



 **ST. LUKE'S**  
**CHURCH**  
FOREST HILLS

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Christmas Eve Family Mass & Pageant  
December 24, 2024 at 4PM



## CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

**W**elcome to Saint Luke's Episcopal Church! We 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.

Please join us in thanking our Choirmaster, Olivia Grugan, our choir, and our interim Organist, Michael Cheng, for their ministry of music. Also, we give thanks for our Altar Guild members who decorated the church for Christmastide and our Parish Administrator, Lauren Butler, who produced this worship booklet.

Know that you are always welcome here. Following is the worship schedule for this holiday season:

Wednesday, December 25, 2024: 10am Mass

Sunday, December 29, 2024: 10:30am Mass

Sunday, January 5, 2024: 10:30am Mass

Epiphany, Monday, January 6, 2025: 7pm Mass

Merry Christmas,  
The Reverend Bo Reynolds, Priest in Charge

# The Liturgy of the Word

*The Procession enters the Church during the hymn. All stand for the*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN – 83 – Adeste Fidelis**

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

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

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**O** God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*The congregation stands for*

## THE GOSPEL

*John 1:1-14*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

**I**n 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.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord

*People* **Praise to you Lord Christ**

*All sit for*

**THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**SCENE 1 HYMN – 78 v 1-3 – Forest Green**

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.*

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.*

**SCENE 2 HYMN – 101 – Cradle Song**

*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.*

**SCENE 3 HYMN – 96 – Gloria**

*Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**SCENE 4 HYMN – 128 v 1,5 – Three Kings of Orient**

*We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!*

*Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia: alleluia the earth replies.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!*

**ENDING HYMN – 111 – Stille Nacht**

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!*

*Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

*The Liturgy continues with the Prayers of the People. The People stand.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Intercessor** By the birth of the timeless Son of God in the womb of the Virgin Mary, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Hear our prayer."

*Silence may be kept.*

**Intercessor** For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Lawrence, our Bishop; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor** For the mission of the Church, that Christ's embracing love may be known throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor** For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, that they may strive for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor** For our enemies, and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor** For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor** Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God, blessed Luke our patron, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Celebrant concludes with a collect.*

## THE PEACE

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

## WELCOME

*Father Bo Reynolds*



**I**t 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 man 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

*Robert Powell*

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

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

**W**e 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."



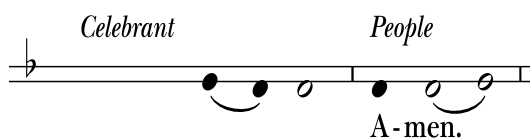
Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Luke our patron, 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

*Celebrant*        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.**

*Silence is kept as the Celebrant breaks the bread. All join in singing the*

**AGNUS DEI**

*Robert Powell*

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

*Celebrant* 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 and with thanksgiving.

**A**ll 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 dipped in the wine, please leave the host in the palm of your hand.

**Gluten Free Hosts are available to those who need them.**

*All stand for the*

**POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant* 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 BLESSING**

*Celebrant* 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 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you forever.

*People* **Amen.**

## HYMN IN PROCESSION – 87 – Mendelssohn

*Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlem!  
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!*

*Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,  
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!*

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People*          **Thanks Be to God**

## ORGAN POSTLUDE

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## SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Bo Reynolds, *Celebrant*

Michael Cheng, *Organist*

Jonathan Wallin, *Acolyte and Second Chalice Bearer*

Stephen Banci, Emily Taylor & Janelle Gleich, *Pageant Directors*

Julia Banci, Lux Blaylock, Nava & Yaelle Gleich, Finn Grugan, George, Hank & Vivian Ionescu,  
Miles Karas, Barrett & Serena McCabe, George & James Nyberg, Frederico & Juliana Terry,  
*Pageant Performers*



# ST. LUKE'S CHURCH FOREST HILLS

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718-268-6022 + [priest@stlukesforesthills.org](mailto:priest@stlukesforesthills.org)

**The Reverend Joseph J. Occhiuto**, FCC, Deacon

718-290-6568

**Olivia Grugan**, Choirmaster

**Michael Cheng**, Organist

**Lauren Butler**, Parish & HR Administrator

**Ann Espenschied**, Sacristan

**Joe Dinas**, Sexton

**The Wardens and Vestry of Saint Luke's**

Anne Harte Su, *Warden (2024)*

Diane Santana, *Warden (2025)*

[wardens@stlukesforesthills.org](mailto:wardens@stlukesforesthills.org)

**2024**

Louise Foisy

Jeanine McPartlin

Jennifer Hudson-Phillips

**2025**

Paul Dinas

Jane Kettlewell

Christopher Nyberg

**2026**

Jyri Laatikainen

Robert Lin

Jonathan Wallin

**Sunday Worship Hours:**

10:30am [church/Livestream]

<https://www.youtube.com/@stlukesforesthills>

Church school: 10:15am on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Sun, Sept-June

Nursery care is available for children under 4