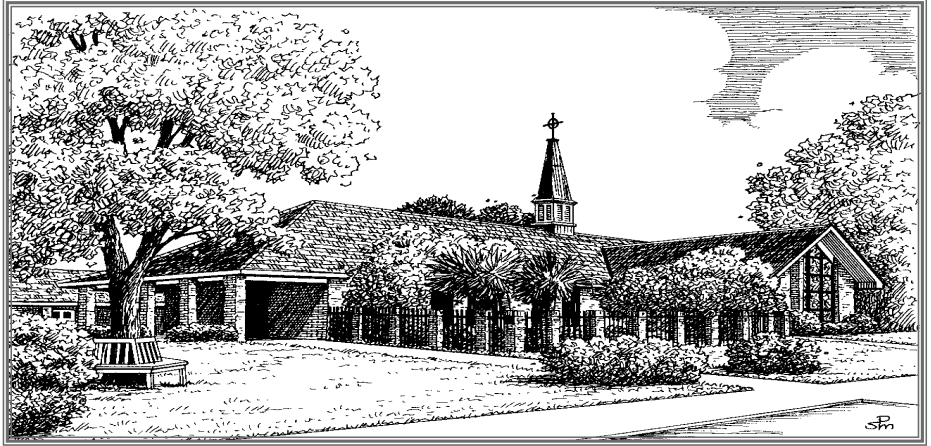


# ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8833 Goodwood Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
www.stlukesbr.org 225.926.5343 www.stlukesbrschool.org

December 14, 2025—10:00 a.m.  
Third Sunday of Advent



*Worshipping God; Caring for others; Growing in Christ.*

(Romans 12:1; Galatians 5:14; Ephesians 4:15)

The Reverend Dr. Bryan Owen, Rector

The Reverend Trish Toburen, Associate Rector & Chaplain

## ***Mission Statement:***

*“We are a community committed to caring for one another,  
to spiritual growth, and to bringing others closer  
to God through Jesus Christ.”*

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD FROM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

*The following is sung by the Congregation, all standing*

Opening Hymn

No. 76

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

*The Celebrant may read a sentence of scripture.*

*The Deacon or Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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.

*The Priest, stands and says*

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 following is sung by the Congregation.*

# Kyrie eleison

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e  
e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -  
le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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

## Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## First Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.  
He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall  
go astray.

No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,  
and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader            The Word of the Lord.  
People            Thanks be to God.

## Canticle #15

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

## Second Lesson

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader            The Word of the Lord.  
People            Thanks be to God.

*All stand and remain standing for the Gospel.*

*The following is sung by the Congregation.*

Sequence Hymn

No. 444

Blessed Be the God of Isreal

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

Deacon or Priest    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
                         according to Matthew.  
People                Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon or Priest    The Gospel of the Lord.  
People                Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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 Form II

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Shannon Duckworth; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed

Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

**The peace of the Lord be always with you.**

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

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another.*



## Announcements

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Archer

People, Look East

Doxology

Hymn No. 380, v.3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

And also with you.

*Celebrant*

Lift up your hearts.

*People*

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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

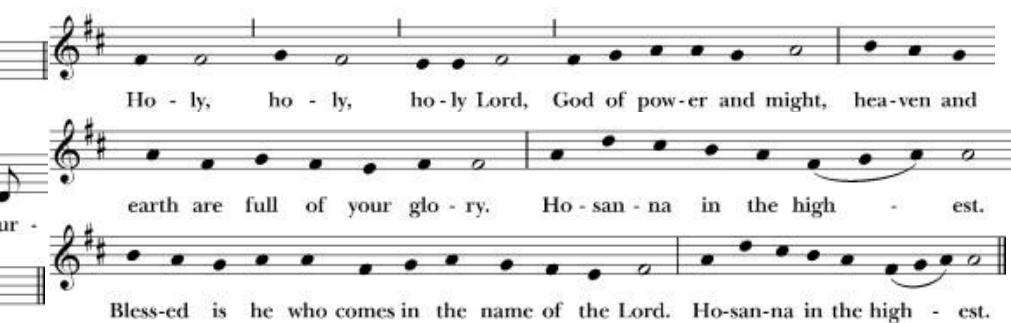
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is said by the Celebrant who then continues with*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*The following is sung by the Congregation.*

## Sanctus



*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

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,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory.

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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 forever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

*Celebrant and People*

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,

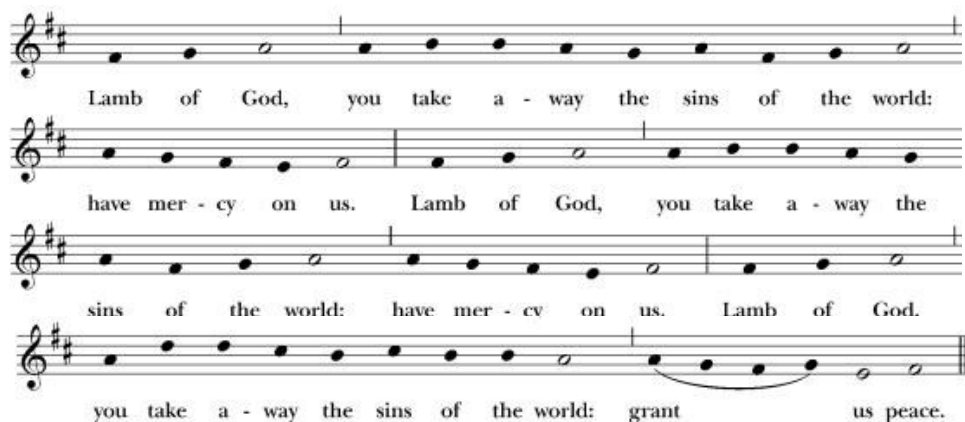
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

## Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God



*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**Receiving Holy Communion** - All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion in The Episcopal Church.

*The following is sung by the Congregation.*

Communion Hymn No. 640  
Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Communion Hymn No. 615  
Thy Kingdom Come! On Bended Knee

*When there is a dismissal of Lay Eucharistic Visitors, the following form is used:*

## Dismissal of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

*The Celebrant and People say together:*

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many share one bread, one cup, because we are one Body in Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

## Post Communion Prayer

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people*

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.*

## Blessing

*The priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

*The following is sung by the Congregation, all standing*

## Closing Hymn

No. 68

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

## Dismissal

*A Deacon or Priest says the Dismissal*

*The People respond:*        Thanks be to God.



## Lay Ministers Serving Today

### Acolyte

Blake Binck

Katie Boone

Tinsley Boone

### Altar Guild

Donna Berry  
Jeanmarie Hinkle  
Cheryl Patterson

Luanne Pusateri  
Wanda Halkett  
Debbie Boies

### Lector

Mike Gaudet

### LEM

Courtney Breaux  
Becky Williams

Tessie Edmonds

### MC

Karsten Thompson

### Usher

Lacy Howe  
David Palmer

Tyler deFrances  
Pat Van Burkleo

### LEV

Mary Lee Bass

### Greeter

Carlie Boone

Amy Binck

### Flower Guild

Loree Fields

### **Parish Choir**

Jennie Bae	Dr. Jo Ann Puissegur
Skyler Bluemel	Robin Sills
Owen Cope	Sarah Stogner-Dickinson
Sharon Delamar	Ben Thomas
Margie Gaudet	Laura Thomas
Don Hill	Nina Wachter
Steve Irving	Dr. Richard Webb
Keith James	Dr. Mark Zielinski
Jennifer Johnson	Rhonda Zielinski
Cody King	Wilma Loe, Accompanist
Katherine Norton	Terry R. Bowman, Director

### **Hospitality Team**

Marianne Denker	Robin Coever
Joanne Carver	Jean Blanche
Brookie Allphin	Robin Sills
Jason Danos	Carolyn Grace Millet
Mary Leteff	Brittany Allphin-Smith
Rob Hawkins	Wanda Halkett
Bridget Collins	Margo Gonzalez
Jackie Lawless	Chinyere Agu
Wilma Desselle	

### **Vestry**

Joe Kahler-Sr. Warden	Sharon Edmon
Courtney Breaux-Jr. Warden	Steve Irving
Janie Braud-Secretary	Adam MacDowell
Lacey Allphin Anderson	Gloria McKenzie
Brian Binck	David Palmer
Gordon Denker	Laura Thomas

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE  
GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY  
HER FAMILY  
IN MEMORY OF JOHNNELL RUSH ALLPHIN  
ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH