



The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 8:45 AM

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "O Christ, Our Hope"
Hymn Prelude on "Down Ampney"

Robert Powell (b. 1932)
Richard Poplewell (1935—2016)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

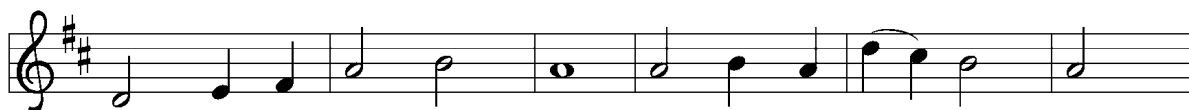
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✠ Christ our Savior.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN • ELW 804

Come Down, O Love Divine



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *The English Hymnal*, outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -



nounce it from coast to coast; de - clare it to dis - tant is - lands.



1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and



he will keep watch o - ver them as a shep - herd watch - es his flock. *Refrain*



2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac - es ra - diant - ly hap - py, for the



Lord is so gen - 'rous to them; he show - ers his peo - ple with gifts. *Refrain*



3 Young wom - en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make



mer - ry. Like a gar - den re - freshed by the rain, they will nev - er be in want a -



gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy; Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach



na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

The Lord sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

[Moses said to the people:] See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



All: Alleluia

Choir: You are the light of the world. A city set upon a hill cannot be hid. (Matt. 5:14)

All: Alleluia

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Miller

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY • ELW 729

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us
You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

CHORAL ANTHEM

O For A Closer Walk

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

Return, O holy dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

Text: William Cowper (1731-1800)
Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are as follows:

① The Lord be with you. ② And al - so with you.

① Lift up your hearts. ② We lift them to the Lord.

① Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

② It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: 'Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 and ever. Amen.**

**Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.**

**Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

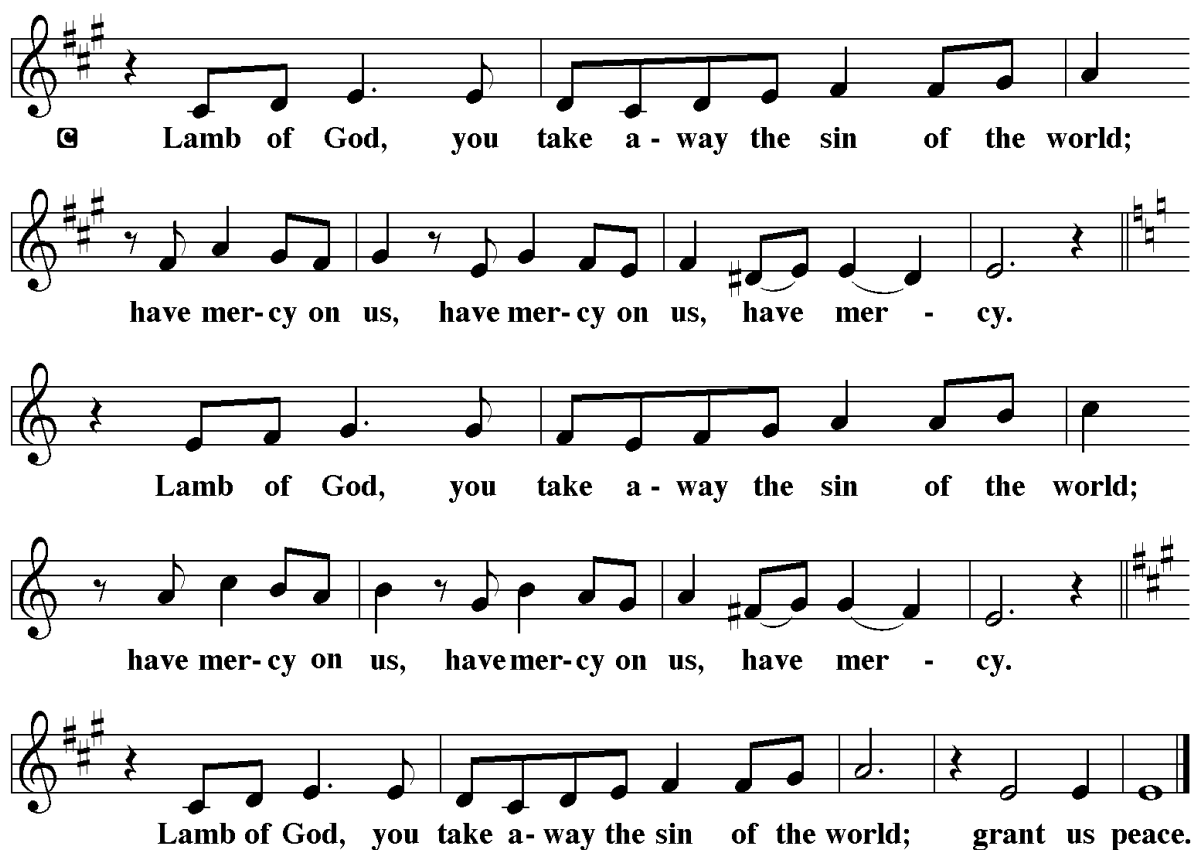
When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Psalm 119—Anglican Chant Edward John Hopkins

Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord!
Happy are they who observe his decrees
and seek him with all their hearts,
who never do any wrong,
but always walk in his ways.
You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.
Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!
Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.
I will thank you with a unfeigned heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
I will | keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

COMMUNION HYMN • ELW 605

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.
Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank-ful hearts and voices raise; tell ev-'ry-
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord rejoice, rejoice and
bear Christ's holy name. Send us, O God, with your
prom-ises, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

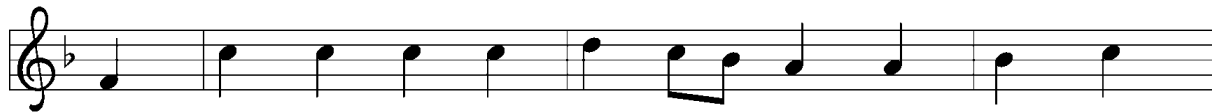
The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • ELW 604

O Christ, Our Hope



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on “O Christ, Our Hope”

Walter Pelz (b. 1926)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A Miller, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

COMMUNION SERVER

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

READER

Ed Wetzlar

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Schola Cantorum



THE FLOWERS ABOUT THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Jacob and Satya Bolleddu in celebration and thanksgiving of their 52nd wedding anniversary. How we rejoice with them!

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This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, Feb. 12—Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

8:45 AM Holy Communion
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM The Forum
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00 AM SLSHY
10:00 AM Reception
10:15 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15 AM Holy Communion
5:00 PM San Lucas Misa Español

MONDAY, February 13

8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM CDS Puppet show
4:00 PM La Sagrada Art Class
6:00 PM Property Committee Zoom
6:00 PM Yoga
7:00 PM ESL

TUESDAY, February 14

8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Mary/Martha Circle (Hybrid)
4:30 PM Piano Lessons
7:00 PM ESL
7:00 PM Girl Scouts
7:00 PM Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, February 15

7:00 AM Zoom Faith Connections
8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Women in Community
10:00 AM CDS Chapel
3:00 PM En Camino
5:00 PM Choristers RSCM program
5:30 PM Zoom Sara/Lydia Circle
7:00 PM ESL
7:30 PM Schola Cantorum Rehearsal
7:30 PM AA

THURSDAY, February 16

8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Emergency Drill
4:00 PM CARing Project
7:30 PM Zoom Centering Prayer

FRIDAY, February 17

8:00 AM CDS Classes
12:00 PM Food Ministry

SATURDAY, February 18

9:00 AM Quilters
9:30 AM AA
11:00 AM Al-Anon

SUNDAY, Feb. 19—Transfiguration of our Lord

8:45 AM Holy Communion
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00 AM SLSHY
10:00 AM Reception
10:15 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15 AM Holy Communion
3:00 PM San Lucas Gospel Meditation online

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed

Upcoming Commemorations

Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.

Saint Luke Update

2/12/2023 Edition

MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED INDOORS AT SAINT LUKE

PUERTO RICO: BUILDING BRIDGES

Come to the sanctuary at **10:00 a.m.** this morning for a special presentation by our servants at the tech desk, Andrew Vigliotta and Gerson Vasquez. Recently, they both were part of a Campus Ministry 10 day trip to Puerto Rico, where they learned so much about our partnership in ministry. Come, experience their media presentation and discussion, and learn about our brothers and sisters in the Lutheran Church in Puerto Rico. How we also give thanks for the profound gift of Lutheran Campus Ministry.

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE: TURKEY AND SYRIA

Thank you so much for your generosity in times of great need for our brothers and sisters in this world. We have seen the images—the devastation is unbelievable. There are many ways to give. One way is through Lutheran Disaster Response, already on the ground, partnering with other organizations. Please go to www.saintlukegive.us and click Lutheran Disaster Response—Turkey, Syria, or checks can be made out to Saint Luke and note for Earthquake Response. Thank you so much for caring.

FIRST COMMUNION

Is your child interested in participating in Holy Communion? A First Holy Communion Workshop will be held on February 26. Families are asked to attend the 8:45 a.m. worship service, then the kids and parents meet with a pastor briefly after worship, then they will then go with Melissa to the Faith Formation Office and the Great Hall for a lesson, and then to bake communion bread during the 10:00 a.m. Faith Formation hour. The children who attend will participate in their First Holy Communion on March 5 at the 8:45 a.m. worship service. Contact Melissa Groen, Director of Children's Ministries, mgroen@saintluke.us if your child will be participating.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Work side-by-side with others from Saint Luke at A Wider Circle (<https://awidercircle.org/>) from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon on March 11 sorting donations of household goods (household furniture, linens, kitchen items, toys, and professional clothing and accessories) and stock the showroom for clients of A Wider Circle. **The size of our group is limited so please RSVP to Melissa Groen at mgroen@saintluke.us no later than March 3.** Proof of vaccination is required at A Wider Circle and masks are encouraged, though not currently required.

ANNOUNCING: THE NEXT CONGREGATION SERVANT PROJECT

On March 19, the congregation will be creating care packages for residents in Washington Highlands, a community in Southeast D.C. that has been hard hit from the economic fallout of the pandemic. The following items are needed for the care packages (all items should be full-sized): laundry detergent (if liquid, containers need to be 64 oz or smaller), dish soap, all-purpose disinfectant cleaner, and toothpaste. Items can be placed in the blue bins in the Fireside Room and/or monetary donations for the project can be given to *Congregation Service Projects* line on www.saintlukegive.us. Thank you for caring.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL: EXCITING NEWS

Starting with the 2023-24 school year, aftercare will be added—what a wonderful new addition and outreach. Check out the enrollment information and all the news at www.saintlukekids.org. Thanks for all passing this information on to friends and neighborhood listservs

Today's Music

HYMN NOTES

Come down, O Love Divine

Dianco da siena, d. 1434

This 15th century Italian hymn is an example of pre-Reformation hymns of praise and devotion. Many were written by penitents who, frightened by the devastating wars and plagues of their time, sought atonement for sins by a deeper life of devotion. Vaughan Williams' beautiful hymn tune is perfectly suited to the introspective character of the text.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

The author is well known for his willingness and enthusiasm in writing hymns “on demand” for special occasions. In 1967 he received a request from the Methodist hymnal committee of Great Britain for “a hymn which tackled the relationship of Sabbath and Sunday.” His willingness also to make alterations is reflected in his comment about *Lutheran Book of Worship* when it included this hymn, “The changes asked for by your committee have improved it.” This is a powerful hymn about the mission of the Church.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

Forgive our sins as we forgive

Rosamund Herklots, 1905-1987

There are few hymns which deal with forgiveness. The author has written, “The idea of writing the “Forgiveness’ hymn came to me some years ago when I was digging up docks in a long-neglected garden. Realizing how these deeply-rooted weeds were choking the life out of the flowers in the garden, I came to feel that deeply-rooted resentments in our lives could destroy every Christian virtue and all joy and peace unless, by God’s grace, we learned to forgive.” This hymn inspires us to be reconciled with each other so that “Our lives will spread your peace.” - Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

O Christ, Our Hope

Latin Hymn, c. 8th-century

This was originally a Latin hymn that may have been written as early as the seventh or eighth century. John Chandler translated it and included it in his *The Hymns of the Primitive Church* (London, 1837). In *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861) it began “Jesu, our hope.” All six of its stanzas were included in *Lutheran Book of Worship* (1978). *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* omits stanza 5 and mildly updates the language in stanza 3 and the doxology that is now stanza 5. The omission does not alter the trajectory—from creation to redemption to atonement to victory over death to our life before God and doxology.—ELW Hymnal Companion

MUSIC NOTES

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on “O Christ, Our Hope” - Robert Powell (b. 1932) & Hymn Prelude on “Down Ampney” Richard Popplewell (1935—2016)

Both preludes this morning are brief settings on tunes sung this morning, LOBT GOTT IHR CHRISTEN and DOWN AMPNEY. Powell’s setting can be very well imagined as an improvisation that just happens to be written down. The tune is very prominent; it is stated three times with varying dynamic levels.

Richard Popplewell was an English organist and composer who served at the Chapel Royal beginning in 1979. His setting of DOWN AMPNEY is quiet and features the tune in the left hand with a duet of flutes in the accompaniment.

Choral Anthem: O for a closer walk with God - C.V. Stanford (1852-1924)

Stanford was an Anglo-Irish composer, music teacher, and conductor of the late Romantic era. This anthem is one of his simpler anthems. It was composed to follow his solo-unison *Song of Wisdom* (Ecclesiasticus 24). This anthem is based on a text by William Cowper, and the melody is taken from the *Scottish Psalter*. Deeply anxious for a very ill friend, Cowper wrote the hymn in an endeavor “to surrender to the Lord” his “dearest comforts.”

Postlude: Chorale Prelude on “O Christ, Our Hope” - Walter Pelz (b. 1926)

This setting on LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN by American composer and organist Walter Pelz features an fugal introduction starting with the top voices and ending with the pedal part. The tune is then played on a solo Trumpet sound with a sprightly accompaniment.