



# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

*Where all are welcome at the Lord's table*

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99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818 | 401-884-4116 | [stlukeseg.org](http://stlukeseg.org) | [@stlukeseg](https://www.instagram.com/stlukeseg)

## The Second Sunday of Christmas | January 3, 2021

### Daily Morning Prayer: Rite Two

The people's responses are in bold.

#### Prelude

*In the bleak midwinter*

Gustav Holst

Bruce Dearnaley, Tower Bells

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. *Revelation 21:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People*

**Most merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done,**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**  
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**  
**have mercy on us and forgive us;**  
**that we may delight in your will,**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### **THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER**

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Officiant Alleluia. To us a child is born:

People **Come let us adore him.**

### **Jubilate *Psalm 100***

*Officiant and People*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \***

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; \***

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;**

**go into his courts with praise; \***

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

**For the Lord is good;**

**his mercy is everlasting; \***

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Officiant Alleluia. To us a child is born:

People **Come let us adore him.**

### **Psalm 84**

*Officiant and People*

**1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \***

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;**

**my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

- 2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE LESSONS

### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 31:7-14.

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for

I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*On this day earth shall ring*

*Personent hodie*

**A Reading from the Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a.**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Rejoice greatly from Messiah*  
Sarah Curtis, soloist

George Frideric Handel

## **A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Eddy Lopez

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant and People*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

**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.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. For Michael our presiding bishop, Nicholas our bishop, for all bishops and other ministers; and for the clergy and lay staff of our parish. We join with communities throughout this diocese and pray for The Church of the Epiphany, Rumford.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your care all of those who work for justice, freedom, and peace. We pray for those in our Armed Forces.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray especially for Helen Biancani, Jane Lutz, Karen Cesaro, Beth Hunter, Alex Myers, Steve Mazur, Joe Taylor, Elaine Decker, Canon Dena Cleaver-Bartholomew, Paula A., Mike, Roz, Thomasine Manickas, Janet Kitchen, Kay Derderian, Christopher Gormley, Arlene & Bill Dubois, Joanie B., Cole R., Doreen Gardner, Kerri Turgeon, Samantha Mossey, Sophia Martin, Don B., Paul M., "C", George Graham, Florence & John MacQueen, Maddalyn, Gary & Cindy M., Kathy L., Sue & Mel Awes, Sam Hopp, Wendy, Bob Schulman, Urba Burton, Mackenzie C., Heather M., Neil & Tracy, Spencer Collins, Robbin Mackie, Kusum Singh, Suzie Woodward, Hannah's Family, and Gerald.

And during this time of global pandemic we pray: God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. We pray especially for Liz McClintick and her family and friends in their time of grief.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Silence*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*



# Hymn 115

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
sin - ners here, the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

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### **Participants**

Officiant	The Rev. Timothy T. Rich, Rector
Preacher	Eddy Lopez
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. Tanya Watt, Assistant Rector
Minister of Music	Rodney Ayers
Soloist	Sarah Curtis
Vocal Quintet	Sarah Curtis, Brad Logan, Arielle Rogers, Rob Walsh, Birgitta Whited
Tower Bells	Bruce Dearnaley
First Reading	Ellen Abell
Second Reading	Judi Nichols
Gospel Reading	Caitlyn Holmstedt
Prayers	Laura Sullivan

## **THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S**

### **Sunday, 1/3**

Worship with us online at [stlukeseg.org](http://stlukeseg.org)  
5 pm Social Hour via Zoom

### **Monday, 1/4**

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard

### **Wednesday, 1/6**

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard

### **Friday, 1/8**

10:30-12 EG Food Cupboard

### **Sunday, 1/10**

Worship with us online at [stlukeseg.org](http://stlukeseg.org)

## **Sunday Social Hour At 5 pm**

Zoom Meeting Information:

Meeting ID: 821 2523 6736

Passcode: 852310

Find the link in our Weekly email!

**If you have requested pledge envelopes, they are  
located in the atrium.**

## From the Treasurer

I was in the checkout line the other day, waiting for my turn to approach the register, masked and socially distanced by the stick on feet placed on the floor. It brought me back to the annual meeting last year, where our floors (and walls and many other places, so it seemed) also had stick on feet for that year's commitment drive theme of taking our next step. Who knew we would be trend setters.

October and November were solid months financially. Pledges and gifts have continued in your support of our Parish. With all the good news of vaccines coming, and a potential return to less sickness and a less restrictive lifestyle, there is a reason to hope.

And hope sounds like a pretty good Christmas gift for all of us.

If you can, please help us close out 2020 on a positive note.

	<b>2020 YTD</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2019 YTD</b>	<b>Var</b>
Pledge Income	\$382,778	\$400,000	95.69%	\$419,131	(\$36,353)
Loose Plate	\$17,960	\$17,700	101.47%	\$31,321	(\$13,361)
Other Personal Inc.	\$65,165	\$68,819	94.69%	\$130,517	(\$65,352)
Total Personal Inc.	\$465,903	\$486,519	95.76%	\$580,969	(\$115,066)
Total Other Inc	\$110,133	\$94,533	116.50%	\$47,201	\$62,932
Total Income	\$576,036	\$581,052	99.14%	\$628,170	(\$52,134)
Staff Expenses	\$384,676	\$391,199	98.33%	\$408,644	(\$23,968)
Facilities Expenses	\$102,289	\$111,926	91.39%	\$144,990	(\$42,701)
Program Expenses	\$21,825	\$29,296	74.50%	\$22,739	(\$914)
Outreach Expenses	\$12,067	\$7,506	160.76%	\$7,036	\$5,031
Total Expenses	\$607,610	\$626,658	96.96%	\$668,302	(\$60,692)
Net Income	(\$31,575)	(\$45,607)	69.23%	(\$40,132)	\$8,557

Peace,  
Michael Sullivan

Use your phone to scan this QR code to make an online donation to St. Luke's!



## **Epiphany Pageant**

The Second Sunday of Christmas would usually feature our beloved Epiphany Pageant. While we are unable to safely mount it this year, I invite you to revisit the delightful offering from last year's cast on our Facebook Page. Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/260341840660451/videos/2946535232024582>

I'm already looking forward to bringing back this wonderful tradition next year!

Enjoy!

Rodney

## **12 Days of Christmas Blog!**

Our cup is truly running over, and the enthusiasm for our Advent Blog has spilled over into the season of Christmas. During the 12 Days of Christmas, we have the opportunity to hear from members of our faith community as they reflect on the scripture for the day. Check out our Christmastide Blog at this link: <https://stlukeseg.org/christmas-blog/>

## Deck Your Halls with Dazzling Bonuses for St. Luke's!



Looking for an easy way to shop for and send gifts? RaiseRight ecards and gift cards will help on both accounts! Purchase now to lock in 'Dazzling Bonuses' that will earn up to 17% for St. Luke's. Not only can you lock in these bonuses for Christmas, but they will also apply for early shopping purchases you might consider for upcoming birthdays, special occasions, or general shopping needs. You can even purchase your Giving Tree Walmart gift cards through RaiseRight! With new bonuses every week, there are ample possibilities ...



12%



16%



17%



10.75%



13%



15.75%

So, please, add the RaiseRight app to your phone today and help raise additional funds for St. Luke's! Scan the QR code below to get more details on the app. Most importantly, when downloading the app, please enter the following enrollment code to specify St. Luke's as your charitable organization of choice: FEB88LAC73L81



Create opportunities for what matters most to you—right from your phone. Buy gift cards from 750+ brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's simply the right way to fundraise.



Use the Holiday Gift Guide and take advantage of increased bonus rewards during the upcoming holiday season. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting opportunity to support St. Luke's.

Thank you,  
Mark & Susan Cordle, Deborah Collins & Jeremy Stowe  
Your Faithful RaiseRight Project Team

## **Pastoral Care Ministry**

Prayer is a powerful way for us to support each other and build community. If you would like to add someone to our parish prayer list, please use the online Prayer List Request Form. It is available on our website under our Parish Life tab and in our Weekly Newsletter. The prayer list is updated weekly and available for all of us to view via the link in our Weekly Newsletter. The Pastoral Care Ministry continues to pray for all on the prayer list and send cards to the homebound and those in the hospital. By filling out the information on this form, you will help us to keep in touch.

Thank you and stay well.

The Pastoral Care Ministry

## **St. Luke's Choirs Sing for You!**

As a special gift from the Canterbury, St. Cecilia, and Angel Choirs to our St. Luke's family and friends, choir members compiled a special 'arrangement' of "How Can I Keep From Singing". The music is from an American folk song originally composed by Baptist minister Robert Wadworth Lowry in 1868 with the four-part arrangement published by Jeffrey Honoré in 1991. The choirs performed this piece at their 2019 Spring Concert and happily recreated that performance in this video. Here is the link: <https://stlukeseg.org/virtual-hymn-2020/> (It is also available on St. Luke's website and Facebook page).

## A Birthday Thank You from Tom Greene

Dear St. Luke's Family,

Thank you so much for the many cards and good wishes I received for my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. I've lost count of how many cards came to my mailbox, but I am filled with gratitude for each of them.

I look forward to the time when we can all gather in person to worship at our beloved church, and I can thank you in person.

In the meantime, I wish you good health, and all good things in the New Year.

With deep appreciation,  
Thomas Casey Greene

## Big Brothers and Big Sisters Donations



In our continuing efforts to be a good neighbor and serve our local community, we have added a new addition to the St Luke's parking lot! The clothing bin is a result of joining in a new partnership between the Episcopal Diocese and Big Brother Big Sister of Rhode Island. It will serve as a collection point for community donations of clothing, shoes and other cloth items. Please drop off your bagged items at your convenience.