



Welcome to St. Luke's!

We are glad you are here worshipping in this part of the great big family of God.

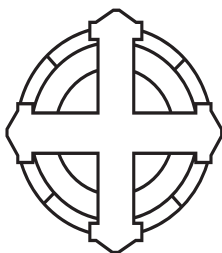
We are a community committed to reflecting God's love and grace, proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and serving all of God's people. Our service today is fully printed in this bulletin from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Our worship songs are found in the blue Hymnal or the Yellow Alleluia songbook in your pew.

We do not pass an offertory plate but leave it at the back of the church for any offerings you would like to give to grow Christ's Church and help those in need.

The Episcopal Church works to live out Christ's legacy of inclusion, aspiring to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being.



The Right Reverend Dr. Glenda S. Curry, Bishop
The Reverend Polly H. Robb, Rector
Cheryl Miller, Parish Administrator
Alicia Bell, Bookkeeper
Carmen Avans, Nursery Coordinator
James Kuykendall, Organist & Music Director
Matthew Roney, seminarian



SAINT LUKE'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Where Love Leads the Way



THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

October 6, 2024

HOLY EUCHARIST & BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

PRELUDE *His eyes on the sparrow*

OPENING HYMN *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

**Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colors,
he made their tiny wings. [Refrain]**

**The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]**

**The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one. [Refrain]**

**He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well. [Refrain]**

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

People **And Blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Most high, loving God, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfect joy. You made us and all living things. You are even more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us animals who bring us joy; help us to take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Creation Story Genesis 1

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and a great dimness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. On the first day, God created light and darkness. On the second day, God created the sky above and the waters below. On the third day, God formed the land and called it Earth, and gathered the water and called it Sea. God blessed the earth with vegetation and food. On the fourth day, God separated the day from the night, creating the sun, the moon, and the stars. On the fifth day, God brought forth swarms of living creatures in the air, in the water, and on the land, and God bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the sixth day, God created humankind in God's image, giving them dominion over the animals. God blessed them and bid them to be fruitful and multiply. On the seventh day, God saw that everything that God had made was very good, and God rested and blessed the seventh day and made it holy.

Prayer of St. Francis *said in unison*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 11:25-30

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

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

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, God of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, God, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Creator; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal God. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me;

for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HOMILY

The Rev. Polly Robb

THE PRAYERS

Leader: Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us and for the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea;

All: **We thank you, Lord, for your gifts.**

Leader: For the richness of the mountains, plains and rivers;

All: **We thank you, Lord, for your wonderful creation,**

Leader: For all that is gracious in our lives.

All: **We thank you, Lord for the blessings of this life.**

Leader: For all creatures that breathe, and move, and have life;

All: **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For the songs of birds and the beauty of flowers and trees;

All: **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For the trust you have shown in giving all this into our care;

All: **We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: That we may love and honor all your works, O God;

All: **To the honor and glory of your name, now and forever, Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Priest circulates through the congregation, blessing the animals individually.

Blessing: May your days be full of sunshine and good things to eat. May your caregivers treat you always with respect and kindness. May you continue to praise your creator, by simply being what you are. May you enjoy life together with this family and find joy in the love of the God who created you; in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

A Prayer for those pets who have died. (*please name your pet at the pause provided*).

We remember our animal companions who are no longer with us physically, especially _____. We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the many fun and thoughtful ways they enriched and blessed our lives. Holding them in our hearts, we are confident that our Creator continues to care for them. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem **Prayer** adapted from the words of St. Francis' Prayer and common prayers from Jewish and Hindu traditions

<i>Hebrew</i>	Oseh shalom bim'romav Hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu V'al kol yisreal V'imru, v'imru, amen Ya'aseh shalom Shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael	He who makes peace in the heavens He shall make peace upon us And upon all of Israel And say Amen May he make peace Peace upon us and upon Israel
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<i>Hindi</i>	Asato ma, Sad gamaya Tamaso ma, Jyotir gamaya Mrityor ma amritam, Gamaya Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti	From ignorance, lead me to truth; From darkness, lead me to light; From death, lead me to immortality Peace, peace, peace
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Original melody by Sebastian Temple. Additional music and lyrics by Irene Sankoff and David Hein. Arr. by Ian Eisendrath.

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; You filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you redeemed us in Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

SANCTUS *sung together*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might

**Heaven and Earth are, Full of your glory, Lord we sing your praise
Hosanna in the Highest, Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest, Lord we sing your praise**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might
Blessed is He who, comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the Highest, Hosanna in the Highest
Hosanna in the Highest, Lord we sing your praise**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**All Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
People **We who are many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

COMMUNION

Priest and Eucharistic minister circulate through the congregation, bringing the sacrament to you. If you would like to receive a blessing, instead of the bread or wine, please fold your hands over your heart.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
**All Loving God,
we give you thanks for restoring us in your image,
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth, a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG *A place in the choir* **Bill Staines**

Choir begins and the Congregation joins in on the ending refrain:

**All God's critters got a place in the choir
Some sing low, Some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And Some just clap their hands or paws or anything they got, now.**

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God!**



Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Dovers family in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of our son, Joah.

SAINTS ALIVE

Thank you to Today's Ministers

Alter – Deb Butler and Deb McBride

Acolyte – Matt Roney

EM – Everett Reed

Lector – Alicia Bell

Prayers – Sherry Holand

Usher – Jared Doves

Counter – Janet Sage

Vestry – Don Traut

Streaming – Robert Robb

Birthdays this Week

8 Joah Dovers, 9 Georgia Duke,

10 Debbie Butler and 12 Blake Collins

Watch over your children, Joah, Georgia, Debbie and Blake, 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