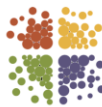




**Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
Women of St. Luke Thankoffering Sunday**

November 19, 2023

**9:15 am Worship Service**



**St. Luke**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

4595 SW California St.

Portland, OR 97219

503-246-2325

[www.stlukechurch.com](http://www.stlukechurch.com)

### Gathering in Worship

*Greater Things*

Jacob Sooter

*Open Up the Doors*

Nate Moore

Welcome & New Members Received

Pr. Beth Brashear

Offering of Intent Cards

### Message

*Children invited forward to light the Gospel*

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-30

Chris Ulmer

***The Word of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.***

*Children dismissed to Children's Church*

Sermon

LuAnn Aakhus

### Offering

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* John Newton, Chris Tomlin

### Holy Communion

Words of Remembrance

The Meal

*Simplicity*

Rend Collective

Blessing

Sending Song

*Forever*

Chris Tomlin

## Thank You for joining us in Worship!

*If you are new or visiting today, welcome! We invite you to fill out our visitor card located in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate. We are glad you are here. Hearing assistance is available – please see an usher.*

*Today's flowers are given by the Nordquist family in loving memory of Marian Throne.*

**Worship:** In Holy Communion, Christ enters our lives anew: all who hunger to grow in connection with God are welcome to partake. Ushers will invite you forward via the center aisle to receive Communion bread. Wine (red) and grape juice (clear) are in the tray by the pastors.

- Gluten-free wafers are available: simply ask a pastor.
  - If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, come forward and cross your arms over your chest.
- 
- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship:** Wednesday, November 22 at 6:30pm. Please join us for a quiet service of prayer, song, and message on this Thanksgiving Eve.
  - **Holden Evening Prayer:** Wednesdays, November 29, December 6, 13, 20 from 6:30-7pm in Fellowship Hall.
  - **Fourth Sunday in Advent:** Sunday, December 24, *one service only* at 10:30am.
  - **Christmas Eve Services:** Sunday, December 24 - 3pm, 5pm, & 10:30pm. *No service on December 25.*
  - **Sunday, December 31:** *One service only* at 10:30am.

**St. Luke's Nursery:** The nursery is open offering care to children ages birth – 5 years every Sunday during the second service (10-15-11:45am). *The nursery will be closed Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.*

**Prayers for the Departed:** **Wilbur Menicosy; Carolyn Jackson; Joan Rohrer & Lisa Boylan** (Joan's daughter); **Marian Throne, Louise Grande, Gene Maier** (father of Jonathan & David Maier), **Carl Eckerle** (Joan Frazer's brother-in-law); **Bill Davidson** (Joan Frazer's brother), **Betty Koester, Robin Dustan** (Mark Dustan's sister), **Tom Lahiff** (Carolyn and Jim Loch's brother-in-law).

**Prayer List:** **Cindy Gibbon** (cancer treatment), **Mary Brocker** (breast cancer surgery/Mark and Donna Brocker's daughter); **Marleen Roth** (fractured pelvic bone); **Don Alrick** (triple bypass surgery); **Barbara Brocker** (stepmother of Mark Brocker - recovering after fall); **Sybil Tremper** (lymphoma), **John Jackson** (recovering from a fall), **John Chesnutt** (post-hospitalization), **Dale Vaughan** (healing from fall), **Barb Dahlgren** (surgery), **Bill Loehr** (surgery), **Sue Seiffert** (stage 1 breast cancer), **Carter West** (neurological disease), **Rev. Myrin Bentz** (hospice/Senior Pastor of St. Luke from 1969 – 1998), **Lorna Beckley** (brain cancer surgery #2), **Tim Spofford** (strokes/Cathy Spofford's brother-in-law), **Dave Simmons, Bev Westlund** (knee surgery), **Sandra Hamari** (metastatic cancer), **Michael Butler** (cancer and surgery), **Elaine Woodward** (stroke), **John Jessen, Dee Mills, Jeremy Eckhardt** and those incarcerated.

**Connect:** **Today's Thankoffering Services:** We are excited to welcome LuAnn Aakhus as our guest speaker. Beginning with her attendance at Augustana University (along with Marilyn Hudson), she has always been involved in the church and in the work of women in the ELCA. Her career as an executive in health care organizations involved work in the US and globally, and she now works with an organization helping address the opioid crisis. "Thankoffering" envelopes will be available today for special offerings for the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (WELCA) where, among other things, they are used to support online and printed communications of WELCA, justice and advocacy work, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization and the administration of WELCA grants and scholarship programs.

**Modern Worship Sing Today!** Get ready for an uplifting and contemporary worship experience! Join us for a "Modern Worship Sing-Through" today at noon led by our Director of Music, Gerry Brenes, where we'll dive into an array of inspiring songs that will be a part of our upcoming worship services. Connect with God through the power of music, and feel the spirit move as we share the songs that will lead us in worship through Advent. Come and let your spirit soar with us! All are welcome to join in this joyful celebration.

**Advent Festival:** Come for holiday crafting and hot chocolate Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4 pm. This fun, beloved traditional "Advent Festival" is always the first weekend in December. This event is free and open to all - great especially for kids as our crafts are simple so many can enjoy rotating through completing several projects. Kick off the season with crafting items that can be enjoyed in your homes or gifted to someone you love: decorating cedar branches, decorating advent candles, gum drop snowflakes, giftbag decorating (and more)!

**Serve:** **Grateful Generosity:** It is the generosity of God that makes possible all that we have and all that we are. The generosity of the Holy Spirit's presence makes it possible for us to perceive and interpret our lives and our possessions through the eyes of faith and gratitude. In response you are invited to act with grateful generosity. Consider and pray about how you will respond. Today we will invite members to bring their statement of intent cards forward where we will have a basket for them to be blessed. You may also return a digital card by going to [www.stlukechurch.com](http://www.stlukechurch.com) and clicking "Give" (or scan QR code).



**Council Meeting:** St. Luke's Council will meet at 11:45am today in the Conference Room.

**Communion Help - Table Setup, Cleaning, or Assisting/Serving Sign-Ups:**



- Would you like to contribute to the communion service by serving during the services? If so, we would greatly appreciate your help! Scan the QR code to sign up!
- Another way to support the communion service is by preparing the table. You can help by setting the table and/or cleaning afterward. If you're interested in lending a hand, please scan the QR code to sign up for a Sunday (or Sundays) after a service of your choice. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact

Melody: [Melody.Drangstveit@gmail.com](mailto:Melody.Drangstveit@gmail.com); (503) 312-7785.



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### Gathering

Prelude

*Moderato con moto*

César Franck

Welcome

Pr. Patti Welch

Offering of Intent Cards

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

*Lord of Light*

#688

Apostolic Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Helen Wrolstad, reader

Anthem *O God Our Help in Ages Past* William Croft arranged by Paul Christiansen

Second Reading: Thessalonians 5:1-11  
*Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Acclamation pg. 102

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30 LuAnn Aakhus  
*The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon

Sermon Response *For All the Faithful Women* vs. 1 & 2 #419

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the People Jane Chan  
God in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prayer Response *For All the Faithful Women* last verse #419

Peace

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

## The Offering

Offertory Music *Offertory on "Restoration"* Tom Birchwood

Offertory Prayer

God of all goodness, **generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving Dialogue pg. 107

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy pg. 108

Words of Institution

...to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen pg. 109

Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God pg. 112

*Christ, Be Our Light* #715

*Praise and Thanksgiving* #689

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus, **in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.**

Benediction

Benediction Response *Go Forth into the World in Peace* Paul Sjolund

Sending Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* #815

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Chorale*

Bryan Hesford, Opus 58