

Sunday, December 8th, 2024
10:30am



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

7595 Center Parkway
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916)421-5039
office@slelca.org

**Visit our website at
www.slelca.org**

Pastor Rob Williamson
pastorrob@slelca.org

Jane Fanucci, Choir Director/Organist
jef100bicen@yahoo.com

HOLY COMMUNION

ELW Setting 10

PRELUDE

Jacob Wilson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

You are invited to stand as able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
 it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
 in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
 By the power of the Holy Spirit,
 receive the grace and forgiveness of God
 through † Christ Jesus,
 whose day draws near.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG **ELW # 254**
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
 communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Tice Family

KYRIE ELW#157

Leader
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
Lord. For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your
word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.
mer - cy. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from
our enemies,

⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷² **to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.**

⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship you without fear,

⁷⁵ **holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

⁷⁸ In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of
death,**

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

In Silence We Wait

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

You are invited to stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 3:1-6

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

You are invited to stand as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #264

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayers ends:

**Lord, in your mercy
receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say "peace be with you," or similar words.

Please be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is received for the mission of the church.

MUSIC

Karen Linfor

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God,

you made the whole world,

even the farthest stars,

and you draw near to feed us.

We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.

Strengthen us with this food

that we may live in expectation

for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



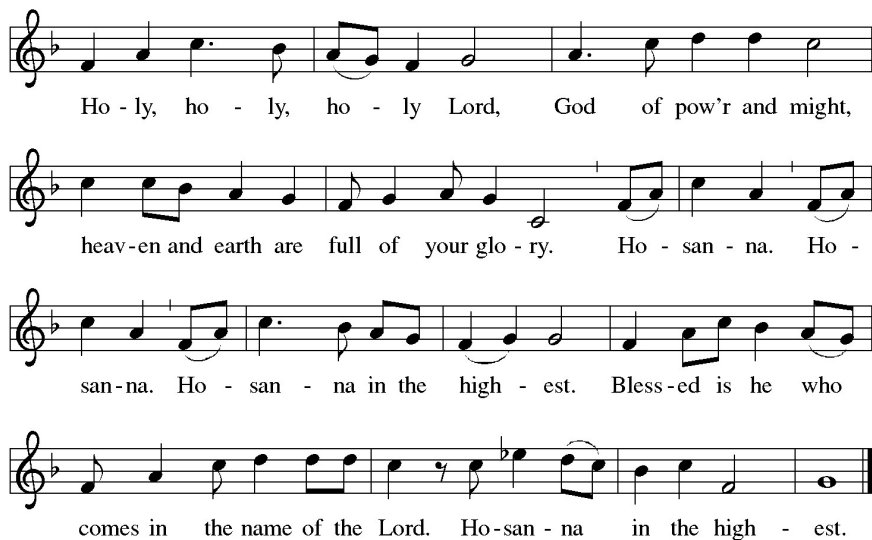
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup...

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your spirit ...

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

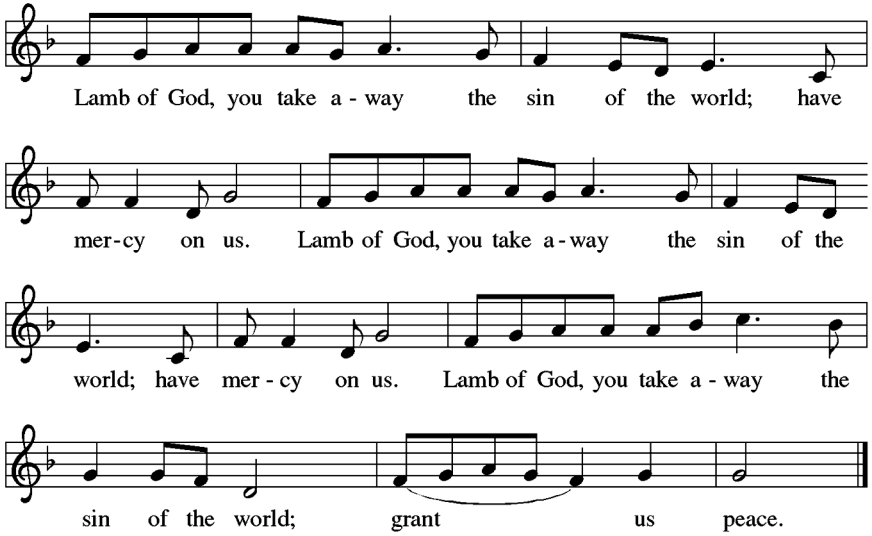
All praise and glory are yours...
One God, now and forever.
Amen.

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 and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Come forward by the center aisle at the usher's invitation. Those not yet communing will receive a blessing. Bread will be placed in your open hands. Grape juice is in the pink glasses in the center of the tray. Please let the server know if you would like grape juice. Individual communion packets are available near the entrance for those who prefer them.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Generous God,

**we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.**

**We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.**

**We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.**

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,

✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ELW #631

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jane Fanucci

Worship Assistants

Altar Care:	Connie Reule
Announcements:	
Communion Server:	Peggy Moser, Linda Duffek, Kirsten Ireton
Reader:	Sarah Madison
Prayer Leader:	Laura Tice
Psalm Reader:	Daniel King
Refreshments:	Potluck
Song Leader:	Karen Linfor
Usher:	Bill Myers

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S
December 8th - 14th, 2024

Today	Holy Communion	10:30a.m.
	Prayer Group	After Worship
	Congregational Meeting	12:00p.m.
Monday	Soul Sisters -Room 4	12:00p.m.
Wednesday	Choir Practice – Sanctuary	6:00pm –7:00p.m.



Please note - The Bible Study class is taking a break from November 19th (Tuesday), thru January 14th, 2025 (Tuesday).



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held in Schultz Hall immediately following service today. A potluck lunch will be shared before the meeting.



December 15th is Music Sunday at St. Luke's!

The Choir will perform their annual Cantata, "One King".

They have been practicing for a long time and are looking forward to performing it for the entire congregation.

Following the Cantata, you are cordially invited to the Sacramento Youth Band's Holiday Concert in Schultz Hall. Refreshments will be served.

simplify
CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATE
CHRIST

W-ELCA will be having their Annual Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 14th at 11:30AM in the Schultz Hall with the theme "A Picnic in December". The luncheon will include Fried Chicken, Coleslaw, Macaroni Salad, Small Ear-of-Corn, Biscuits, and Dessert provided by W-ELCA.

If you are planning to attend, please be sure to sign up on the W-ELCA Christmas Luncheon Sign Up Sheet in the church narthex.

