

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

166 *All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine* SINE NOMINE
467 *Trust and Obey* TRUST AND OBEY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *in unison*

Rev. Bill Denham

Gracious God,
You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth,
and fed us with the bread of life. Help us to be your faithful disciples
so that our daily living will reflect your love to all those around us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*If you would like to become a follower of Jesus Christ, or if you are interested
in joining St. Luke's United Methodist Church, we would love to talk to you
about what that means. Please come forward after the service to meet with our
Christian Friends.*

*If you would like someone to pray with you, you are invited to come forward
after the service and meet with one of our prayer volunteers.*

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

251 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. David Horton

POSTLUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High David Cherwien

At places marked * those who are able may stand.

When Are We? Navigating the Church Calendar

In the context of the church calendar, we are in what's simply called "The First Sunday After Christmas." We're transitioning from the season of anticipation to the season of celebration! Christ is come! The sunrise has crested, breaking the long, dark night, blazing the truth that our hope has not been in vain. So we go, blinking into the sun, to be the incarnation for which much of the world is still waiting and hoping. The vestments and paraments are white to continue the celebration of the arrival of our Lord.

Leading in Worship today: Rev. David Horton; Rev. Bill Denham; Rev. Thomas Harper; Rev. Michelle Manuel; Madison Garcia.

Musicians: Randy Murrow, Associate Director of Music & Fine Arts; Rob Landes, Artist-in-Residence; Staff Quartet.

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in celebration of the baptism of Katherine Elizabeth Rivers by Elizabeth and Brian Rivers; and in loving memory of Roe and Edna Clyde Brewer, Jim and Annie Eldridge, and Buster and Eunice Ackerman by Karen and Don Eldridge; and in honor of David Andrew Eldridge, Robb and Audrey Moses, Sue Dezenolet, Joe and Barbara Eason, Jerry and Sherry Ritcheson, and Marsha's Lift Group by Karen and Don Eldridge; and in loving memory of W. Carter Grinstead, Jr. by his loving wife Linda Grinstead; and in loving memory of Cynthia Sarver by the Laughlin Family.

12:05 p.m. Communion in the Chapel: Rev. Bill Denham

Welcome to St. Luke's!

We're so glad you're here. Worship is at the heart of everything we do and we hope that you and your family find this service to be uplifting and transformational. Whether you are a first-time guest or a regular attendee, please join us in the Gathering Room near the Main Entrance for refreshments and fellowship after the service.



Want to learn more about St. Luke's? Drop by the Connection Desk near the Gathering Room and ask about **Coffee with the Pastor** with Dr. Tom Pace or contact Kelly Grimes at kgrimes@stlukesmethodist.org.

For Families with Children

A Family Room with Livestream is open all morning in the Chapel Parlor located out the left front door of the Sanctuary.

We offer loving and safe Nursery care for children ages 2 months – Pre-K while parents attend any of our morning worship services and Sunday School classes.



At 9:45 a.m., we offer Children's Sunday School for 2-year olds through 5th grade. For children in 6th through 12th grades, Student Ministries offers a unique worship experience in their own building.

During most 11:00 a.m. services, we offer Children's Church for children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade in room ES213 on the second floor of the Johnson Building, Main Entrance.

Sunday Morning and Beyond Resources

Download the St. Luke's App to watch online when you can't be with us, view sermons, listen to podcasts, find a small group, check in your children and more. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search St. Lukes UMC Houston.

To watch the livestream on your computer, go to StLukesMethodist.org/livestream

To watch sermons and listen to podcasts on your computer go to: StLukesMethodist.org/sermons

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals are available from the ushers.



L I V E
A N D
L O V E
L I K E
J E S U S

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
December 29, 2019 | 8:30 a.m.



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor

713-622-5710 | StLukesMethodist.org

PRELUDE *The Holly and the Ivy* Robert Powell

***HYMN OF PRAISE**
245 *The First Noel* THE FIRST NOEL

***THE APOSTLES' CREED** UMH #881 **Madison Garcia**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** UMH #70 **MEINEKE**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

WELCOME

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:22-32 **Rev. Michelle Manuel**

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER **Rev. Thomas Harper**

SERMON *My Eyes Have Seen Salvation* **Rev. David Horton**

OFFERTORY *Christmas Dance* arr. Hopson
Jennifer Johnson, Lauren Ruhl, James Chamberlain, Jeff Van Hal

When God Almighty came to be one of us
Masking the glory of His golden train,
Dozens of plain things kindled by accident,
And they will never be the same again.

Sing, all you milkmaids! Dance, all the carpenters!
Sing, all the publicans and shepherds too;
God, in His mercy, uses the commonplace;

God, on His birthday, has a need for you.

Splendor of Rome and local authority,
Working on policy with furrowed head;
Joined to locate Messiah's nativity,
Just where the prophets had already said.

Sing, all you taxmen! Dance, the Commissioners!
Sing, civil servants and policemen too!
God, to His purpose, uses the governments;
God, on His birthday, has a need for you.

Wise men they called them, earnest astrologers
Watching their meaning in the moving stars.
Science or fancy, learned or laughable,
Theirs was a vision that was brought to pass.

Sing, all you wise men! Dance, all the scientists!
Whether the theories are false or true,
God uses knowledge, God uses ignorance;
God, on His birthday, had a need for you.

Sing, all creation, made for His purposes,
Called by His providence to live and move;
None is unwanted, none insignificant,
Love needs a universe of folk to love.

Old men and maidens, young men and children,
Folk of all races and all colors too;
God, on His birthday, and to eternity,
God took upon Himself the need of you.

Dance, all creation, sing your loud and joyful song.

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #95 **OLD 100TH**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION **Rev. David Horton**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and all-merciful God,
Through the birth of your Son, you have gifted us with Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. We confess that we are often more inclined to hoard these gifts for ourselves than to share them with others.
We ask you to forgive us, and by the gentle touch of your Spirit help us to find a renewed desire to share all your gifts with all your world, so that the world will know your greatest Gift, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

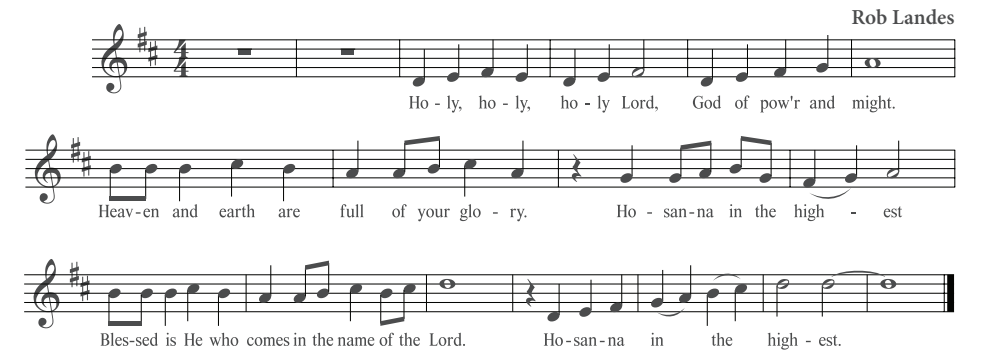
If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...*the pastor continues*
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

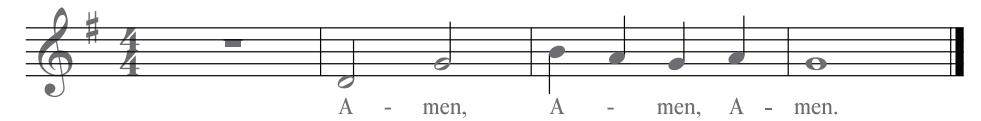
Rob Landes



...*the pastor continues*
...in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



...*the pastor continues*
All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



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, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

We are guests at Christ's table which is open to all. Receive the bread in your hands, and the server will say, "The body of Christ, given for you," and your response could be, "Amen." Then dip the bread into the juice and the server will say, "The blood of Christ, given for you," and again you may respond, "Amen."

Gluten-free wafers are available. Indicate your need to your server.

Offerings left at the communion rail will be directed to the Member Care Fund, which aids our friends in need.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**
249 *There's a Song in the Air* CHRISTMAS SONG