

Welcome! As our Lord Jesus Christ said, Peace be with you. Wherever you come from and wherever you are on your journey of faith, we are glad you are with us. Let us enter into God's presence together.

Advent 2

December 7, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Watch and subscribe on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQdMrwgOpQqS6vn68WMxhow>

Prelude

“Prepare the way, O Zion”

Michael D. Costello

Opening Hymn

“Comfort, comfort ye my people”

Hymnal #67

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Advent Wreath Lighting & Kyrie

A short reading introduces the candle lighting:

The word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

(Luke 3:2b–6)

During the Kyrie, the Advent candles will be lit.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a Cantor part and an Assembly part. The Cantor parts are written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Assembly parts are written on a double staff with a treble and bass clef, also in the key of one sharp. The lyrics are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The melody is a simple, flowing line with eighth and quarter notes.

Cantor: Lord, have mer - cy. *Assembly:* Lord, have mer - cy.
Cantor: Christ, have mer - cy. *Assembly:* Christ, have mer - cy.
Cantor: Lord, have mer - cy. *Assembly:* Lord, have mer - cy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All may be seated

First Lesson

(Isaiah 11:1-10)

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

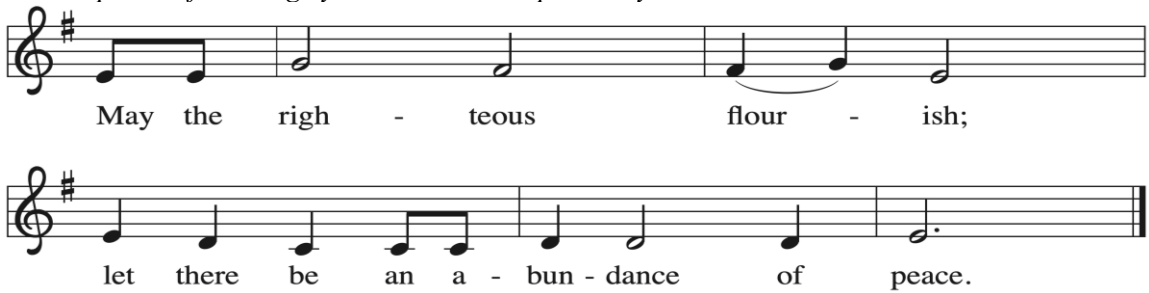
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall
inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The antiphon is first sung by a cantor, then repeated by all.



The verses are sung by a cantor. All sing the antiphon where indicated.

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the kings son;
²that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. *Antiphon*
⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.
⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!
¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen. *Antiphon*

Text from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006

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The Second Lesson

(Romans 15:4:13)

Reader A Reading from the book of Romans

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the

God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

“ Rejoice! rejoice, believers”

Hymn #68

The Gospel

(Matthew 3:1-12)

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
<i>People</i>	Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<i>Reader</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Matthew L. Buterbaugh

Please stand.

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

Prayers of the People

The person appointed says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world, praying "Come, O Lord, and save us".

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may

agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We pray unto thee:
Come, O Lord, and save us.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Matthew our own Bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. We pray unto thee:
Come, O Lord, and save us.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present, and to the staff, volunteers and guests of the Hospitality Center, Racine Vocational Ministries, and the Brown Bag Lunch; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald the President of the United States, Tony the Governor of Wisconsin, and Cory the Mayor of Racine, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [_____ and] all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

We give thanks to thee for all the blessings of our lives, [especially: _____]. We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially _____], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Luke, blessed James DeKoven, all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy

heavenly kingdom. We pray unto thee:

Come, O Lord, and save us.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says the following

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Minister then says one the following sentence, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

The Peace *All stand.*

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

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with the following sentence of Scripture

Worthy art thou, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou hast created all things, and by thy will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

Offertory “Comfort, comfort ye my people” Timothy Albrecht
Quoting the theme from Handel “Messiah” recitative ‘Comfort ye my People’

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

If you would like to donate to the ministry of St. Luke's online, please scan this QR code:



Celebrant All things come of Thee, O Lord
People **And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer, Page 340

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

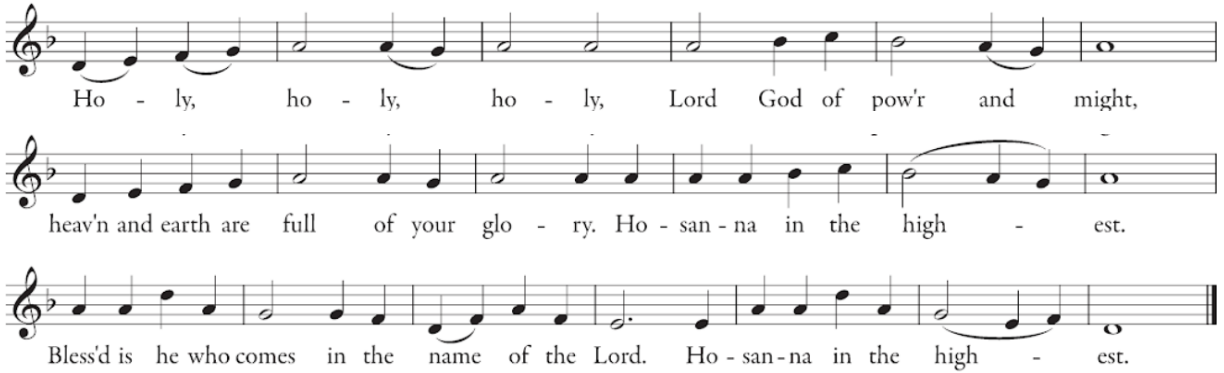
People

It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

... Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus

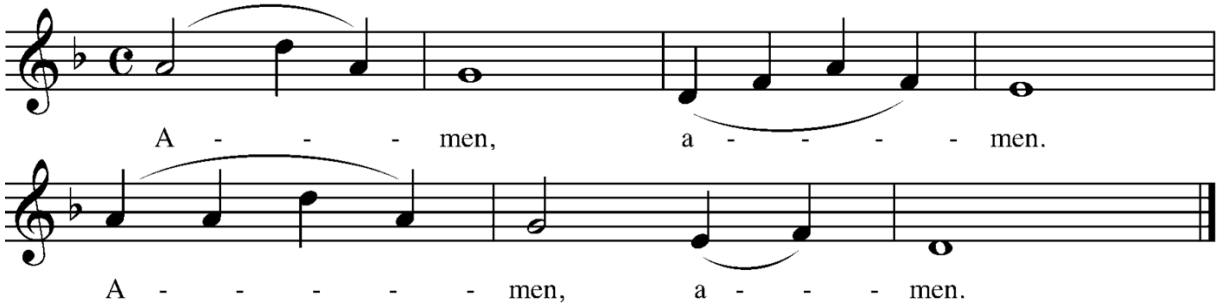


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image . . .

...By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.



A - - - men, a - - - men.
A - - - men, a - - - men.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People:

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed

be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our

dai - ly bread. and for - give us our tres - pas - ses,

as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead

us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us

from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,

and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

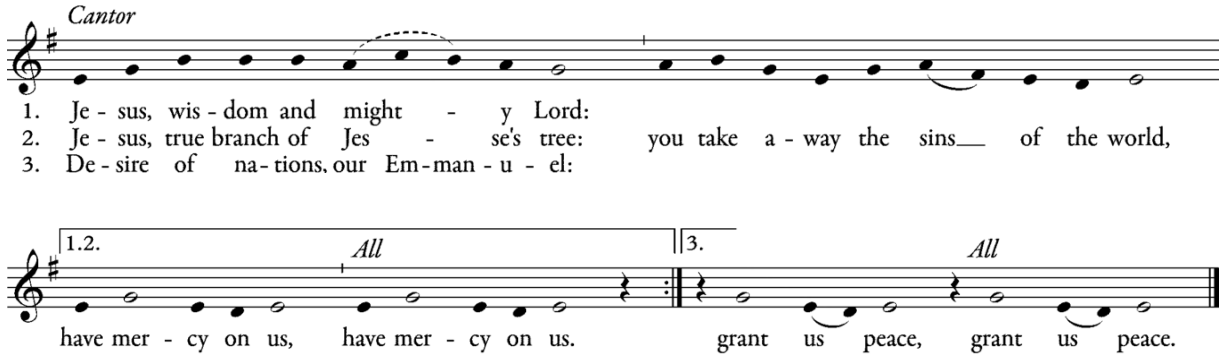
Setting: Plainsong; Adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept

Cantor



1. Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord:
2. Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: you take a - way the sins of the world,
3. De - sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el:

1.2. *All* have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. 3. *All* grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

*In the Episcopal Church, all are welcome at the table of the Lord.
If you have been baptized in any Christian tradition, you may receive communion. If you have not been baptized, you are welcome to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you would like to receive a blessing or to indicate that you do not want to receive the bread or wine.*

Communion Hymn

"Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming"

Hymnal #81

Post-communion Prayer

Please kneel or stand

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray

Celebrant and People

Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards

us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace that we may continue in that holy fellowship and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Sending out of Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant (Name), we send you out to share Communion this week with (Name).
People **May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ’s presence.**
Celebrant May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ.
All **Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn “O day of peace that dimly shines” Hymnal #597

Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude “O Day of Peace” Mark Sedio

We welcome you in the name of the Risen Lord. Please join us for fellowship in Simpson Hall immediately following the service – coffee, juice, and snacks are available.

TODAY'S MINISTERS

ACOLYTE/S: Roger Mertins

ALTAR GUILD: Debbie Bruno

FIRST READER: Cindy Ganzel

SECOND READER: Mabel DuPriest

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Becky Turk

PARISH PERSON OF THE DAY: Jessica MacPhail

USHERS: Becky Turk, Debbie Bruno

CANTOR: Jim Cook

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER: Jessica MacPhail

COFFEE HOUR: Birthday Sunday

NEXT WEEK COFFEE HOUR: St. Monica's Guild

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For our Parish

For those who are Sick or in Need or Homebound

Bethany, Laandan, Tony, Ron, Gerald, Jean, Olivia, Katie, Sally,
Heather, Leah, George, Gregory, Andrea, DaMary, Elaine, Monte, John

Homebound: Barbara, Jeanne, Bill

For the Episcopal Ministries in Racine:

Congregations of St. Luke's and St. Michael's

Brown Bag Ministry

Diocese of Wisconsin Hospitality Center

Racine Vocational Ministry

The DeKoven Center

For the Church: In the World

The Church of Bangladesh

St. Marc's Church & school in Jeanette, Haiti

Cadnet Ednerson and Charline Irossaint

Thanksgiving for Birthday

Judy

Special Offerings

Cash or checks in the offering that are not designated for regular needs will be given to the following **Hospitality Center**. Thank you for your generous support of this ministry.

Last week **Altar flowers** were given by David Groth to the glory of God and in honor of his friend, Tom.

Altar flowers are given by Geoffrey Greeley to the glory of God.

Christmas at DeKoven

The Dekoven Center at 2000 Wisconsin Ave. Racine is proudly to present their first annual Christmas Community Celebration & Holiday Market this Sunday, December 7 from 11am – 4pm. They will have holiday gifts and market, sweet treats, hot drinks, Horlick Madrigal Choir will be performing, photo with Santa and Mrs. Clause, raffle, gingerbread house making competition and live entertainment. All sponsored by The Episcopal Diocese of Wisconsin and Racine County. Stop by and enjoy!

Salvation Army Angel Tags

The people of St. Luke's have participated in the Salvation Army Angel Tree program for close to 40 years. Local families are referred to the Salvation Army for help providing Christmas gifts. Angel tags will be available in the Parish Hall following worship for the next several weeks and include age, gender, and desired Christmas gift.

- You can help by taking an Angel tag, purchasing a gift, and returning it to St. Luke's by Sunday, December 14, 2025.
- Suggested amount to spend is \$25. Please return all gifts unwrapped!
- If you would like to participate but are unable to shop, please contact Cindy Ganzel and she will gladly shop on your behalf

The gifts will be taken to the Salvation Army in Racine by the deadline for pickup by the Angel families. Thank you for helping to brighten the life of a Racine child this Christmas!

Christmas Flowers and Music

The gorgeous poinsettias on the altar at Christmas are only possible through the generosity of parishioners and parish groups. If you would like to make a donation in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones, please make out a check to St. Luke's and put "Christmas Flowers" on memo line. Envelopes are available, or you can mail your donation to the parish office. Please be sure to include the names of person(s) and/or the reason (thanksgiving or memorial) the flowers are being given. Donations towards the music program and Christmas singers are

also welcome. Please indicate if the donation is for Christmas flowers, Christmas music, or to split between both. Thank you!

The Haiti Partnership Bake Sale and Craft Fair is Back!

Date: Sunday, December 21

Time: Following the 10 am Worship Service

Place: Simpson Hall

The following will be available for sale:

- Baked goods
- Haiti Singing Rooster coffee
- Haitian metal art- including ornaments and Christmas items

All proceeds will go to the Haiti Partnership to support St. Marc's School in Jeanette, Haiti, which includes the school lunch program, health clinic, and clean water initiatives. You can help by providing baked goods to sell, purchasing baked goods, Haitian art or coffee, or donating to the cause as you are able. Thank you!!

Estimate of Giving

If you have not filled out an Estimate of Giving pledge sheet for 2026, and would still like to, they will be available on the clip board by the door to Simpson Hall for the remainder of the year. They can be dropped in the offertory plate. You can also fill one out anytime online by scanning this code:



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Matthew L. Buterbaugh – Rector curiouspriest@gmail.com

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Eggert, Affiliated Clergy njeggert@gmail.com

Deacon Bob Bagley rbagley43@wi.rr.com

Martha Guzman – Parish Administrator stlukesracine@gmail.com

Deacon John Weit – Director of Music and Organist john.e.weit@gmail.com

Yusuf Buckley – Christian Formation Director

VESTRY

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Marshall Cushman - Jr. Warden cushmanct9@gmail.com

Wally Herman - Treasurer

Jessica MacPhail, Mick Burke, Mabel DuPriest, Roger Mertins,

Ed McCarthy, Chris Schatzman, Wally Herman

