

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

Wednesday, December $25^{\text{th}} 2024 | 10:15$ am

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

St. Luke's on the Lake Episcopal Church | 5600 Ranch Road 620 North | Austin, TX 78732

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS

In Honor of Darren Grissom by Peach In Honor of Sarah Grissom by Mom In Thanksgiving for Grace Grissom by Grandma Peach In Thanksgiving for Libby Grissom by Grandma Peach In Thanksgiving for and In Honor of Luke Whitfield by Grandma Peach In Honor of Laura Whitfield by Peach In Honor of Josh Whitfield by Peach In Memory of Robert Spiczka, Mary Spiczka, Elaine Sturch, Faye Beinke, Vernon Beinke by The Beinke Family In Thanksgiving for blessings received by Joan Brown In Honor of and to the glory of God In Memory of Ken Bickel and Nancy Wilson by Austin & Katie Collins In Thanksgiving for the Rev. Kathy Pfister and her first year at St. Luke's. In Memory of my beloved family members Charlotte, Janet, and Jay by Phyllis Day In Memory of my parents, brothers, and dear friends by Suzanne De Vos In Memory of Mary Duggan and in honor of what would have been our 60th wedding anniversary by Jan Duggan In Memory of my 3 sisters: Mary Sue King, Catherine Knight Rowland, & Anne Christian Disch by Carol Ferree In Celebration of Christmas by The Gregorys In Memory of our parents and sister by Donna & Gerald Hill In Thanksgiving for our family and the blessed gift of friendships by Peggie and Jon Klema In Memory of Jesse Nelle Reid Hahn & Herbert E Hahn - dedicated grandparents of Rachel, Travis, & Sarahnelle and followers of Jesus by their words, their actions, & their lives In Memory of loved ones by The Mahaffey family In Thanksgiving for many blessings by The Mahaffey family In Grateful Thanksgiving for the lives of our parents and our son Wynn by Perry and Sherry Martin In Memory of our parents and brother-in-law by Amanda Masterson & David Ingold In Memory of Thomas & Elizabeth McIlheran by Sarah McIlheran & Mark Ridlehuber In Memory of Charles & Eleanor Ridlehuber by Sarah McIlheran & Mark Ridlehuber In Memory of Sandy Millar (Ouma) by Craig, Casey, Brody, and Connor Millar In Memory of John and Sally Morley, and John Morley, Jr. by David and Anne Morley In Memory of my husband Pete Paul, and grandson Richard Paul by Betty Paul In Memory of Father Ted Wezolowski by Georgine and Gordon Peacock In Thanksgiving for family, friends, and neighbors by the Perkins Family In Thanksgiving for the team-spirit, creativity and dedication of the St. Luke's staff In Celebration of the lay-leadership of this parish who make it all happen beautifully by the Rev. Kathy Pfister In Memory of June Gecan by Chris Rhoads In Memory of Glen, Miriam, and Jan Rollins by David Rollins In Thanksgiving for our family and God's many blessings by Deborah and Jim Smith In Memory of my beloved husband, Fred W. Sternenberg by Jan Sternenberg In Memory of Martha and Rosemary Sutherland by Patrick Sutherland in honor of his Mother and Grandmother In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Odom and Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Thomas by the Thomas family In Memory of beloved mother & Grammy Suzanne Searle and best dog Topper by Amy & Avery Yates

Dear Parish Family & Friends,

Merry Christmas! Welcome! We are so glad you're here! We gather this glorious night to proclaim the birth of the infant King, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through music and scripture, we remember God's unending in love for us. In our celebration of Holy Communion our eyes are opened to see that the miracle of the Incarnate Word persists. And in our fellowship and prayer, we greet Emmanuel- God with us- in the faces of our brothers and sisters, friends and strangers.

Whether you are returning to church after a time away or are altogether new to the faith; whether you are looking for a new church home or simply seeking a place to celebrate Christmas; your presence is a gift to us, and you are welcome here. Please participate as you feel comfortable.

For over sixty years, St. Luke's has been a community of Christ for all. Together, we deepen our faith and connection to God through service, learning, prayer and worship. We seek to be a place of love and belonging for all who desire it. If you are a guest today and would like for us to be in touch with you, we invite you to fill out the brief Connection Card located in the pew in front of you. Once completed, please drop your connection card into the offertory plate as it passes. Alternatively, you may use the QR code to complete an online Connection Card If you have questions about our church or would just like to talk, please send us an email. We look forward to knowing you.



THE WELCOME

God's Peace,

atlent +

The Rev. Kathy Rock Pfister, Rector

PRELUDE

WELCOME

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

A note on the service:

Throughout the bulletin, you'll find sections of blue text to the right of the liturgy which will comment on different portions of it. Whether you are familiar with liturgical worship, or this is your first experience, we invite you to reflect on these moments in the service.

We offer our prayers as a community, remembering that worship is not a performance. Rather, these prayers belong to all of us, and we are so grateful you have decided to add your voice and presence to them today.

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

SONG OF PRAISE | O come, all ye faithful (Adeste fideles) V 1-3, 6

HYMNAL 83

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. God from God, Light from Light eternal, lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb; only-begotten Son of the Father; [Refrain]

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest; [Refrain]

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; [Refrain]

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd with thy Spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly festival of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so may we with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen*.

THE LESSON

Lector A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.				
² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—				
on them light has shined.				
³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;				
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,				
as people exult when dividing plunder.				
⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,				
the rod of their oppressor,				
you have broken as on the day of Midian.				
⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.				
⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;				
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named				
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,				
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.				
⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace				
for the throne of David and his kingdom.				
He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness				
from this time onward and forevermore.				
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. (Isaiah 9:2-7)				
Lector The Word of the Lord.				

Lector	The Word of the Lord
People	Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Lector Please join me in reading today's Psalm responsively by whole verse. The Reader leads the Psalm; the People respond as indicated by bold italics.

¹Sing to the LORD a new song; *

sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
² Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
³ Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
⁶ Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
<i>Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!</i>
⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! * He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; * let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, * when he comes to judge the earth.
¹³He will judge the world with righteousness * and the peoples with his truth. (Psalm 96)

Please stand as you are able. SEQUENCE HYMN | Hark the herald angels sing

HYMNAL 87

1. Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled! Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic hosts proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem! Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

3. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Risen with healing in his wings, Light and life to all he brings, hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!

THE GOSPEL

GospelerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory be to thee, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you

is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. (*Luke 2:1-20*)

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

THE SERMON A period of silence follows the sermon The Reverend Kathy Rock Pfister, Rector

Please stand as you are able.THE NICENE CREEDCelebrantPlease join me in affirming our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able. PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: On this glorious morning in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

We affirm our faith as members of the catholic (Greek for "universal") Church by saying together a Creed (from the Latin "credo" for "I believe"), a statement of faith and trust in God. The Nicene Creed was composed at the First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. As Episcopalians, we view it as a sufficient (though not exhaustive) statement of the Christian faith and is said on all Sundays and major feasts.

BCP 355

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments*.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest. *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. \checkmark the people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.

Christ is born for us, the Son of God is given for us; *Help us to know you, to love you, and to love and serve our neighbors*

Celebrant Eternal God, you sent your almighty Word, to pierce the darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

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

In this prayer of confession, we use the plural "we" so that we can confess the individual ways that we have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and the ways that we as a people collectively have fallen into sin.

In the absolution, we receive the forgiveness of God, not as a vague promise but as a lived reality.

THE PEACECelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Having just received forgiveness and restoration, we share a sign of peace with each other.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

- *† All* people of *any* age who are baptized as Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
- + You may take consecrated wine by sipping from the chalice, or by intinction [dipping] of your wafer. Gluten-free wafers are
- available upon request. The consecrated host [blessed wafer] represents full Communion if you prefer not to take wine.
- + If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please do so by crossing your arms over your chest.
- **†** You may also remain in your pew.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Maria Wiegenlied by Max Reger Please stand as you are comfortable while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Celebrant All things come of thee Oh Lord,

People And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I

Please remain standing as you are comfortable.

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And with thy Spirit.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. *Here a Proper Preface is said...*

Therefore with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying: *Celebrant and People say together*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

BCP 333

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior

Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

Celebrant 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

CelebrantAlleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN | The First Nowell

HYMNAL 109

1. The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

5. Then entered in those wise men three full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. [Refrain]

6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made Heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. [Refrain]

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People say together

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Celebrant:

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

CelebrantAlleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God. Alleluia!

STAFF OF ST. LUKE'S ON THE LAKE

Rector	Rev. Kathy Rock Pfister	Minister for Parish Life	Barbara Frazell
Curate	Rev. Anthony Suggs-Perea	Minister for Lifelong Learning	LoriAnn Lavallee
Parish Administrative	Kaye Warren	Children & Family Ministries	Robin Miner
Support		Assistant Director	
Facilities Manager	Michael Balli	Childcare Center Coordinator	Ayesha Cox
Bookkeeper	Kim Weigers	Godly Play Specialist	
Choir Director	Dr. Donald J. Grantham	Childcare Professionals	Molly Thornton, Max Stanley
Organist	Stephen McElroy		

Need help? Contact the office at 512.266.2455 | office@stlukesonthelake.org

