WELCOME TO

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PARISH IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA

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THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 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. William O. Gregg, Ph.D., *Interim Rector*
VI Bishop of Eastern Oregon, res.
Assistant Bishop of North Carolina, ret.
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*
Lynn Frick, *Director, The Children's Space*

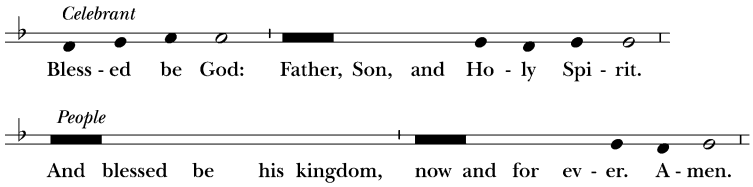
Come and See
the *difference* Christ makes

Abundant Grace • Intentional Worship • Beloved Community

THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY Elegy George Thalben-Ball

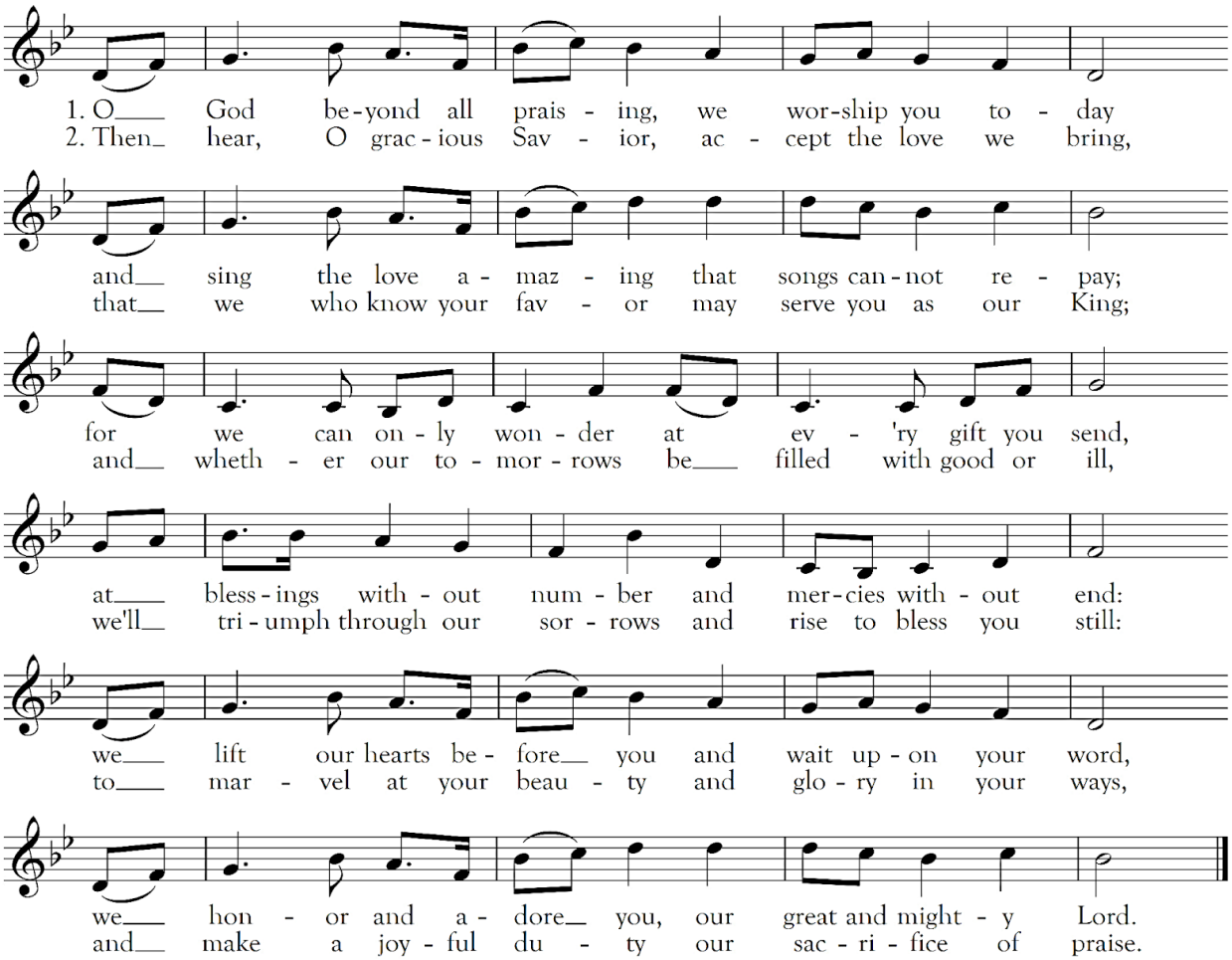
HYMN IN PROCESSION #718 God of our fathers *Hymnal 1982*



Book of Common Prayer, 355

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

GLORIA O God beyond all praising *Sung by all.* *Hymns Ancient & Modern*



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

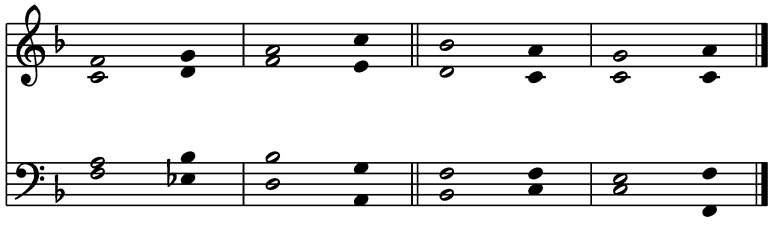
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING *Please be seated.* **Amos 5:18-24**

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

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

PSALM 78:1-7 *Sung by all.* Robert Knox Kennedy



1 Hear my teaching, O my **people**; *
incline your ears to the words of my **mouth**.
2 I will open my mouth in a **parable**; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient **times**.
3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have **told us**, *
we will not hide from their **children**.
4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the **Lord**, *
and the wonderful works he has **done**.
5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for **Israel**, *
which he commanded them to teach their **children**;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet un**born**; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their **children**;
7 So that they might put their trust in **God**, * (2nd half)
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his com**mandments**;

THE SECOND READING **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Please stand, as able. Sung by all.*

#61 "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us *Hymnal 1982*

THE HOLY GOSPEL **Matthew 25:1-13**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

THE SERMON *Please be seated.* The Rt. Rev. William O. Gregg, Ph.D.

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand, as able.* BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Please remain standing or kneel.*

Deacon: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Intercessor: 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. We pray for our global companion, the Bishop James Hannington Memorial Cathedral in Mumias, Kenya, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially +Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; +Sean, our Presiding Bishop; +Samuel, our Diocesan; Jennifer, our Assistant Bishop; +Joseph, Bishop of the Diocese of Mumias, Kenya; +William, our Interim Rector; and Bonnie, our Deacon. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially Nancy, David and Mickey; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially John Joslin, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

[Silence, after which the Celebrant adds a concluding collect.]

A PRAYER FOR OUR NEW RECTOR

Most gracious and loving God, who gives us diverse gifts and calls us to diverse ministries in which to use these gifts, we give you thanks that through Christ in the power of your Spirit, you have guided us through the process of discerning the one you have called to be our new rector. We give you thanks that Fr. Christopher has heard and accepted your call to him through us. We ask your blessing on Fr. Christopher and his family, Anne, Andi and Elena. May their transition to Salisbury be smooth and easy. Bless this parish as we prepare to receive the Wilkersons among us. Bless us all as we enter into the new chapter of our life with You. Grant that we may all enter into our future with You, with openness and faithfulness, to your honor and glory, through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

A Prayer for Sound Government BCP 821

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.
Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.
Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.
Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.
Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.
For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

Confession of Sin *Please kneel, as able.* BCP 359

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

All: **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.**

Absolution *Please remain kneeling.*

The Peace *Please stand.*

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

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

2027 Pledge Cards may be submitted in the bowl near the Altar during Communion or in the Offering Plate. 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 So they gave their bodies Peter Aston

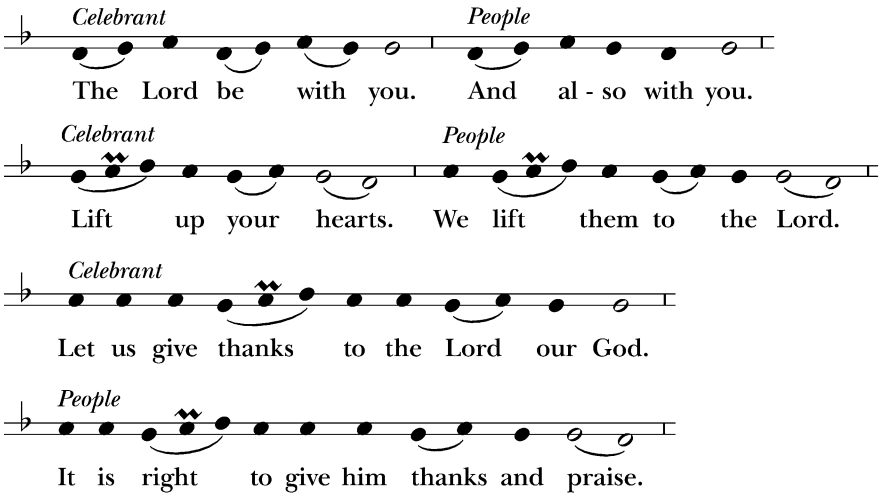
So they gave their bodies to the commonwealth,
and received praise that will never die, and a home
in the minds of men. Their story lives on, without
visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives.
Words from Pericles' Funeral Oration (Athens, 431 BC)

THE DOXOLOGY Hymn #493.6 *Please stand, as able. Sung by all.* Azmon

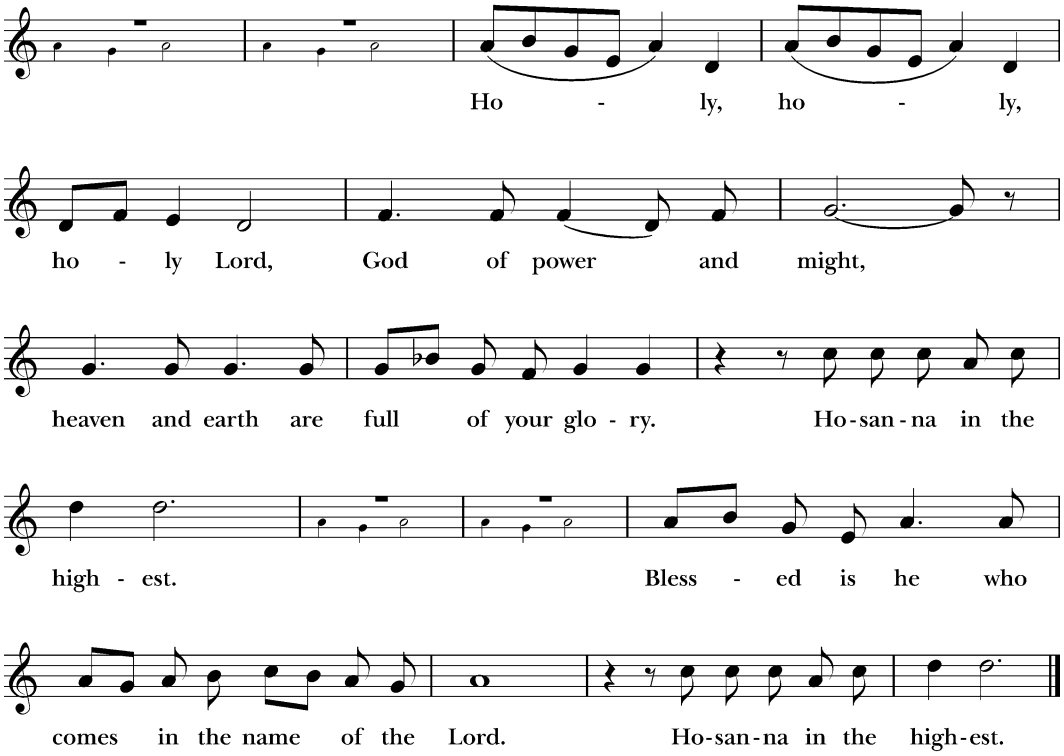
Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B *Please remain standing.* BCP 367

SURSUM CORDA S-120 *Hymnal 1982*



SANCTUS S-128 *Sung by all.* *Hymnal 1982*



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Please remain standing or kneel.

The Celebrant continues: We give thanks to you, O God ...

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

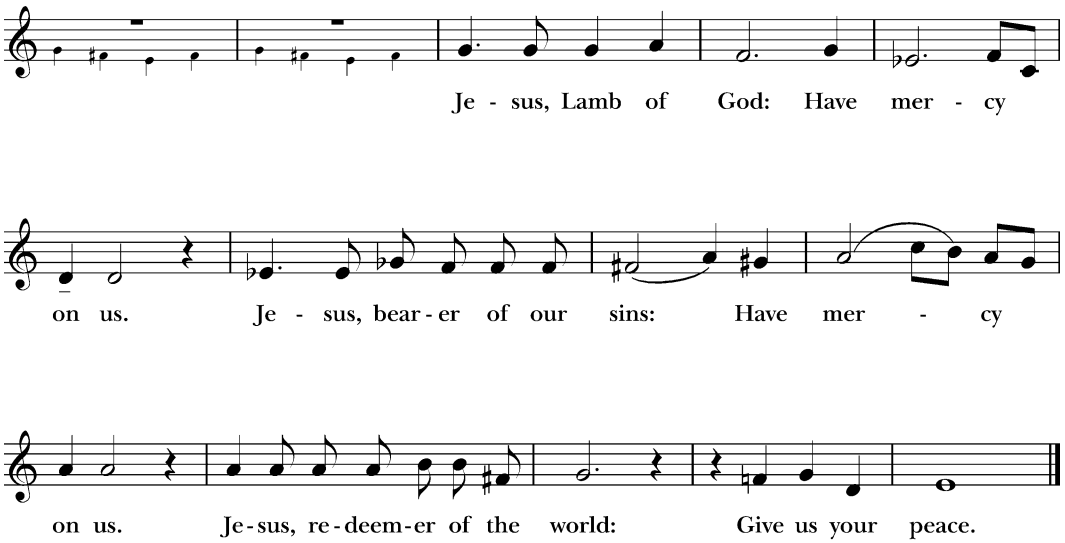
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues... all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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-165 *Sung by all.* *Hymnal 1982*



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

All baptized persons are most welcome to receive Communion with us, regardless of the tradition in which you were baptized. If you do not wish to receive Communion or if you are not baptized, you are invited to come to the Altar for a blessing. To indicate that you want a blessing, place your arms across your heart.

For health and safety reasons, it is not possible to allow intinction as a means of making your Communion. If you do not wish to receive the sacramental Blood of Christ / Wine from the chalice (which is quite alright), you may cross your arm over your heart to indicate you do not wish to receive or you may leave the Altar rail after you receive the sacramental Body of Christ / Bread. Either option is fine. Please know that to receive Communion in one Kind is to receive the whole sacrament and is in no way deficient.

COMMUNION HYMN #454 Jesus came, adored by angels *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 *Sung by all.*

#541 Come, labor on *Hymnal 1982*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary Solemn Prelude "For the Fallen" Edward Elgar

Servers	*Today*	*Next Sunday*
Ushers	Will Goodnight, Stewart Ash, Tyler Speir, Sandy Goodman	Pati Carter, Cris Leckonby, Stewart Ash
Greeter	Will Goodnight	Pati Carter
Emergency Response	Stewart Ash	Cris Leckonby
Lectors	Luke Hamaty, Dick Martin	Cris Leckonby, Jane White
Chalicists	Bain Jones, Kathy Carter	Stephanie Phoenix, Ray Swann
Intercessor	Chip Carter	Penny Roemer
Verger	Michelle Whitson	Ray Swann
Acolytes	Nick Clement, Millie Klauder, Emma Stephenson, Ben Dunkin	Marlee Speir, Jiselle Samolu, Sawyer Jacobson, Ingrid Jacobson
Choir	St. Luke's Choir	St. Luke's Choir
Nursery	Katie Leckonby, Laura Greene	Katie Leckonby, Tory Curran
Children's Church	Caroline Stephenson, Jim Greene	Caroline Stephenson, Andrew Jacobson
Vestry Deposit	Kathy Carter, David Cline	Jane White, Ray Swann
Altar Guild	Kay Ash, Rebekah Kelly, Laura Thompson	Ann Dunn, Alex Dunn, Dora Wood, Tyler Breese, Eliza Breese
Wednesday Server	Reg Boland	Davis Cooke

Eucharistic Candles given by: Penny Roemer in memory of Hans E. Roemer, Rosina and Sidney Fyson, Jack Dobie, Beverly Fyson, Doris Harding, Patrick Daly

Office Candles given by: Mr. and Mrs. Donny Clement III in memory of Murtis Maynard Nicholas, Dan Miller Nicholas, Richard Maynard Nicholas, Ruth Ritchie Miller Clement, Don Clement Jr., Joseph Duane Gilliam, Betty Dan Nicholas Spencer

Sanctuary Lamp given by: Reg Boland in memory of the Rev. Kenneth R. Terry and the Rev. Uly H. Gooch

Altar Flowers given by: Emily, Caroline, Cecelia, and Mary Blake in memory of Al Nobles, Helen Nobles

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: Kathy Carter, Tyler Ellis (Jr. Warden), Andrew Jacobson, Jane White (Sr. Warden)
2027: Penny Roemer, Ray Swann, Brian Whitson, Sarah Wooten
2028: David Cline, John Cowan, Mary Ann McCubbin, Luanne Short
Parish Officers: Davis Cooke (Secretary); Will Goodnight (Treasurer); Chip Short (Chancellor)

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