

WELCOME TO

ST. LUKE'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PARISH IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 1, 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*

Come and See
the difference Christ makes



THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

Ecce panis Angelorum (*Bread of Angels*)

Alexandre Guilmant

INTROIT

Let all the world in every corner sing
Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King!
The heavens are not too high, His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low, His praises there may grow.
The Church with Psalms must shout, No door can keep them out;
But above all the heart Must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King!
(George Herbert)

Craig Sellar Lang

HYMN IN PROCESSION #127 Earth has many-a noble city *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 Gloria in excelsis *Sung by all.* *Hymnal 1982*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT *Please be seated.*

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
 what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
 and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
 that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”
 “With what shall I come before the Lord,
 and bow myself before God on high?
 Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
 with calves a year old?
 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
 with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
 Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
 the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
 He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
 and what does the Lord require of you
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,
 and to walk humbly with your God?

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM 15 *Antiphon* sung by all.

Thomas Pavlechko



Lord, who may abide up - on your ho - ly hill?

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
 who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
 who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;
 he does no evil to his friend; *
 he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
 but he honors those who fear the Lord. *Antiphon*

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
 and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
 nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things *
 shall never be overthrown. *Antiphon*

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN #542 Christ is the world's true light *Please stand.* **Hymnal 1982**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

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

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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 Barbara, 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.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

BCP 820

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

Prayer of Light

Daniel Roihl

God of mercy, God of grace, show the brightness of Thy face.
On Thy faithful servant shine. Fill my heart with light divine.
And when the darkness falls, when sin's temptation call,
be a light; guide, illuminate through the night.
God of mercy, God of light, hide Thy face not from my sight,
but with love my faith ignite. Burn in my heart, O Lord.
Thee alone, Lord, I adore, praise, and glorify forever more.

(Text by Daniel Roihl, with adaptation from Henry Francis Lyte)

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 Christ our Passover 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.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION Hymn #554 'Tis the gift to be simple Hymnal 1982
Choristers Let him who seeks Richard Shephard

Let him who seeks, not cease seeking until he finds,
and when he finds, he shall be troubled, and when he is
troubled, he will marvel, and he shall rule over the All.
(Words from the Coptic Gospel of St. Thomas, v. 2)

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 #438**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Hymnal 1982

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.****VOLUNTARY**

Grand Chœur (alla Handel)

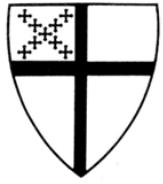
Alexandre Guilmant

Servers	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers	Bob Setzer, Andy Lund, Erik Lipscomb, Pennie Martin	Brian Whitson, Tyler Speir Sandy Goodman, Will Goodnight
Greeter	Andrew and Susanna Lund	Pati Carter
Emergency Response	Pennie Martin	Cris Leckonby
Lectors	Davis Cooke, Reg Boland	Chip Carter, Robin Swanson
Chalicists	Chip Carter, Bain Jones	Reg Boland, Dean Cunningham
Intercessor	Penny Roemer	Kathy Carter
Verger	Davis Cooke	Reg Boland
Acolytes	Nicholas Eppehimer, Millie Klauder Emma Stephenson, Pierce Ellis	Nick Clement, Salem Griffith Malachi Whitson, Graham Corriher
Choir	Adult Choir, Choristers	Adult Choir
Nursery	Joynice Gladey, Jim Greene	Joynice Gladey, Eliza Breese
Children's Church		Caroline Stephenson, Tyler Breese
Wednesday Server	Davis Cooke	Davis Cooke
Vestry Deposit	Jane White, Andrew Jacobson	Kathy Carter, David Cline
Altar Guild	Barb Whenal, Ann Dandison Reg Boland	Lynn Bolick, Eunice Gladys Mary Ann McCubbin

Eucharistic and Office Candles given by: Harold Newman in memory of Laura Simons Newman, Maynard Newman, Eleanor Maynard Newman, Harold Hastings Newman, Ada Jenkins Simons, John Thompson Simons, Judy Newman; Jane Grogan Smith Steinberg in memory of Elsie Trott Grogan, Louis Grogan Fritzsche, Robert L. Smith, Harley Evans Grogan, Wendy Grogan Dorsky, William Bailey Brandl, Henry Evans Grogan, Kathleen Louise Smith

Sanctuary Lamp given by: Gene Krueger in memory of Abigail Burroughs, Kathleen Dunn

Altar Flowers given by: Hank Newman in memory of Judith Newman, Dr. Harold H. Newman, Gene Porter Newman, Lonnie Charles Gooch, Julia Carter Gooch, Dr. Kevin Newman



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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