



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16th, 2025
8:00 & 10:00 am

Coffee Hour to follow at 11:00

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.

The Processional Hymn
The Hymnal 1982 #607 O God of every nation

The people standing, the Celebrant says:

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

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

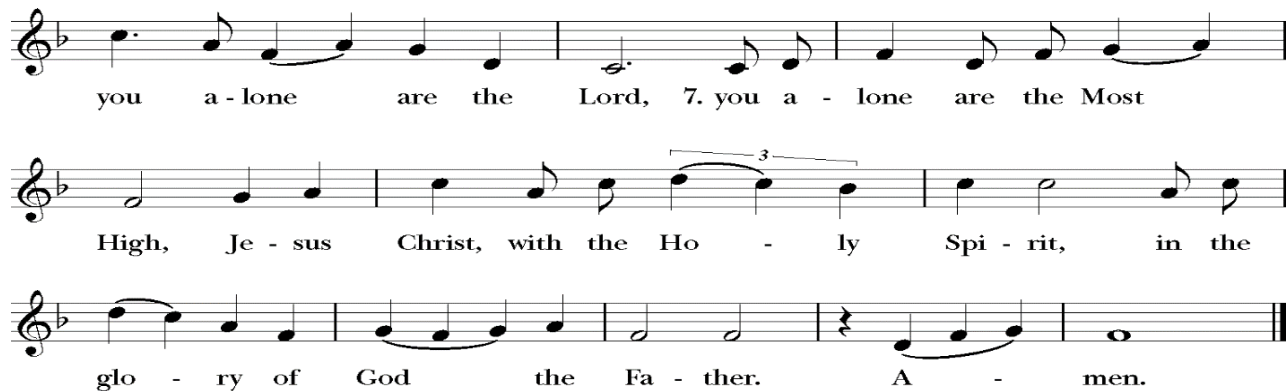
The Collect for Purity

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 Gloria

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #280 Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Readings

All are seated.

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens
 and a new earth;
 the former things shall not be remembered
 or come to mind.
 But be glad and rejoice forever
 in what I am creating;
 for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.
 I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
 and delight in my people;
 no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
 or the cry of distress.
 No more shall there be in it
 an infant that lives but a few days,
 or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
 for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
 and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
 They shall build houses and inhabit them;
 they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
 They shall not build and another inhabit;
 they shall not plant and another eat;

for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;

for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord--
and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 12:2-6 The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce Deus*

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.

**And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their

work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

All stand as are able.

Gradual Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #632 O Christ the Word Incarnate

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

The Sermon

Dn. Mark Witte

A brief time of reflection follows the sermon

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.

The Prayers of the People

Drawing into peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For your holy Church throughout the world; for the steadfastness of those who bear witness to your gospel, and for all who proclaim your kingdom that has no end. We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Andy, Kai, Jeff, Brian, and Hector our Bishops, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons.

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

For this parish and all gathered at your table today,
**that we may be strengthened through this Eucharist
to endure with faith and hope in times of trial.**

For this nation and all in authority; for the peace of the world, and for your justice to prevail among the nations.

Shape our hearts toward mercy and justice for all in need.

For your creation, groaning for redemption; renew the face of the earth,
**that the wolf and the lamb may dwell together
and the earth be filled with your peace.**

For those who labor and those seeking work;
for all whose patience is tested by hardship, illness, or fear.
Make us not grow weary in doing what is right.

We pray for those in need of healing or comfort, especially [N.] and those we now name.

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, O Lord, for the blessings of this life, and for the foretaste of the new heavens and new earth revealed to us in community and at your altar.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially [Nn.] and those whom we love but see no longer. May they rest in that place where sorrow and sighing are no more.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect:

Lord of all ages, you promise to make all things new and to gather your people into everlasting joy. Keep us steadfast in faith, patient in endurance, and confident in your mercy, that we may bear witness to your reign until Christ comes in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

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 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.

*Celebrant
People*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Metta Collier (16th), Doug McLemore (17th), Angel Carter “Gotcha” Day, Faith Harp (22nd)

Celebrant and People

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.

Celebrant

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

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #12 We're Marching to Zion

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated to span across measures. The score begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many whole and half notes. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Come, we that love the Lord, And let our joys be known; Join
2. Let those re-fuse to sing Who nev-er knew our God; But
3. The hill of Zi-on yields A thou-sand sa-cred sweets Be-
4. Then let our songs a-bound, And ev-'ry tear be dry; We're

1. in a song with sweet ac-cord, Join in a song with sweet ac-
2. chil-dren of the heav'n-ly King, But chil-dren of the heav'n-ly
3. fore we reach the heav'n-ly fields, Be-fore we reach the heav'n-ly
4. march-ing through Im-man-uel's ground, We're march-ing thro' Im-man-uel's

1. cord, And thus sur-round the throne, And thus sur-round the throne.
2. King, May speak their joys a-broad, May speak their joys a-broad.
3. fields, Or walk the gold-en streets, Or walk the gold-en streets.
4. ground, To fair-er worlds on high, To fair-er worlds on high.

We're march-ing to Zi-on, Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful

Zi-on; We're march-ing up-ward to Zi-on,

The beau-ti-ful cit-y of God.

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.***

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing. 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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

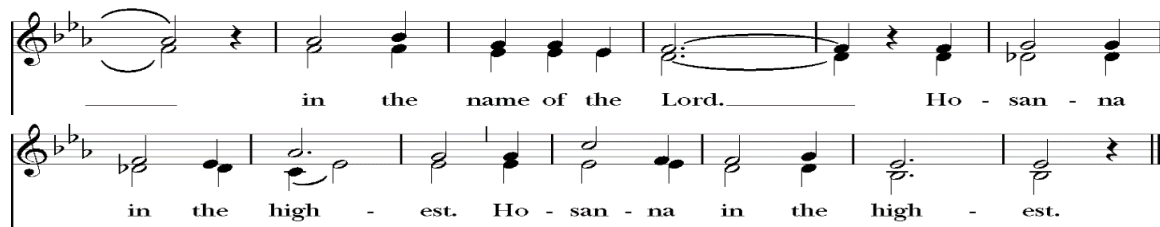
Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #130 The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.*



Gluten free wafers are available upon request.



*If after receiving Communion or a blessing you would like special prayers for healing, you are invited to
go to the votive stand at the rear of the church where someone will pray with you.*

Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #482 Lord of all hopefulness

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

Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; And the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Processional

The Hymnal 1982 #7 Christ whose glory fills the skies

The Dismissal

Deacon
People

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

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From the Calendar of Saints

November 16 Margaret *Queen of Scotland, 1093*

A zealous reformer, Margaret sought to change old fashioned and careless practices among the Scottish clergy. While conscientiously fulfilling the roles of wife and mother of eight, she encouraged the founding of schools, hospitals, and orphanages.

November 17 Hugh *Bishop of Lincoln, 1200*

Even as bishop, Hugh lived as much as he could under the strict discipline of the Carthusian Order. Loved by his people, he championed the poor, the oppressed, and outcasts, especially lepers and Jews.

November 18 Hilda *Abbess of Whitby, 680*

Founder of an order of nuns and monks at Whitby, Hilda was known by everyone as “mother.” Her prudence and good sense led kings and other public men to seek her advice and counsel.

November 19 Elizabeth *Princess of Hungary, 1231*

With Louis of France, Elizabeth shares the title of patron of the Third Order of St. Francis. Wife and mother of three, she spent her dowry and sold her jewels to found a hospital for the sick and poor during a famine and epidemic.

November 20 Edmund *King of East Anglia, Martyr, 870*

At age twenty-nine, Edmund was tortured, beaten, shot through with arrows, then beheaded by the Danes invading England. His shrine at Bury St. Edmunds became a traditional pilgrimage site for England’s kings.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – Rector
The Rev. Dn. Mark Witte – Curate
The Rev. Leslie Guinn - Assisting

Staff

Lexi McLemore – Parish Administrator
Duncan McMahan – Organist
Gail Johnson & Kelly Barbee – Altar Guild Directresses
The Rev. Dn. Mark Witte – ECM Missioner
Neely Carter – Vestry Secretary
Emma Gomez – Technology Minister

Vestry

Term Ending 2025 – Gail Johnson & Karl Aho
Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson
Term Ending 2027 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes

