

SERMON *The Cliff Jumper* Dr. Tom Pace  
Third in the Series, *Lies of Little Gods*

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  
188 *Christ Is the World's Light* CHRISTE SANCTORUM

\*BENEDICTION Dr. Tom Pace

CHORAL BENEDICTION 11:00  
311 *Now the Green Blade Riseth* FRENCH CAROL  
Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

POSTLUDE  
9:45 "We All Believe in One God", BWV 680 Bach  
11:00 *Exultemus* Whitlock

At places marked \* those who are able may stand.

COMMUNION IN THE CHAPEL  
YOU'RE INVITED TO THE CHAPEL AT 12:05 P.M. FOR HOLY COMMUNION

### What's Happening at St. Luke's

**April Collection**  
It's time for school supplies for Small Steps, our Community Partner, that provides "an exemplary early childhood program for economically at-risk children and their families." Drop off supplies in the donations bin or order online. [StLukesMethodist.org/schoolsupplies](http://StLukesMethodist.org/schoolsupplies)

**Navigating Modern Parenting Pitfalls with Confidence, Part 2**  
**Today at 4 p.m. | Fellowship Hall**  
Ready to next-level your parenting effectiveness? The Parenting Center is excited to welcome Dr. Kim Swales as she returns with specific and effective steps for tackling challenges all families face.  
Register: [StLukesMethodist.org/ModernParenting2](http://StLukesMethodist.org/ModernParenting2)

**Astros Watch Party | Today at 12 p.m. | branches building**  
Come watch the game on the really big screen and meet Orbit!

**Pure Sound youth choir presents The Drowsy Chaperone**  
**May 2-4 | 7:30 p.m. | May 5 | 2:30 p.m. | Rotunda**  
*The Drowsy Chaperone* is a loving send-up of the Golden Age musical, featuring one show-stopping song and dance number after another.  
[StLukesMethodist.org/DrowsyChaperone](http://StLukesMethodist.org/DrowsyChaperone)

**Women's Spring Dinner | Friday, May 3 | 6 p.m. | Hines Baker Room**  
How is 2024 going? Is it time for a mid-year check-in? Let's connect... share our stories, and learn from each other. \$25.  
[StLukesMethodist.org/womensspringevents](http://StLukesMethodist.org/womensspringevents)

**Women's Spring Creative Workshop**  
**Saturday, May 4 | 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | 3rd Floor Johnson Building**  
Join us for not one, but two painting workshops! One will include a mindfulness process, and then we will create watercolor florals. It will be a fun morning with breakfast, snacks and great company! Workshop \$30.  
[StLukesMethodist.org/womensspringevents](http://StLukesMethodist.org/womensspringevents)

## 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](http://StLukesMethodist.org/app).

Sermon Notes  
*The Cliff Jumper*  
Third in the Series, *Lies of Little Gods*

An overachiever's problem

The king of little gods

Loosening your grip

The grace and power of God

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

**Musicians:** Sid Davis, Director of Music & Fine Arts; Jim Roman, Organist & Artist-in-Residence; Victoria Shorokhova, Organ Scholar; Randy Murrow, Associate Director of Music & Fine Arts; B.B. Bamberg, Accompanist; Julie Osterman & Erin Sovereign, JoyfulNoise! Directors; Jane Long & Melanie Canales, SundaySing! Directors; JoyfulNoise!; SundaySing!; Veritas; Chancel Choir.

**Acolytes:** Abby Dulaney, Hannah Dulaney, Cate Morrow, Riley Naman.

**The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God** and given in celebration of the baptism of Grace Catherine Gould by her parents, Allison and Patrick Gould and her grandparents, Emily and Don Bolin and Patsy and Paul Gould.



St. Luke's United Methodist Church  
April 21, 2024 | 9:45 & 11 a.m.

 **St. Luke's**  
United Methodist Church  
Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor | 713-622-5710 | [StLukesMethodist.org](http://StLukesMethodist.org)

**PRELUDE**  
9:45 *Andante sostenuto* from *Symphonie Gothique* Widor  
11:00 "You raise the flute to your lips..." DeLamarter

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**  
64 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* NICAEA

**INTROIT** 11:00 *Love Round* Karen Thompson  
JoyfulNoise!

**\*THE APOSTLES' CREED** UMH #881 Rev. Cliff Ritter  
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

**\*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

9:45  
**Grace Catherine Gould**  
Daughter of Patrick Russell Gould & Allison Bolin Gould

Minister: Beloved of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care this child whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she may grow in her 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

#### RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED LIFE RECIPIENTS 11:00

**ANTHEM** 11:00 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. Wienhorst  
SundaySing! & Chancel Choir Virginia Stout, flute

The King of love my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow  
My ransomed soul he leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love he sought me,  
And on his shoulder gently laid,  
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:  
And O what transport of delight  
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
Within thy house for ever.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 19:16-30

<sup>16</sup>Then someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" <sup>17</sup>And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." <sup>18</sup>He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. <sup>19</sup>Honor your father and mother. Also, you shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>20</sup>The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?" <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." <sup>22</sup>When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions. <sup>23</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>24</sup>Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>25</sup>When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>26</sup>But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible." <sup>27</sup>Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" <sup>28</sup>Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup>And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my name's sake will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. <sup>30</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

#### SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

#### MORNING PRAYER

Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears

#### 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

410 *I Want a Principle Within* GERALD

#### OFFERTORY

9:45 *I'll Fly Away* arr. Courtney  
Veritas

Some glad morning when this life is o'er  
I'll fly away  
To a home on God's celestial shore  
I'll fly away

#### Refrain

I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away,  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by,  
I'll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have gone,  
I'll fly away.  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,  
I'll fly away.

#### Refrain

Just a few more weary days and then,  
I'll fly away.  
to a land where joys shall never end,  
I'll fly away.

#### Refrain

11:00 *Simple Gifts* arr. Wilberg  
Chancel Choir

Virginia Stout, piccolo Graham Tobin, flute

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,  
And when you find yourselves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

#### Refrain

When true simplicity is gained,  
to bow and to be we shan't be ashamed.  
To turn, turn will be our delight,  
'til by turning, turning we come 'round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be true,  
'tis the gift to labor 'til the day is through,  
And when you find yourself in the place so fine,  
'twill be in the cool of the birch and the pine.

#### Refrain

'Tis the gift to be joyful, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift, 'tis the gift, 'tis the simple gift to be!  
And when you find yourself filled with pure delight,  
the gift to be simple has led you aright.

#### Refrain

*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.**