



SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Said Holy Eucharist, Rite II---5:00PM (Vigil)

Our Mission Statement

To spread the Gospel to all people through hospitality, service, and spiritual growth.

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2024

Broadcast Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Lukes-Episcopal-Church-Scranton-PA-215512459865/>

(Please silence all cell-phones & digital devices until after the Service! Thank you.)

“BCP” with a page number, refers to The Book of Common Prayer.
The Collect of the Day, the First and Second Lessons, and the Gospel are on the bulletin insert.

PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE

O Almighty God, *who pourest* out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to *thee*, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship *thee* in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP page 355

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

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP page 355

THE TRISAGION

BCP page 356

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

(Repeat 3X)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP page 211

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All sit.

THE FIRST READING **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Reader: A reading from the Book of Jeremiah

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

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

THE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-9

Ad te, Domine, levavi

BCP p. 614

Read in unison, the leader beginning with the first phrase and the people joining in the bolded text.

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

THE SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Reader: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

All stand, as able

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All Stand

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor As salvation draws near, let us be awake, alert, and watchful for the One who has come and will come into our lives, saying: *Holy God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

For the Church: especially for Sean our Presiding Bishop and Kevin our bishop, that while surrounded by the darkness of selfishness, jealousy, and greed, we may live as children of light and show God's love to those around us. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For this parish family, that in our worship and work we may live together in joyful hope. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For peace in all troubled places, that God will teach the hearts of all the human family to turn swords into plows and resources for war into healing and development. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all who are burdened by the cares of life, that they may always be ready to welcome Christ wherever he reveals himself. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all who are busy and hurried, for refugees and travelers who are separated from homeland or family, for those who await God's healing & blessing, remembering especially, Jordan, Frank, Elaine, Lynn, Mary Jane, Robin, Heather, Chase, Francis, Carol, Stacy, Isabella, Will, Jodie, Dave, Philomena, Kyle, John, Diane, Jeannette, Bill+, Anne, Mike, and Paul+ that they may find God's care and compassion as others reach out to them. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For ourselves in this Advent time of waiting, that we may be thankful for all the blessings we enjoy and seek ways to share them with others. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all those who have died, remembering especially Carol, Debora, and Betty that they may walk in the light of the Lord. Holy God, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

In the communion of blessed Mary, the God-bearer, Andrew the Apostle and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, to Christ our God. *To you, O Lord our God.*

Celebrant O God of Jacob for whom we long, hear our prayers and keep us ever watchful, that when Christ our Savior comes we may welcome him with joy and gladness. This we ask in his most holy Name. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP page 359

THE PEACE

BCP page 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. When passing of The Peace, we ask that you please remain in your pew and exchange with those immediately near you or with a wave or bow.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Celebrant: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offering and come into his courts. *Psalm 96:8*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, *Eucharistic Prayer B*
The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

BCP page 367

SURSUM CORDA

BCP page 367

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

BCP page 367

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

BCP page 368

THE GREAT AMEN

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP page 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

BCP page 364

LAMB OF GOD

BCP page 337

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP page 364

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of age or denomination to receive communion at Saint Luke's. If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward to a blessing. To show that you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.

We invite those who are joining via livestreaming to make an Act of Spiritual Communion

<https://news.forwardmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spiritual-Communion.pdf>

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

BCP page 339

THE DISMISSAL

BCP page 366

The Celebrant
The People

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER THE SERVICE

Grant, we beseech *thee*, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through *thy* grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of *thy* Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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SPECIAL MINISTERS

Saturday, 5:00pm Keyholder -K. DeSanto; Altar Guild - L. Savinelli and M. Savinelli; Usher - M. Savinelli; Crucifer and Acolyte - D. Kraus; Lector - K. DeSanto; Intercessor - TBD; Chalice Bearer - TBD; Counters - TBD

Sunday, 10:00am : Keyholder -S. Sollami; Altar Guild - TBD; Ushers - TBD; Crucifer and Acolyte - A. Guthrie; Lectors - D. Wegner, J. Rich; Intercessor -M. Baccoli; Chalice Bearer - S. Sollami; Counters - TBD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitation and Committal Service

Following the Eucharist on Sunday, December 1, 2024 there will be a visitation(11:30 - 12:30) and committal service (12:30) in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd for Betty Zapp. Fr. Paul Towers will be the celebrant.

Christmas Flowers and Greens

Would you like to be among those giving flowers and greens to adorn the parish for Christmas? They can be given in memory or honor of a loved one. Please use the envelopes marked "Christmas Memorial Flowers and Greens" for your gift and to indicate for whom the flowers/greens are given. The names will be listed in the St. Luke's Christmas Memorial List for 2024 and must be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, December 22, 2024.

Cypress House Open House

Cypress House at St. Luke's will host an Open House on Friday, December 6, 2024 from 5:00 - 8:00PM. There will be two guest speakers, CHB Board members, The Rev'd Dr. Robert Peiffer and former federal Judge Thomas I. Vanaskie will address the gathering. There will also be a tour of the renovated kitchen as it has been transformed thus far.

Women's Annual Christmas Luncheon

The Women's luncheon is planned for Saturday, December 7, 2024 at Cooper's Seafood House. The event begins at noon and continues until 3:00PM. There will be a cookie table (cookie donations are welcome). There will also be games and prizes. The luncheon cost is \$28.00pp and reservations must be received no later than December 1, 2024. For more information, please see Robin O'Hearn or Kathy Selmba.

Arcadia Chorale Concert

This year's concert will be at 3:00PM on Sunday, December 8th. The concert, entitled "Love's Light Abounds: A Holiday Celebration in Song" will weave together the rich traditions of both Christian and Jewish holiday music, the Arcadia Chorale will perform works by Michael John Trotta, Eric Whitacre, Thomas Tallis, Judith Clurman, Salamone Rossi, and more. Tickets are \$15; seniors are \$12, and students are free.

Greening of the Church

The greening of the church will be on Monday, December 9th at 5:30PM. For more details or if you would like to lend a hand, please see Mickey Baccoli or Rick Ammenhauser.

Catherine McAuley Toy Drive

St. Luke's is once again collaborating with Friends of the Poor and the Catherine McAuley Center for their annual Christmas Toy Distribution. Toy donations will be accepted through Friday, December 13, 2024. We are focusing our efforts on kids of middle and high school age, but toys for all ages are welcome. If you prefer, monetary donations can be made to The Catherine McAuley Center noting "Gifts for Kids" in the memo line. All toys must be new and unwrapped. There is a barrel in the Nave for your donations.

Lyric Consort Concert

Our friends from Lyric will present "A Lyric Consort Christmas" at St. Luke's on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 7:30PM. A reception will follow and a free will offering will be accepted.

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Sunday School Schedule

The Sunday School will be taking its winter hiatus. The last class is set for Sunday, December 15, 2024 and then classes will resume on Sunday, January 5, 2025.

St. Luke's Christmas Worship Service

Christmas Eve December 24, 2024 - 7:30PM
Christmas Day December 25, 2024 - 10:00AM



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"In the heart of things"

HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturdays: 5:00PM Holy Eucharist (Said)

(Followed by Coffee Hour in Kreitler Hall on the first week of the month.)

Sundays: 10:00AM Holy Eucharist (Sung)

(Please join us each week for Coffee Hour in Kreitler Hall
following the Sunday service)

The first Sunday of each month we offer a "Family Eucharist" with special participation by our youth. On all other Sundays, Sunday School is offered for younger children at 9:30AM

The Vestry

Mickey Baccoli, (2025—Senior Warden), Rick Ammenhauser (2027 —Junior Warden),
Kathy Selemba (2025—Clerk), Kimberly DeSanto (2027), Bernard Ott (2025),
Sharon Sollami (2026), and Thomas Zurla (2026)

Ms. Maria Zengion, Organist and Choirmaster

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St. Luke's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH