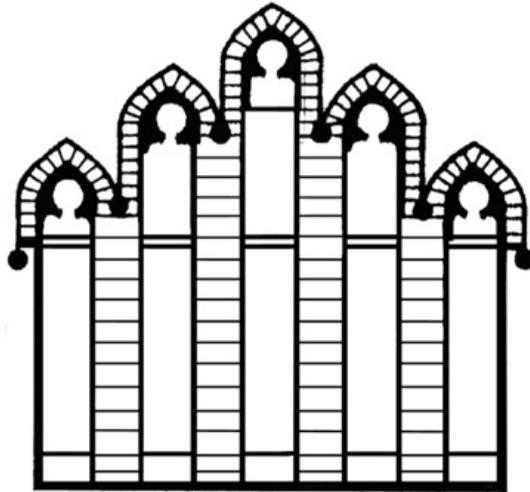


# CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2012  
10:30PM



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

73 S. FULLERTON AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, NJ

[WWW.SLECHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SLECHURCH.ORG)

973-744-6220

*"Joyfully seeking and serving Christ"*

# WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today. Worship is the most important thing that we do together as a community of faith. Worship guides and carries us through the rest of our activities that include outreach, spiritual enrichment, youth programs, music, evangelism and stewardship. If you are visiting, please fill out a Welcome card that can be found in the pew racks. For more information about this joy-filled, Christ-centered community please visit our website [www.slechurch.org](http://www.slechurch.org) or contact The Rev. John Mennell or The Rev. Diana Wilcox by e-mail or phone.

## **Hospitality**

If you have any questions about where to find things, please ask one of the Ushers who will be glad to help. **Restrooms** can be found by going through the archway at the end of the right aisle and down the stairs.

## **Children & Childcare**

Children and youth are encouraged to fully participate in worship. For younger children, childcare is available at the 10:00 service through the archway at the end of the right aisle and over the bridge in room next to the Assembly Hall. The green-carpeted area in the rear of the church has coloring materials for children who are able to color quietly with their parents. These materials may also be taken back to the pews

## **Worship Materials**

Various materials are used in our worship each week, drawing mostly from the Book of Common Prayer and approved Episcopal Hymnals. The source of each section is usually noted and all materials are used with proper permission where there are copyrights.

## CHORAL PRELUDE

Prepare the way    *(Composer: Dala melody (Sweden), adapted and arranged by Margareta Jalkeus)*

Prepare the way, O Zion; ye awful deeps rise high;  
Sink low ye lofty mountains, the Lord is drawing nigh;  
The righteous King of glory, Foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is he that came in God the Father's name.

O Zion, He approaches, Your Lord and King for aye;  
Strew palms where he advances; Spread garments in His way.  
God's promise faileth never, Hosanna sound forever.  
O blest is He that came in God the Father's name.

The Friendly Beasts    *(Medieval Carol, arranged by Jeffrey Van)*

Jesus, our brother, kind and good, was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around him stood. Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

"I", said the donkey, shaggy and brown. "I carried his mother up hill and  
down. I carried his mother to Bethlehem town." "I", said the donkey, shaggy  
and brown.

"I", said the cow, all white and red. "I gave him my manger for his bed.  
I gave him my hay to pillow his head." "I", said the cow, all white and red.

"I", said the sheep with curly horn. "I gave him my wool for his blanket  
warm. He wore my coat on Christmas morn." "I", said the sheep with curly  
horn.

"I", said the dove from the rafters high, "cooed him to sleep that he should  
not cry. We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I." "I", said the dove from the  
rafters high.

Thus every beast by some good spell, in the stable dark was glad to tell,  
of the gift each gave Emmanuel, the gift each gave Emmanuel.

*Peter Tamburro, Bass; Taylor Kurilev, Soprano*

Ai nama mamina    *(Composer: Andrejs Jansons)*  
*Sung in Latvian, this carol celebrates the joys of Christmas*

Please stand and join in singing

**HYMN 83** O come, all ye faithful (Hymnal 1982 Tune: *Adestes fideles*)

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
\*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
\*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -  
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

6      Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
           born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
           Word of the Father,  
           now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**      (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 355*)

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

*People*          **And blessed by God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**      (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 355*)

*Celebrant*      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.

*People*          **Amen.**

Please stand and join in singing

**HYMN 96** Angels we have heard on high (Hymnal 1982 Tune: Gloria)

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the nig  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py che  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sin  
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bov

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - lig  
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hea  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born Kin  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in lov

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 212*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* **O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

# THE WORD OF GOD

*Please be seated for the readings*

## THE FIRST LESSON

A reading from the book of Isaiah (9:2-7)

The people who walked in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--  
    on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation,  
    you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
    as with joy at the harvest,  
    as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden,  
    and the bar across their shoulders,  
    the rod of their oppressor,  
    you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
    and all the garments rolled in blood  
    shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For a child has been born for us,  
    a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
    and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
    Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
His authority shall grow continually,  
    and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
    He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
    from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*Reader*     Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*We will say the appointed Psalm together.*

**PSALM 96** (St. Helena Psalter)

Sing to God a new song; \*

**sing to God all the whole earth.**

**Sing and bless God's holy Name; \***

**proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.**

**Declare God's glory among the nations, \***

**God's wonders among all peoples.**

**For God is great and greatly to be praised, \***

**more to be feared than all gods.**

**As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols, \***

**but it is God who made the heavens.**

**Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! \***

**Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!**

**Ascribe to God, you families of the peoples, \***

**ascribe to God honor and power.**

**Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; \***

**bring offerings and come into the courts of praise.**

**Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; \***

**may the whole earth stand in awe.**

**Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! \***

**God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;**

**God will judge the peoples with equity.**

**Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;**

**let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \***

**let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy**

**before God, who will come, \***

**who will come to judge the earth.**

**God will judge the world with righteousness \***

**and the peoples with truth.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

A reading from the letter to the Titus (2:11-14)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Reader*     Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

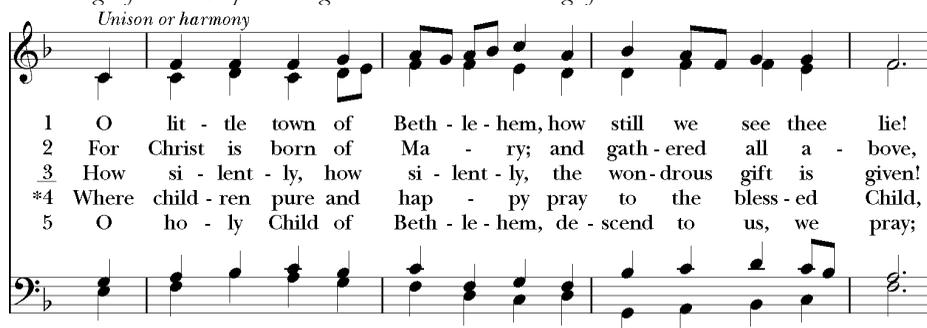
*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able and join in singing

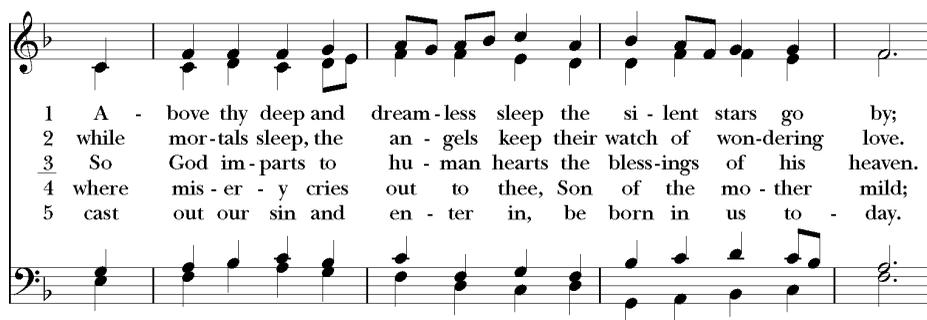
# HYMN 78 O Little Town of Bethlehem (Hymnal 1982 Tune: Forest Green)

Verses 1-3 will be sung before the Gospel reading and verses 4-5 will be sung after.

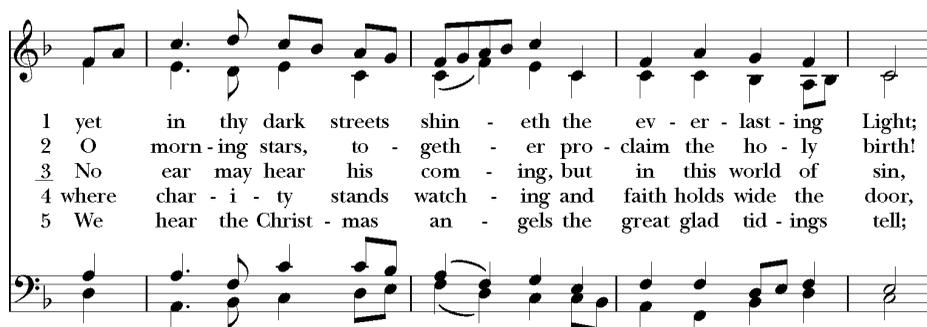
*Unison or harmony*



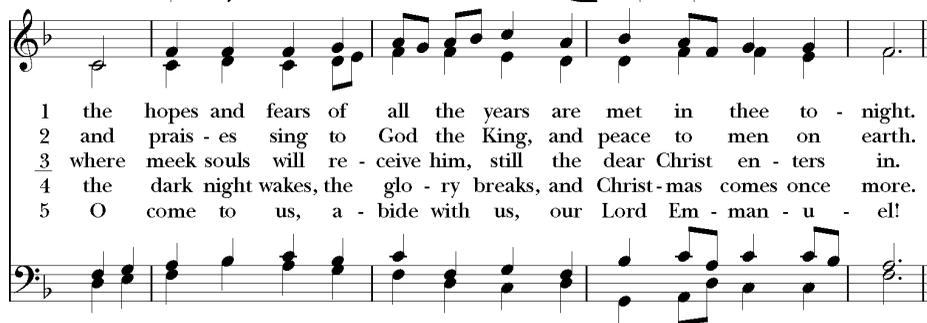
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
\*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1-20)

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord

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

**SERMON** *The Rev. John Mennell*

*Please stand as you are able*

**THE NICENE CREED** (*Enriching Our Worship, p. 53*)

*Celebrant* Let us stand together with Christians throughout the centuries and throughout the world today, and affirm our faith in the words of 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,  
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 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 *(Adapted from Sundays and Seasons, Year C)*

*Celebrant* Let us pray for the church, the earth, and all those in need, in the name of the One who is our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*Leader* Let us pray for all who gather tonight around the manger, and for all those who still long for good news of great joy in their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Let us pray for the dark places of the world - for the Arctic Circle, the deep seas, the underground caverns, and all the wild creatures that call these places home. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Let us pray for nations where the blood of warriors and civilians is shed daily; for kings and queens; for governors and mayors; for all who are oppressed or afraid. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Let us pray for those without shelter, food, family, or friends tonight; for those who work long hours with little reward; for children who are abused or neglected, and for the sick, especially *(The current parish prayer list will be said.)*. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Let us pray for this assembly, that as we go out into the darkness of this night, we might carry with us the light that is Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Let us give thanks for the lives of the saints who now feast at the heavenly table. Keep us faithful as we await Christ's coming in glory. Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*There will be an invitation to offer your own prayers either aloud or silently where you are encouraged to voice your concerns along with others in the congregation.*

## COLLECT AT THE PRAYERS *(Adapted from Sundays and Seasons, Year C)*

*Celebrant* O God, who shines light into darkness, receive these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, through the power of the Spirit, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE** *(Book of Common Prayer, p. 360)*

*Celebrant*     The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*The ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

*During the anthem following the announcements a collection is taken as we look to give back to God in thanksgiving for all the blessings in our lives. As stewards of our gifts of treasure this opportunity to give back allows the church to continue its work in the world, serving those in spiritual, emotional and financial need. You may use the "Offering" envelopes found in the pews.*

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Jesus, springing *(Composer: Bob Chilcott)*

### **A reflection on *Jesus, springing***

The utter simplicity of our offertory anthem, *Jesus, Springing* by the composer, Bob Chilcott, underlies a deep and abiding reverence for the spareness of its text. This is not your typical Christmas choral anthem, with thundering organ, and blaring brass. Instead, we are asked to consider the human heart and a pinecone, a tree and the forest, a cradle and the child, a man and the cross. Wood is at the very 'heart' of this beautiful music. If we try, can we believe that the wood of the cross upon which Jesus was nailed might have come from the selfsame tree as the wood of the cradle in which He lay as an infant? Since with God, all things are possible, why is it impossible to think that of all the trees, in all the forests, only *one* tree was destined to give us both the cradle as well as the cross, in the same way that Mary was set apart from all women to be the 'Mother of God'? Within each of us, therefore, lies the wooden heart that encloses the cone, from which the seed, giving birth to the cradle and the cross, the very 'tree of life' itself, springs. From our wooden hearts, shaped by the tools of the Carpenter, the simple music tells us that the story of Christ goes on. As the text of the final refrain passes from voice to voice, we recall that we are the living body of Christ, and His promise of love must leap from person to person, so that truly, this Christmas, we will actually discover *Jesus, springing* from our own heart.

*Timothy J. Mannion  
Member of St. Luke's choir*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please stand as you are able for the presentation of the gifts

## PRESENTATION HYMN 104 A stable lamp is lighted (Hymnal 1982 Tune: Andujar)



1 A sta - ble lamp is light - ed Whose  
 2 (This) child through Da - vid's ci - ty Shall  
 3 (Yet) he shall be for - sak - en, And  
 4 (But) now, as at the end - ing, The



glow shall wake the sky; The stars shall bend their voic - es,  
 ride in tri - umph by; The palm shall strew its branch - es,  
 yield - ed up to die; The sky shall groan and dark - en,  
 low is lift - ed high; The stars shall bend their voic - es,



And ev - ery stone shall cry. \_\_\_\_\_ And ev - ery stone shall cry,  
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. \_\_\_\_\_ And ev - ery stone shall cry;  
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. \_\_\_\_\_ And ev - ery stone shall cry,  
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. \_\_\_\_\_ And ev - ery stone shall cry,



And straw like gold shall shine; A barn shall har - bor hea - ven,  
 Though hea - vy, dull, and dumb, And lie with - in the road - way  
 For ston - y hearts of men: God's blood up - on the spear - head,  
 In prais - es of the Child By whose de - scent a - mong us



A stall be - come a shrine. \_\_\_\_\_ 2 This  
 To pave his king - dom come. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Yet  
 God's love re - fused a - gain. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 But  
 The worlds are rec - on - ciled. \_\_\_\_\_



## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367)*

*Celebrant* 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 God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:

**SANCTUS** *(Hymnal 1982, #S125 Composer: Richard Proulx)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues, you may stand or kneel*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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!**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 364*)

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People* **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.**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 365*)

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

**INVITATION** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 365*)

*Celebrant* These are 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.

*All are invited to participate in communion at St. Luke's. You may stand or kneel to receive communion. If you would prefer not to take the bread or wine, simply cross your arms over your chest and you will receive a blessing. If you would prefer to have communion brought to you at your seat, please let one of the ushers know.*

## COMMUNION ANTHEMS

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

*(Composer: Michael Praetorius, arr. by Jan Sandström)*

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung !  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came a floweret bright. Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

The Huron Carol

*(French Folksong, arr. by Fr. Jean de Brebeuf, S.J., and Dale Warland)*

'Twas in the moon of wintertime, when all the bird had fled,  
That mighty Gitche Manitou sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim, And wondering hunters heard the  
hymn:  
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender Babe was found.  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round.  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:  
In excelsis gloria.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,  
The holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.  
Come kneel before the radiant Boy, Who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.  
Jesus, your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

Before and during the following hymn, hand-held candles will be lighted. Please help share the light with those near you.

**HYMN 111** Silent night, holy night (Hymnal 1982 Tune: Stille nacht)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Silent Night, Holy Night'. It is written in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. The score is arranged in four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the next three lines. The fourth system contains the final three lines. The piano accompaniment consists of simple chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and ch  
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - fa  
love's pure light ra - dian beams from thy ho - ly fa

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven  
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vio  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!  
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

**THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 366*)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* **Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**BLESSING** (*Book of Occasional Services p. 23*)

*Celebrant* May almighty God, who sent a Child to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of God's holiness.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven give you peace and favor.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*All* **Amen**

Please stand and join in singing

# HYMN 87 Hark! The herald angels sing (Hymnal 1982 Music: Mendelssohn)

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!  
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty,  
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!  
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*  
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

**DISMISSAL** (*Book of Common Prayer, p. 365*)

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

*People* **Thanks be to God**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

Final, from Symphonie N. 1 (*Composer: Louis Vierne*)

## ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH LEADERS

### STAFF

**Rector**

The Rev. John A. Mennell  
mennell@slechurch.org

**Assistant to the Rector**

The Rev. Diana Wilcox  
wilcox@slechurch.org

**Director of  
Music**

Charles Hunter  
hunter@slechurch.org

**Director of  
Family Ministries**

Kathy DeWalt  
dewalt@slechurch.org

**Director of  
Outreach**

Anne Mernin  
Mernin@slechurch.org

**Director of  
Communications**

**Kitchen Manager**

Laura Feire

**Bookkeeper**

Arline Amaducci  
amaducci@slechurch.org

**Childcare**

A.J. DeWalt

**Sexton**

Jorge Ordonoz

***“Blessed to be a Blessing”***

*Make a stewardship pledge for 2013*

# ***Merry Christmas!***