

joining St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, we would love to talk to you about what that means. Please visit the Connection Desk after the service to meet with a member of our Hospitality Team and learn more.

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

2222 The Servant Song THE SERVANT SONG

Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we’re together on this road.
We are here to help each other walk the milk and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I’ll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.

*BENEDICTION Dr. Tom Pace

*CHORAL BENEDICTION 11:00
The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve LAND OF REST

POSTLUDE Postlude Cooke

At places marked * those who are able may stand.

What's Happening at St. Luke's

Coffee with the Pastor | Wednesday, August 24 | 5:30 p.m.
Dr. Pace will share his spiritual journey and invite you to examine your own. You will learn more about St. Luke’s vision, structure, mission and what it means to be a member of our church. Register: StLukesMethodist.org/CWP

Your Voice Matters!
St. Luke’s conducts an annual churchwide survey to help us understand your engagement and satisfaction with the programs of the church. To participate, please complete this anonymous survey by Friday, August 19. We appreciate your input. StLukesMethodist.org/2022survey

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study
Tuesdays, beginning September 6 | 6:30-9 p.m. | ES306 | Led by Jana Gaddy
A 34-week study that moves through the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem. Disciple emphasizes disciplined reading of and listening to the Scriptures. Students use both the Bible and the study manual to complete daily reading assignments. Register: StLukesMethodist.org/bible-studies

Welcome to worship at St. Luke’s!
Please let us know you are here.



We are so happy you're with us today! Please check in by hovering your phone's camera over this QR code, and a form will pop up.

You can also check in on the St. Luke's App. If you don’t have the app installed on your phone, you can download here: StLukesMethodist.org/app

Sermon Notes

Less Image, More Substance
Second in the Series When Less is More

- Woe! Or Woah!
- Core exercises
- At least one cow

Possible best next steps for you
If you use social media, see if you can cut your use in half, or adjust your settings to hide the “likes.”
Pray for students and educators as they begin school this year.

Leading in Worship Today: Dr. Tom Pace; Rev. Michelle Manuel;
Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears; Rev. Cliff Ritter.

Musicians: Sid Davis, Director of Music & Fine Arts; Jim Roman, Organist;
Chancel Choir; Staff Singers.

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Blaire Cynthia Stephens by her grandparents, Marilee and Dan Hedges and Cindy and Michael Graves.



St.Luke’s

United Methodist Church

Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor

713-622-5710

| StLukesMethodist.org



St. Luke’s United Methodist Church
August 14, 2022 | 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Variations on *Gather Us In* arr. Groom te Velde

HYMN OF PRAISE
2236 *Gather Us In* GATHER US IN
Here in this place new light is streaming, Now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in—the lost and forsaken, Gather us in—the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young—our lives are a myst’ry, We are the old—who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist’ry, Called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in—the rich and the haughty, Gather us in—the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, Call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, Not in some heaven, light-years away,
But here in this place the new light is shining, Now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever, Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in—all peoples together, Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UMH #883 **Rev. Michelle Manuel**

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

***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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

11:00
Blaire Cynthia Stephens
Daughter of Christopher Bailey Stephens & Amanda Graves Stephens

Minister: Beloved of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care this child whom we this day recognize a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she may grow in the knowledge and love of God the Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

People: With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness that she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life eternal.

WELCOME Dr. Tom Pace

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS 11:00 **Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears**
God of all knowledge and wisdom,
Bless all of the students that are a part of our community.

Remind them they don't just carry stuff with them, but they also carry your love and care into the world.

Remind them also that they are carrying with them the prayers of this community of faith.

Help them to do their best, guide them to make right choices, and remind them that you are always with them.

We know that you love them even more than we do.
Protect them and reassure them each day.

We ask your blessing on the teachers, administrators, custodians and coaches. Fill them with your strength, patience, and compassion.

We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus, Amen.

ANTHEM 11:00 *Because You Are God’s Chosen Ones* G. Alan Smith
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:23-27 9:45 **Rev. Cliff Ritter**
11:00 **Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears**

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and

mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others. ²⁴ You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel! ²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. ²⁶ You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and of the plate, so that the outside also may become clean. ²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful but inside are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of uncleanness.

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

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER **Rev. Cliff Ritter**

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.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** 11:00
581 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service* BEACH SPRING

OFFERTORY
9:45 *Because You Are God’s Chosen Ones* G. Alan Smith
Staff Singers
11:00 *Bright Mansions* K. Lee Scott
Chancel Choir, Grace Roman, soloist

***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.

SERMON *Less Image, More Substance* **Dr. Tom Pace**
Second in the Series, *When Less is More*

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
If you would like to become a follower of Jesus Christ, or if you are interested in