Welcome to St. Luke's Episcopal Church!
An inclusive, multicultural community pursuing spiritual and social transformation.
Una comunidad inclusiva y multicultural, en búsqueda de transformación espiritual y social.

At St. Luke's, we welcome and fully affirm everyone equally as children of God created in the image of God. Thank you for joining us as we resume in-person worship. Despite the changes in California guidelines, we continue to recommend that people wear masks indoors. And, we will pass the Peace by bowing, nodding, or waving from a distance. We will celebrate the Eucharist together, and the bread of Holy Communion will be given to all who would like to share in receiving the body of Christ. If you have any needs or concerns, please contact the clergy, the Rev. Jane Gould at jgould@stlukeslb.org or 562-436-4047.

Please turn off your cellphone. If God is going to speak to you during the service, other means will be used.
The Order of Service

Prelude  *The Good Shepherd*  
Dale Wood  
Dr. Gukhui Han

**Hymn 414 (v.1-3)  *God, my King, thy might confessing*  
Stuttgart**

**Opening Acclamation**  *Please stand.*

*Celebrant*  Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*People*  Glory to God forever and ever.

**Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Benedictus es, Domine**  
John Rutter

\[
\begin{align*}
1. & \quad \text{Glory to you, Lord} \\
& \quad \text{God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise;} \\
& \quad \text{glory to you.} \\
2. & \quad \text{Glory to you} \\
& \quad \text{for the radiance of your holy Name; we will} \\
& \quad \text{praise you and highly exalt you forever.}
\end{align*}
\]
3. Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

4. Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

5. Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

6. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

A reading from the Book of Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated. Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124

The soloists will sing first, then the congregation will repeat.

REFRAIN:

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say; if the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us, then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us; then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us; then would the ragging waters have gone right over us. Blessed be the Lord who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

REFRAIN
A Reading  James 5:13-20
A reading from the Epistle of James.
Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Processional  Guide my feet Lord  Traditional Spiritual

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.
2. Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race.
3. Stand by me Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race. ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.
Hold my hand Lord, while I run this race. ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.
Stand by me Lord, while I run this race. ’cause I don’t want to run this race in vain.
The Gospel  Mark 9:38-50

Celebrant  The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

People  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. “For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Jane Gould

Silence follows the sermon.

Affirmation of Faith  If you are able, please stand.

We believe in God
who is never confined to our imagining,
is never in bondage to our understanding
and never kept within our dwelling places.

Our God is the mystery
of divine and human, bound together,
of power and vulnerability,
of crucifixion and resurrection.

Our God is the wonder
of truth and compassion,
of liberation and responsibility,
of eternal wisdom and amazing grace.

We celebrate this God
who leaps free of all our boundaries in love,
stretching out beyond any barricades
and in mercy bending deep
into fragile human hearts.

(Source: Celtic Daily Prayer, Vol. 2 in the Celtic Communion service)
The Prayers of the People
The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.
Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may commit to heal and defend the earth; pour your blessing upon all in leadership that they might honor your creation, and for all who work for the good of the planet.

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings in our lives and in the world you have made.

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Comforter of all the earth, sustain all those who desire or need your presence and help [especially ________________].

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died [especially ________________].

Silence
God, Giver of life, Hear our prayer.

Presider Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.
(source: Anne Kelsey, SCLM 78th General Convention Liturgies Honoring God in Creation)
Confession and Absolution

Celebrant  Let us confess our sins to God.

People  God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant  Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant  The peace of Christ be always with you.
People  And also with you.

Special prayers, celebrations, and anniversaries

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant  Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to God.

Offertory Anthem  Precious Lord, Take My Hand  Thomas A. Dorsey arr. Jack Schrader

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, held me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is gone, almost gone;
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
During the anthem, please support the parish by contributing financially to the mission and ministry of St. Luke’s / San Lucas. You may contribute electronically by scanning the QR code to the right, or by placing your offering in the plate as it is passed.

Offertory Hymn 343  *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*  

*St. Agnes*

**The Holy Eucharist**

**The Great Thanksgiving  Eucharistic Prayer C**

*If you are able, please remain standing.*

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 our thanks and praise.  

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. **By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:
Sanctus

And so, Holy God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.
Lord God of our Ancestor: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Hannah, Deborah, Miriam, and Mary; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, holy God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. 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.

The Breaking of the Bread  The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant    Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People       Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Sung by the cantor:
I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord; for He has been so good to me.

Celebrant    The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is the Lord’s Table, and all are welcome here.
**The Holy Communion**

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome to receive the Eucharist. At this time, due to COVID-19 restrictions, only the bread of Holy Communion will be offered to the congregation. To receive Communion, please form a line down the center aisle. When you reach the altar rail, use the entire rail to stand or kneel around the altar rail to receive the bread, which will be placed in your hands; gluten free wafers are available. Anyone with mobility issues is welcome to remain standing in the center, or stay seated and have the clergy bring Communion to you. If you desire a Blessing rather than Communion, cross your arms on your chest. Please return to your pew by the side aisles.

Our prayer partners are in the Chapel to offer prayers with anyone who would like special prayers.

**Communion Anthem Panis angelicus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Latin</th>
<th>English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Panis Angelicus</td>
<td>May the Bread of Angels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fit panis hominum</td>
<td>Become bread for mankind;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dat panis coelicus</td>
<td>The Bread of Heaven puts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figuris terminum</td>
<td>All foreshadowings to an end;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O res mirabilis!</td>
<td>Oh, thing miraculous!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manducat Dominum</td>
<td>The body of the Lord will nourish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauper, pauper,</td>
<td>the poor, the poor,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servus et humilis</td>
<td>the servile, and the humble.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant  Let us pray.

People   Holy and loving God, 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.
The Blessing

Announcements

Hymn 609 Where cross the crowded ways of life

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude In Christ there is no east or west

The Aumbry Candle is given to the Glory of God In celebration of Harry & Susan Holgate’s daughter, Brandynn Y.V. Holgate.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

For Beryl, Ernie, Joan, Ron, Sue, Harry, Ruth, Kim, Paul, Loretta, Betty, Arcelia, Bill, Tom, Kay, Sandra, Audrey, Caroline, Laura, Cassidy, Nicole, Gus, Kathy, Carl, Nesi, Sheila, Debra, Deming, Jerry, Mary, Blas, Rick; for our homeless brothers and sisters; for all those whose lives and livelihoods are affected by COVID-19; for all refugees and immigrants; for an end to violence of all kind.

For the church – For Michael our Presiding Bishop; our Bishops John and Diane; for our clergy: Jane, Jennifer, Dean, Beryl, Peter, and Steve; for our Vestry and staff.
**If this is your first time visiting us, please fill out the yellow Visitors Card found in the front of your pew or at the back of the church. We would love to get to know you and keep you informed of the many activities happening at St. Luke’s! Cards may be placed in the offertory plate or given to an usher. **

AUMBRY CANDLE & FLOWER DEDICATIONS OR REMEMBRANCES
Donating to the Aumbry Candle or Flower Fund is a wonderful way to honor someone who has died, to celebrate a special occasion, or to give thanks for blessings. Candles are $10 and checks may be made to St. Luke's with "Aumbry Candle" noted on the check. We spend $100-$150 a week on flower arrangements but donations of all amounts are greatly appreciated. Checks may be made to St. Luke’s with “Flowers” in the memo line. We print dedications and remembrances each week as we receive them. Contact the office (office@stlukeslb.org) with questions or for more information.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK (SEPTEMBER 26 – OCTOBER 3)
Check the Weekly Newsletter for more information.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**
8am – Holy Eucharist in English
9:45am – Bible Class for Children
10am – Holy Eucharist in English
12:30pm – Misa en Español
1:45pm – Introducción de la Iglesia Episcopal

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**
6:00pm – Episcopal Church 101 (Zoom)

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**
10:00am – Healing Eucharist (Chapel)
10:45am – Bible Study (Commins Room)
7:00pm – Weekly Watch (Zoom)
8:30pm – Compline (Zoom)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1**
4:00pm – Tea & Talk (Zoom)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2**
7:30am-Noon – Homeless Ministry: Showers, Clothing, and Food

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3**
8am – Holy Eucharist in English
9:45am – Bible Class for Children
10am – Holy Eucharist in English
12:30pm – Misa en Español
1:45pm – Clase de la Iglesia Episcopal

MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED OUR SHOWER PROGRAM AND LONG BEACH GIVES!! THANKS TO YOU WE RAISED $12,583, WITH MORE DONATIONS STILL COMING IN!