

Music During Communion

521 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me SOJOURNER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION in unison Drew Scoggins

O Holy God, we thank you
for the saving knowledge of your Son our Savior,
for the living presence of your Spirit, the Comforter,
for your Church, the body of Christ,
for the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and all the means of grace.
In all these things, O heavenly God,
may we render an acceptable thanksgiving unto you
all the days of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP
If you would like to become a follower of Jesus Christ, or are interested in
joining St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, we would love to talk to you about
what that means. Please visit the Connection Desk to learn more.

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT
557 Blest Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

*BENEDICTION Rev. Cliff Ritter

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE
Leader: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and
who will go for us?'"
People: "And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'"

POSTLUDE Fugue in A minor BuxWV 153 Buxtehude
At places marked * those who are able may stand.

What’s Happening at St. Luke’s

Easter Offering: PM Pals
Our Easter offering will be dedicated to PM Pals. PM Pals has served
families with special needs in our community, providing children a sense of
community and belonging and parents some much deserved respite time.
For more information, visit StLukesMethodist.org/EasterOffering

Palm Sunday Picnic | Blanton Field | March 24 | 11 a.m.
Regular Service Times (branches at 9:45 a.m.)
Dress casual, grab your Easter baskets, and bring a pop-up canopy or a
blanket to sit on for this annual family tradition! Admission includes: Toddlers
& Twos Play Area, Egg Hunt, Cake Walk, music from the Contemporary
Worship Band, lunch from Skeeter’s, face painting, inflatables, and games.
Visit StLukesMethodist.org/palm-sunday-picnic

Who will you invite? Send an e-vite to friends or loved ones by visiting
StLukesMethodist.org/invite

Easter Lilies Delivery
Saturday, March 23 | 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Join our Friends at Home team of volunteers who bring joy and Easter flowers to
members confined to their homes. For more information or to volunteer to help,
contact Elizabeth Boudreaux,
(eboudreaux@stlukesmethodist.org) or call 713-402-5033.

Working Faith Breakfast Gathering | March 20 | 8 - 9 a.m. | Hines Baker
Want to learn how your faith can be lived out in a practical way at work?
Join us for this March's Working Faith breakfast gathering! Kenny Mercado, a
church member and energy executive who led power delivery during major
hurricanes. We'll discuss leading people during challenging times.
Register: StLukesMethodist.org/workingfaith

For Holy Week & Easter, visit StLukesMethodist.org/Easter

Welcome to worship at St. Luke’s!

If you are visiting and would like to learn more about our church,
please stop by the Connection Desk for a welcome gift.
Tell us you are here!

1. Is this your first visit?
Please text *iamnew* to 97000 to let us know you are worshipping with us today!
2. Check in on the St. Luke's App.
If you don’t have the app installed on your phone, you can download it at:
StLukesMethodist.org/app.

Sermon Notes
The Hope of the World
Fifth in the Series, "This I Believe?"
The gathered church...

- helps us grow more like Jesus, closer to God and closer to each other.
- roots us to our shared mission: the redemption of the world.
- is a sign, instrument, and foretaste of the kingdom of God.

Leading in Worship Today: Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears; Rev. Cliff Ritter;
Drew Scoggins, Pastoral Intern.

Musicians: Sid Davis, Director of Music & Fine Arts; Victoria Shorokhova, Organ
Scholar; Lauren Ruhl, Staff Singer; Staff Singer Quintet.

Acolytes: Viane Eicken-Zelko.

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and given in celebration
of the baptism of Eliana Sofia Edge by her parents, Erika and William Gordon
Edge; in celebration of the baptism of Charlotte Ann Fullenweider by her
parents, Hayley and William Fullenweider; in celebration of the baptism of
David Russell Starr by his parents, Katy and Chris Starr, his grandparents, Judy
and Zeph Pease, and his grandmother, Bonnie Brown Starr and with loving
memory of his grandfather, David Starr; and in celebration of the baptism of
Miles Sdao Weber by his parents, Meredith and Jacob Weber.



St. Luke's
United Methodist Church
Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor
713-622-5710 | StLukesMethodist.org



St. Luke’s United Methodist Church
March 17, 2024 | 8:30 a.m.

PRELUDE Tierce en teille Couperin

*HYMN OF PRAISE 545 The Church’s One Foundation AURELIA

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (THE NICENE CREED) UMH #880 Drew Scoggins 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the 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. 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 Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 1:8 Rev. Cliff Ritter

⁸You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 2:37-47 ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. ⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Almighty God, who does freely pardon all who repent and turn to Him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Worship, 1946

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

Ask, and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER Drew Scoggins

SERMON Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears The Hope of the World Fifth in the Series, "This I Believe?"

EASTER OFFERING SPEAKER David Taylor

OFFERTORY O Divine Redeemer Gounod Lauren Ruhl, soloist

As an alternative to the offering plate, text gift amount to: 832-669-5500.

*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. Cliff Ritter

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: Jim Roman

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

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

Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen; Christ will come a - gain.

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

A - men A - men A - men

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 544 Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song BRIDEGROOM

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

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

Gluten-free wafers and pre-filled cups 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.