celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary in the previous or coming week are invited to come forward for a prayer. It is customary, but not at all required, to put an offering in the silver vessel when coming forward. Some choose to put an amount symbolic of the number of years being celebrated.

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

*Guest Information cards (found in the pew racks)
may be placed in the offering plate or given to the clergy after church today.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Gifts to support the ministries of St. Luke's may be placed in the Offering Plate or given online at www.SLS.church/give

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Cantata 147)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, Holy wisdom, love most bright;

Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring Soar to uncreated light.

Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, With the fire of life impassioned,

Striving still to truth unknown, Soaring, dying round Thy throne.

*Through the way where hope is guiding, Hark, what peaceful music rings;
Where the flock, in Thee confiding, Drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure; Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own In the love of joys unknown.*
(Words: Martin Janus, 1661)

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn #127, verse 5 *Please stand, all sing.* *Hymnal 1982*
*Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshiped at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father and the Spirit, glory be.*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B *BCP 367*

SANCTUS S-129 *Sung by all.* *Robert Powell*

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

FRACTION ANTHEM S-155 *Sung by all.* *Hymnal 1982*

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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

All baptized persons, of whatever denomination, are most welcome to receive communion at St. Luke's. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion today, you are invited to come to the Altar for a blessing. Cross your arms over your chest to indicate you desire a blessing.

HYMN AT COMMUNION #317 This is the hour of banquet and song *Hymnal 1982*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Please stand or kneel.* *BCP 365*
Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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 Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN IN PROCESSION #594 God of grace and God of glory *Hymnal 1982*

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

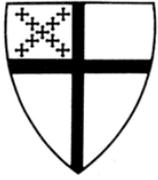
The Voluntaries are integral parts of the Liturgy. With exuberance to greet friends and neighbors, please also be mindful of the music, the composer, the composition, the performer, and those around you who want to listen to the music. Also, since these are not concert performances, applause is unnecessary. Thanks for your understanding and care!

Servers	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers	Brian Whitson, Tyler Speir, Sandy Goodman, Will Goodnight	Hank Newman, Donny Clement, Stewart Ash, Trevor Eppheimer
Greeter	Pati Carter	Pennie Martin
Emergency Response	Cris Leckonby	Greg Shields
Lectors	Jane White, Luke Hamaty	Jennifer McKinney, Dick Martin
Chalicians	Stephen Collins, Pennie Martin	Pati Carter, Penny Roemer
Intercessor	Mary Ann McCubbin	Robin Swanson
Verger	Greg Shields	Michelle Whitson
Acolytes	James Chamberlain, Joaquim Chamberlain, Marlee Speir, Jiselle Samolu	Clara Tinsley, Malachi Whitson, Rachel Tinsley, Sawyer Jacobson
Choir	Adult Choir	Adult Choir
Nursery	Joynice Gladey, Laura Greene	Joynice Gladey, Tory Curran
Children's Church	Caroline Stephenson, Jim Greene	Kathy Gregg
Wednesday Server	Cathy Green	
Vestry Deposit	Mary Ann McCubbin, Sarah Wooten	Andy Lund, Hank Newman
Altar Guild	Kay Ash, Rebekah Kelly, Laura Thompson	Ann Dunn, Alex Dunn, Dora Wood, Tyler Breese, Eliza Breese

Eucharistic and Office Candles given by: Anne Way Crawford in memory of Franklin Way, Virginia Way, John Robert Crawford, III; Nan Medley in memory of Margaret and Bill Weant

Sanctuary Lamp given by: Reg Boland in honor of St. Luke's Altar Guild

Altar Flowers given by: Tim and Ellen Messinger in memory of William Stephen Linn, Peter King Messinger, Mary Lee Corriher Linn, Richard Dwight Messinger, John Steele Henderson, Ruth King Henderson, Mary Henderson Messinger, Helen Virginia Messinger, and Harry Carlton Messinger



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Established 1753

A Parish of the Diocese of North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman, Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

131 West Council Street Salisbury, NC 28144

Phone: 704-633-3221 / www.SLS.church / @stlukessalisbury



PARISH OFFICERS AND VESTRY

2026: Andrew Jacobson, Tyler Ellis (Jr. Warden), Kathy Carter, Jane White (Sr. Warden)

2027: Penny Roemer, Ray Swann, Brian Whitson, Sarah Wooten

2028: John Cowan, Mary Ann McCubbin, David Cline, Luanne Short

Parish Officers: Davis Cooke (Secretary); Will Goodnight (Treasurer); Chip Short (Chancellor)

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