



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX  
First Sunday in Advent – Year B  
Holy Eucharist Rite II  
In Person & Virtual Service – Facebook Live, YouTube  
November 24th, 2024  
8 am & 10 am

*Join us for the celebration of Marion Cole following 10am service.  
Vestry Meeting.*

To All Who Are Joyful And Thankful, To All Who Mourn And Need Comfort  
To All Who Are Weary And Need Rest, To All Who Are Friendless And Wish Friendship  
To All Who Pray And Who Do Not But Ought, To All Who Sin And Need A Savior.  
And To Whoever Will, The Church Opens Wide The Door  
And In The Name Of Christ, The Lord Says Welcome.

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Celebrant says*

The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light: those who live in a land of deep shadow, on them a light has shined. *Isaiah 9:2*

*As the first candle is lit, Celebrant and People pray:*

**Almighty God, grant that the love of your son, Jesus Christ, may so light our lives that we need never again walk in darkness. Amen.**

## The Processional Hymn

**The Hymnal 1982 #58 Lo, He comes with clouds ascending**

*The people standing, as are able, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.**

## The Kyrie

*The Hymnal S 91*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Hymn permission used by Rite Song a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.*

## The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Readings

*All are seated.*

### Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 25:1-9** *Ad te, Domine, levavi* (Read responsively by full verse.)

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

**4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

**8 He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.**

**9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

## 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gradual Hymn

**The Hymnal 1982 #56 O' come, o' come Emanuel** verses 1-3

*Then, all standing, as are able, the Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke** (21:25-36).

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

*A brief time of reflection will follow the Sermon*

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche

## 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. Amen.

## Blessing of the Stained Glass Window

Solomon beautified the sanctuary, and multiplied the vessels of the temple.

V. Oh majesty and magnificence of God's presence!

**R. Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

**O God, whose blessed Son has sanctified and transfigured the use of material things: Receive this \_\_\_\_\_ which we offer, and grant that it may proclaim your love, benefit your Church, and minister grace and joy to those who use it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People: Form VI

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean our presiding bishop and for Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector and all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*St. Luke's List is read here for Illnesses and Other Special Needs and Concerns*

*Silence*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
*St. Luke's List of Thanksgivings, Birthdays and Anniversaries is read here*

*Silence*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
*St. Luke's List of the deceased is read here.*

*Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People in unison*  
**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant stands and says*

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.**

## **The Peace**

*All stand, as are able. The Celebrant says to the people*

*People*                   The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **Announcements**

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Lindsey Hughes (3<sup>rd</sup>), Neely Carter (6<sup>th</sup>), and Kenneth Stokes (6<sup>th</sup>)

*Leader and People in unison*

**Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Offertory**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*If you would like to give to St. Luke's, you can place money in the offering plate at the Service or you can  
Text to give to (254) 282-0706, then enter amount (ex. \$50),  
you can also give online at <https://stlukesstephenville.breezechms.com/give/online>  
or you can mail your offering to **St. Luke's, PO Box 2506, Stephenville, TX 76401***

## **The Offertory Hymn**

**The Hymnal 1982 #76 On Jordan's Banks**

## **The Doxology**

*(sung to The Hymnal 380)*

***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.***

**The Great Thanksgiving  
Eucharistic Prayer C**

*The people remain standing, as are able. The Celebrant says*

                          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 him thanks and praise.**

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:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #S114 *Sanctus*

***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.***

*Then the Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, 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 he 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 for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he 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 fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, Ishmael, and Jacob; Lord God of our mothers; God of Sarah, Hagar, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah; 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, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, 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**

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

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

## The Distribution of Holy Communion

### *Concerning Holy Communion*

*“This the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.  
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.  
So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little,  
you who have been here often and you who have not been here long,  
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.  
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.  
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.”*



*If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.  
Simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you.*



### **Communion Hymn**

#### **The Hymnal 1982 #601 O' day of God, draw nigh**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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 Priest gives the blessing*

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Processional**

#### **The Hymnal 1982 #616 Hail to the Lord's anointed**

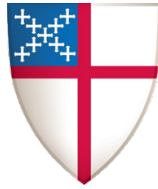
*The Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

*Celebrant*                    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*                        **Thanks be to God.**

*Thank you for taking the time to visit with us today. We feel truly blessed that you chose to be with us here at St. Luke's. It is great to have you worship with us and hope you feel truly welcomed. We welcome you back next Sunday and look forward to seeing you again soon.*

## From the Calendar of the Saints



### **December 1** Nicholas Ferrar *Deacon, 1637*

Ferrar founded a religious community at Little Gidding where his immediate family and a few friends and servants devoted themselves wholly to religious observance. The members of this little community became widely known for fasting, private prayer and meditation, and for writing stories and books of Christian faith and morality.

### **December 2** Channing Moore Williams *Missionary Bishop in China and Japan, 1910*

Focusing his ministry on Japan, Bishop Williams founded a divinity school, helped form the Holy Catholic Church of Japan, and translated parts of the Prayer Book into Japanese. He was a warm supporter of Bishop Schereschewsky's arduous work of translating the Bible into Chinese.

### **December 4** John of Damascus *Priest, c. 760*

Composer of several Easter hymns still sung, John wrote treatises in defense of the veneration of icons. He also refuted the Manichaean heresy that matter is essentially evil.

### **December 5** Clement of Alexandria *Priest, c. 210*

As an apologist for the Christian faith to both Christians and pagans, Clement dissented from the Gnostic heresy current in his era. He believed instead in free will and the accessibility of salvation to all.

### **December 6** Nicholas *Bishop of Myra, c. 342*

Traditional patron of seafarers and sailors, and especially of children, Nicholas became Santa Claus to Dutch colonists in New York. He suffered torture and imprisonment during the Diocletian persecution.

### **December 7** Ambrose *Bishop of Milan, 397*

Before he had even been baptized, Ambrose was unexpectedly nominated bishop by the acclaim of a mob he was trying to calm. He rapidly became a defender of orthodoxy against the Arian heresy, and introduced antiphonal chanting into worship.

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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## Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – St. Luke's Episcopal Church

## Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Leslie Guinn

## Staff

Duncan McMahan – Organist  
Marion Cole – Altar Guild Directress  
Mackenzie Campbell-Furtick – ECM Missioner  
Lindsey Hughes – Parish Administrator  
Neely Carter- Vestry Secretary  
Emma Gomez- Technology Minister

## Vestry

Term Ending 2024 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes  
Term Ending 2025- Gail Johnson & Karl Aho  
Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson

**WELCOME**  
**THANK**  
**YOU FOR**  
**JOINING US**