



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Saint Luke's Church

85 Greenway South, Forest Hills, NY 11375

Church Office: (718) 268-6021; office@stlukesforesthills.org

Welcome to Saint Luke's Episcopal Church. We (Canon Michael Delaney, Wardens and Vestry) extend a warm welcome to members, visitors and friends. We are blessed by your presence and pray you are blessed by this service. Thank you for celebrating the Feast of Christ's Incarnation with us.

At the time of Holy Communion, please form two lines on each side of the center aisle, beginning with the people seated closest to the front. Come to the altar rail, kneel or stand, for a blessing or to receive Communion. You may receive Communion in one or both kinds: Bread alone or Bread and Wine. To receive the Blood of Christ by intinction, hold the bread in your hands for the Deacon or Eucharistic Minister to dip in the wine. To drink from the cup, gently guide the cup to your mouth.

Light refreshments are available in the Narthex as you leave tonight.

Please join us in thanking our Organist and Choir Director, Melinda Faylor, for her ministry of music. Also give God thanks for our dedicated and talented choir: Andrew Dinan; Louise Foisy; Gerard J. Gallagher, Jr.; Olivia Grugan; Keiko Kiyashka; Robert Lin; Jeanine McPartlin; Brian & Marianne Percival; Elizabeth Reynolds; and Suzanne Schick. We offer special thanks to our Christmas Eve guest artists: Mithuna Sivaraman and Todd Wachsman. Praise is also due to the Altar Guild members who decorated the church for Christmastide and our Parish Administrator, Lauren Butler, who produced this worship booklet.

Know that you are welcome to return to worship with us as often as the Spirit moves you. Following is the worship schedule for this holiday season:

Christmas Day, tomorrow: 10am Carols and Communion

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, 2023: 10:30am Morning Prayer

Epiphany, Sunday, January 7, 2024: 10:30am Choral Eucharist

followed by a Three Kings Day Party during Fellowship Hour

Sundays after Epiphany, January 14 to February 11, 2024:

10:30am Choral Eucharist

Let the light of Christ shine in and through your life so that people who see your good works may give glory to God who is in heaven.

Yours in faith,

Anne Harte Su and Suzanne C. Schick, Wardens

THE FEAST OF CHRIST'S INCARNATION

PRELUDE

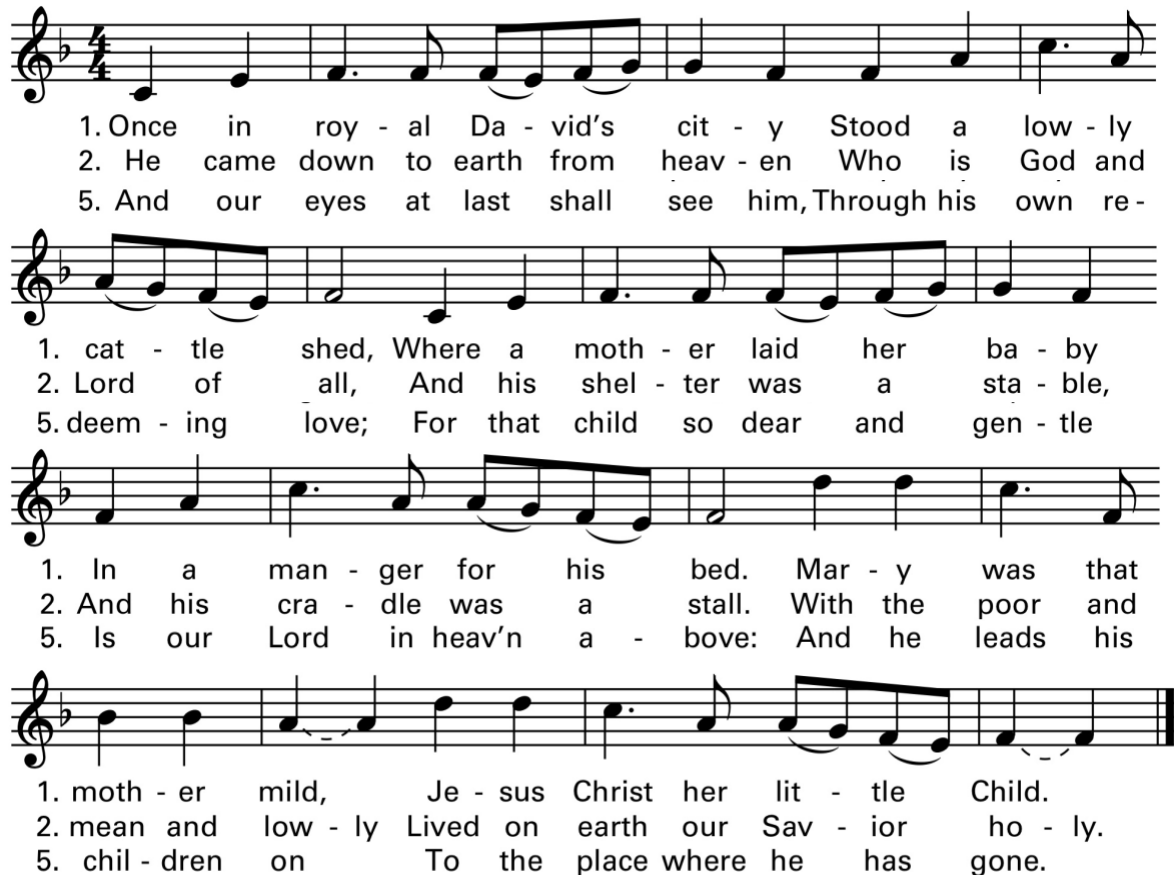
Vidas Pinkevicius

Meditation on Divinium Mysterium

After the organ prelude, the Presider greets the congregation with this bidding,

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go to Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; let us offer prayers for ourselves, loved ones, this world and all God's creatures and creation; and, above all, let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

OPENING HYMN



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own re -

1. cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
2. Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
5. deem - ing love; For that child so dear and gen - tle

1. In a man - ger for his bed. Mar - y was that
2. And his cra - dle was a stall. With the poor and
5. Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he leads his

1. moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
2. mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
5. chil - dren on To the place where he has gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing round,
We shall see him: but in heaven,
Where his saints his throne surround:
Christ revealed to faithful eye,
Set at God's right hand on high.

THE DEDICATION OF THE CRÈCHE

The figure of the Christ child is placed in the manger, and the Presider says,

Presider God of every nation and people, from the beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this Nativity scene; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Presider Alleluia! The Word was made flesh

People **And dwells among us, full of grace and truth. Alleluia!**



The altar party processes into the sanctuary. All remain seated.

CHOIR

Wexford Carol

*traditional Irish carol
arr. Dale Warland*

*Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.
With Mary, holy, we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born.*

*The night before that happy tide,
The noble Virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down*

*To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass:
From ev'ry door repell'd, alas!
As long foretold, their refuge all
Was but an humble ox's stall.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
Prepare and go, the angels said,
To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born.
Near Bethlehem, sweet Jesus born, sweet Jesus born.*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind,
The shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold,
They did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger he was laid,
And by his side the Virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.*

CHOIR

Noël Nouvelet

*French traditional carol
arr. John Rutter*

*Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.
Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!
Chantons Noël pour le roi nouvelet.
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.*

Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.
Offer thanks, ye faithful, to the news give ear.
Sing we nowell, a new King born today.
Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

*L'ange disait: "Pasteurs, partez d'ici
L'âme en repos et le couer réjouit;
En Bethléhem trouverez l'agnelet."
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.*

Unto humble shepherds came the angel near;
"Hence," said he, "to Bethlehem, be ye of good cheer.
Seek there the Lamb of God, love's own pure ray."
Nowell, sing nowell good people gathered here.

*En Bethléhem, étant tous réunis,
Trouvent l'enfant, Joseph, Marie aussi.
La crèche était au lieu d'un bercelet,
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici*

When to Bethlehem, they came in lowly fear,
Found they gentle Mary with her son so dear.
Heav'n's mighty Lord all cradled in the hay,
Nowell, sing nowell, good people gathered here.

*Bientôt les rois, par l'étoile éclaircis
De l'orient dont ils étaient sortis
A Bethléhem vinrent un matin.
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici*

Eastern sages seek him, in the darkness drear
By a star illumined shining forth so clear,
Guiding them to Bethlehem far away.
Nowell, sing nowell, good people gathered here.

*Voici mon Dieu, mon Sauveur Jésus Christ,
Parqui sera le prodige accompli
De nous sauver par son sang vermeillet!
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici*

Now doth our Saviour Jesus Christ appear,
Bringing salvation promised many a year
By his redeeming blood this happy day.
Nowell, sing nowell, good people gathered here.

CHOIR

Dadme albricias, hijos d'Eva
from Three Spanish Carols of the Sixteenth Century

*Anonymous
edited by Noah Greenberg*

*Dadme albricias, hijos d'Eva!
Di, de qué dártelas han?
Qu'es nascido el nuevo Adám.*

Sons of Eve, reward my tidings!
Why should we make gifts to you?
Born is He, the Adam new.

*Oh, hí de Dios, y qué nueva!
Dádmela y haved plazer,
pues esta noches nascido
el Mexías prometido,
Dios y hombre, de mujer.*

Almighty God, what glad tidings!
Pay my boon, and sing for joy,
For tonight is born our Savior,
The Messiah promised to us,
Man and God, a virgin's boy.

*Y su nacer nos releva
del peccado y de su afán.
Qu'es nascido el nuevo Adám.*

By His birth He gives us pardon
For the sin and wrong we do.
Born is He, the Adam new.

*Oh, hí de Dios, y qué nueva!
Almighty God, what glad tidings!*

CHOIR

I Wonder as I Wander

*Appalachian carol
arr. John Jacob Niles
& Lewis Henry Horton*

*I wonder as I wander, under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die,
For poor on'ry people like you and like I ...
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.*

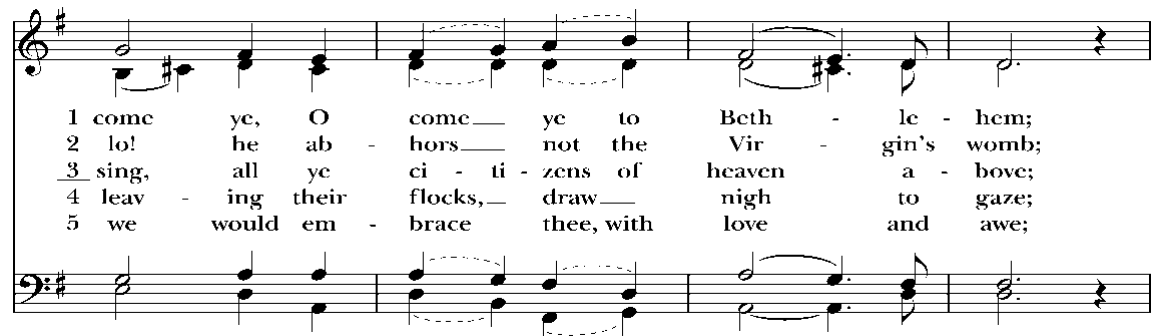
*If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.*



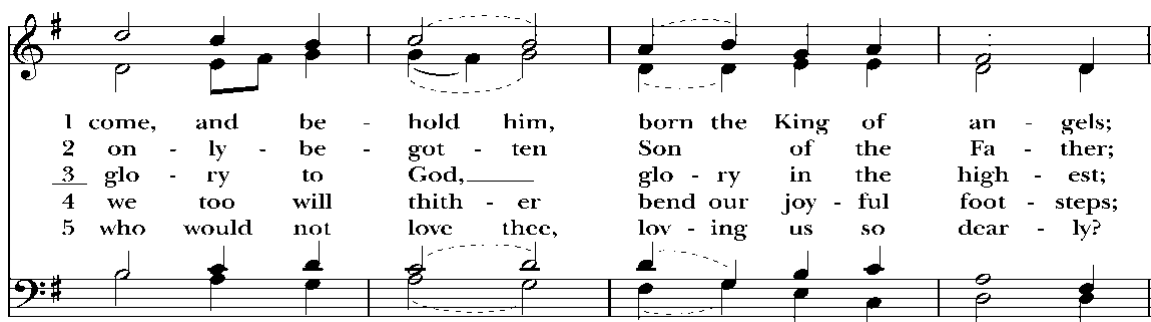
We will sing verses 1, 2, 3, and 6



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.

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

The Liturgy of the Word

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider + Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

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.**

GLORIA, DEUTSCHE MESSE

Franz Schubert

Glo-ry, glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his
peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and
Fa-ther. We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry, we praise you for your glo-ry,
Lord, Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have
mer-cy on us, You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, re-
ceive our pray'r, re-ceive our pray'r. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
you a-lone are the Lord. You a-lone are the Most High,
Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the
glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men. A-men.

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray,

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.

People **Amen.**

The People are seated.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

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 Counsellor, 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

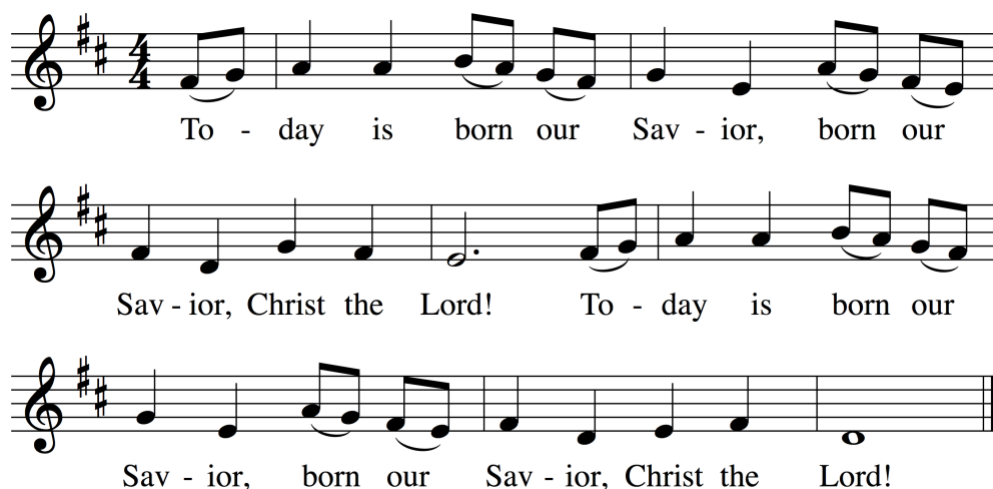
Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 96

Chant - Robert Knox Kennedy

The Cantor will intone the Antiphon then repeated by all and after each verse of the Psalm.



Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing to the Lord, all the whole earth. Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; * proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. *Antiphon*

Declare his glory among the nations * and his wonders among all peoples. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; * he is more to be feared than all gods. *Antiphon*

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; * ascribe to the Lord honor and power. Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; * bring offerings and come into his courts. *Antiphon*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; * let the whole earth tremble before him. 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. *Antiphon*

THE EPISTLE READING

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

All stand.

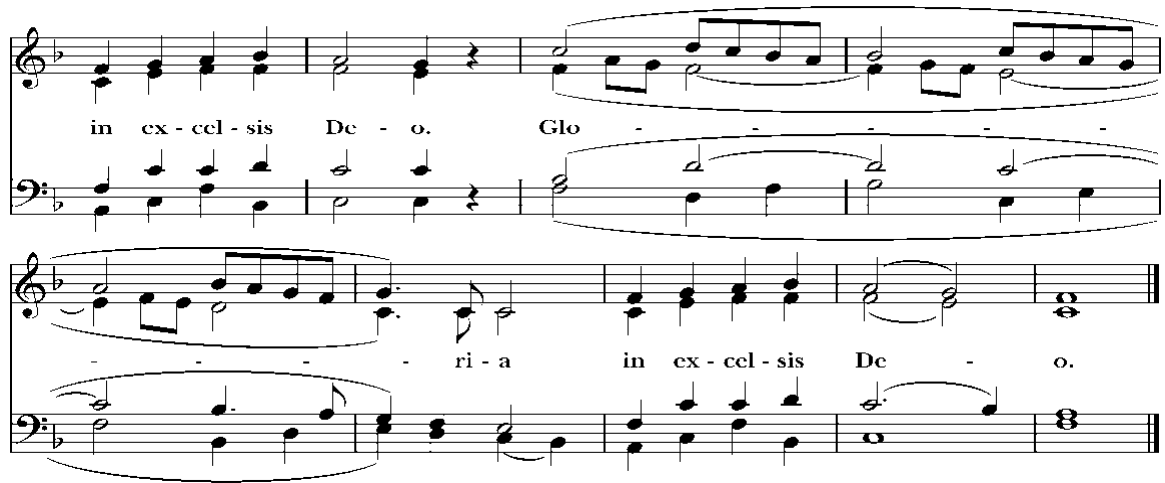
SEQUENCE HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

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

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

Refrain
Glo - - - - - ri - a



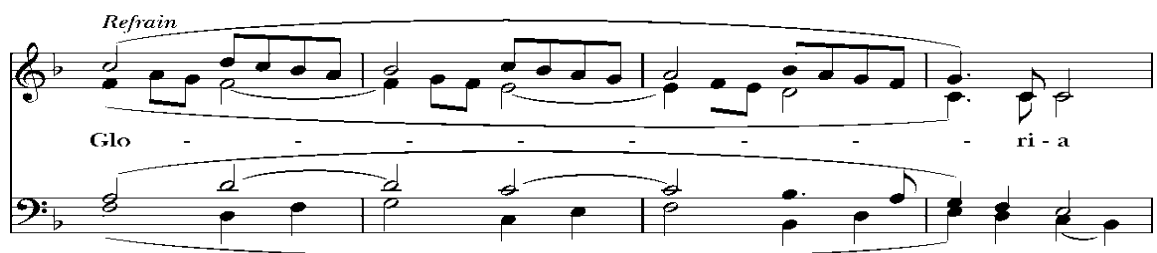
The congregation faces the Center aisle.

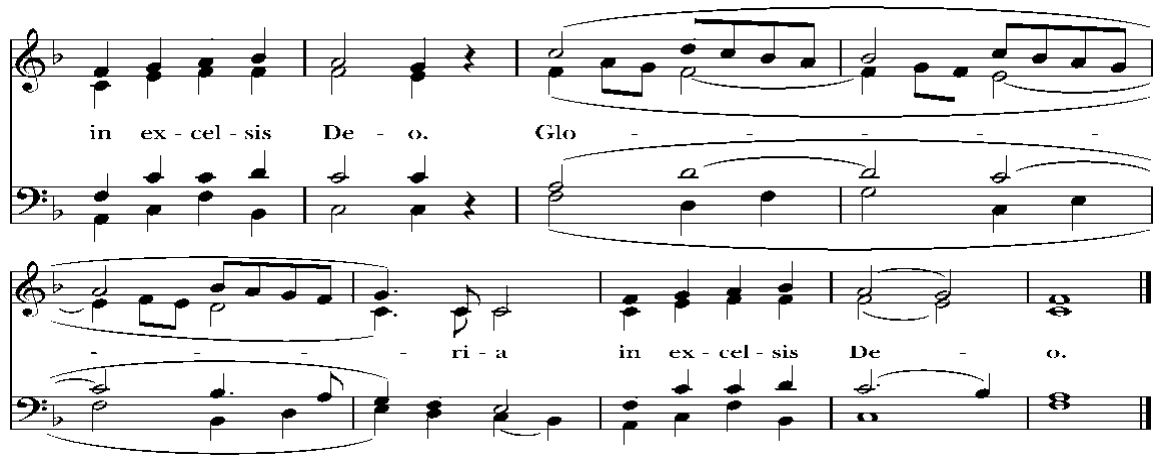
THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke
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 singing:





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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord
People **Praise to you Lord Christ**

THE SERMON

The Reverend Canon Michael F Delaney

All stand for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon The word of God lives among us and within us to strengthen and inspire. With confidence let us offer our prayers to God filled with hope and faith.

Silence may be kept.

Intercessor On this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor On this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Give us grace to preach the good news of God's mercy and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor On this holy night angels sang "peace to God's people on earth". Strengthen the leaders of our nation and all those who work for peace and justice in the world. Lord, in your mercy, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor On this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to the sick, especially those who have contracted the coronavirus and all who suffer because of the sadness of the world.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor On this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Luke, Saint Francis, Saint Claire and all those who have gone before us in faith, especially those who we love and no longer see.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Silence may be kept.

Presider Creator of all, you have not abandoned your creation, but have made your dwelling place among us. Hear your faithful people, and grant us the blessings of your mercy, for we make this prayer in the name of Jesus who is the word made flesh and the hope of our salvation, for ever and ever,

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME

Canon Delaney & the Wardens

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

All Bells in Paradise

John Rutter

*Deep in the cold of winter,
Darkness and silence were ev'rywhere;
Softly and clearly, there came through the stillness
a wonderful sound, a wonderful sound to hear:*

*All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.
All bells in paradise I heard them ring:
"Glory to God on high" the angel voices sing.*

*Lost in awe and wonder,
Doubting, I asked what this sign might be:
Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable,
A marvelous sight, a marvelous sight to see.*

*All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.*

*He comes down in peace, a child in humility,
The keys to his kingdom belong to the poor;
Before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures,
Gold incense and myrrh, incense and myrrh.*

*All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;
All bells in paradise I heard them ring,
Welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King.*

*All bells in paradise I heard them ring:
"Glory to God on high" the angel voices sing,
The angel voices sweetly sing.*

All stand and sing.

PRESENTATION HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 sec; 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-cous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

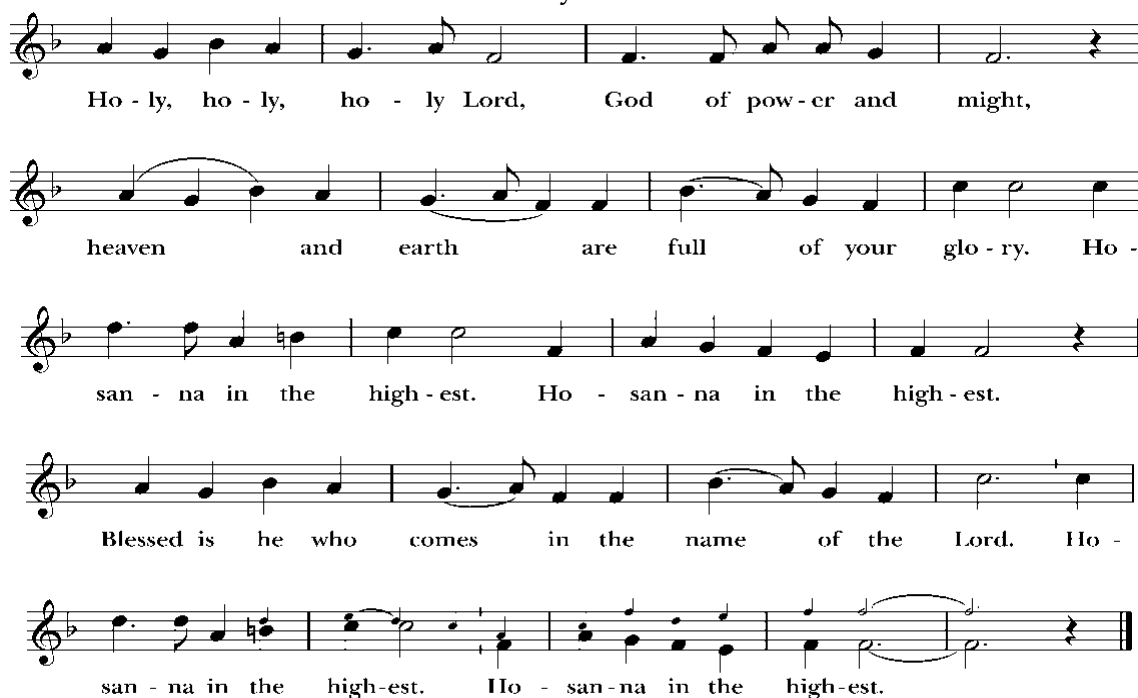
People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 human by 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

Community Mass

Richard Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

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 St Luke, St Francis, St Claire, St Joseph, Blessed 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.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider 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.**

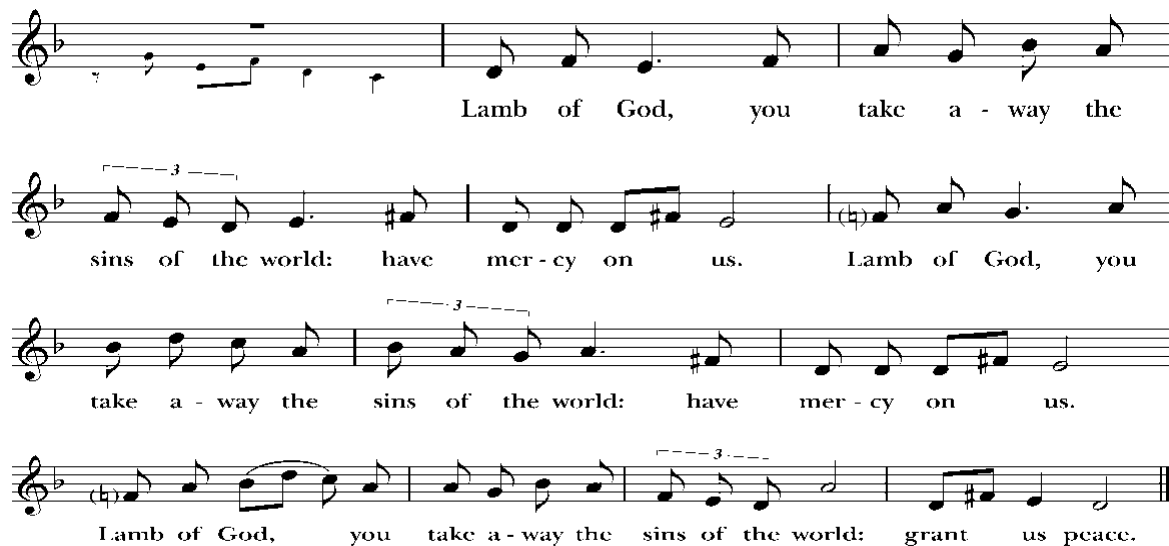
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrifices for us.

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

AGNUS DEI

Robert Powell



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance of Christ's Incarnation and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

All Baptized Christians from any denomination are welcome to receive. You may receive the host on the palm of your hand and drink from the chalice. If you would like the host intincted in the wine, please leave the host in the palm of your hand.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Away in a Manger

arr. Robert J. Powell

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

COMMUNION HYMN

The First Noel

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
2 They look - ed up and saw a star
3 And by the light of that same star
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Alternative Refrain
Descant (others unison)

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,
 born is the King of Is - ra - el.

All Stand.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

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 FINAL GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Silent Night



The musical score for "Silent Night" is presented in two systems. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the next three lines. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

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 child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

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

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

THE BLESSING

Presider May God who has sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be with you this night and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Joy to the World

We will sing verses 1, 2, & 4

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - every heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

THE DISMISSAL

Presider The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks Be to God**

POSTLUDE Fanfare on "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Alec Wynton

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SERVING TONIGHT

The Reverend Canon Michael F. Delaney, *Presider and Preacher*

Melinda Faylor, *Organist and Choir Director*

Br. Bill Paine, FCC, *Crucifer*

Zee Dempster, *Acolyte and Second Chalice Bearer*

Isabelle Smith, *Lector*

Saint Luke's Choir

Anne Harte Su and Paul Dinas, *Ushers*

Barbara Glick, *Bellringer*

Paul Dinas and Volunteer, *Oblation Bearers*

Paul Dinas, *Altar Guild*

Christmas Decorations

Memorials

Bernardo Petruso by Daniella Rizza

Katherine & Lloyd Espenschied, Fran Russell, Elizabeth Sibicky,
and Gertrude & Kemper Martin by Ann Espenschied

Henry & Mirabel Ogilvie, Robert Ogilvie, Karl, Archie and Edwin Hudson-Phillips, Anne
Berry, and Rose Marie Thomas by Margaret Rowley and Jennifer Hudson-Phillips

Wei-Ying Lin, Anna Lin and David Lin by Suzanne and Robert Lin

Wayne C. Baxter by Rebecca Baxter Hess and Family

Thanksgivings

The entire vestry of St. Luke's Church by Anne Harte Su

The Parishioners of St. Luke's by Jane Kettlewell

Rosalind, Juliet and Burke Chapin by Ann Espenschied

The birth of Eric Joseph Snyder by the Snyder Family



Christmas Eve Service Music

Memorials

Albert King Dillette by Anne Harte Su

Raymond, Mildred & Barry Percival, and Robert & Marian Stolp
by Brian and Marianne Percival

Gabrielle Schick, Frederick Schick, Tom Greiner, and Joyce Greiner
by Suzanne and Robert Lin

Joseph P. & Carol M. Occhiuto and Dorothy Stanscheit
by the Reverend Joseph J. Occhiuto

Wayne C. Baxter by Rebecca Baxter Hess and Family

Robert Butler by the Butler Family

Thanksgivings

In grateful appreciation for the gift of music
by Brian and Marianne Percival

The Choir of St. Luke's by Jane Kettlewell





Saint Luke's Church (Episcopal)

85 Greenway South, Forest Hills, NY 11375

(718) 268-6021; office@stlukesforesthills.org

www.stlukesforesthills.org

The Reverend Joseph J. Occhiuto, FCC, Deacon

Melinda Faylor, Choir Director/Organist

Lauren Butler, Parish Administrator

Joe Dinas, Sexton

The Wardens and Vestry of Saint Luke's

Suzanne Schick, *Warden (2023)*

Anne Harte Su, *Warden (2025)*

wardens@stlukesforesthills.org

2023

Jennifer Hudson-Phillips

Liz Reynolds

Jonathan Wallin

(vacancy)

2024

Louise Foisy

(vacancy)

2025

Paul Dinas

Jane Kettlewell

Christopher Nyberg

Parish Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9am – 2pm

718-268-6021 office@stlukesforesthills.org

Sunday Worship Hours:

10:30am [church/Zoom]

Meeting ID: 897 4444 1960 Passcode: STLWORSHIP

Church school: 10:15am on 2nd/3rd Sundays, Sept-June

Nursery care is available for children under 4

In Case of Pastoral Emergency:

Deacon Joe Occhiuto

718-290-6568

Suzanne Schick

917-769-4761

Anne Harte Su

516-581-2268