



St. Lawrence

Episcopal Church

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS:
HOLY EUCHARIST
January 4, 2026
9:00 AM

Prelude


Wie schön leuchtet (How Brightly Shines the Morning Star), D. Buxtehude

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn

We three kings of Orient are


Hymnal 60



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
3 owns a De - i - ty night; prayer and prais - ing,
4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night,



star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,



Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891), alt.; Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891)

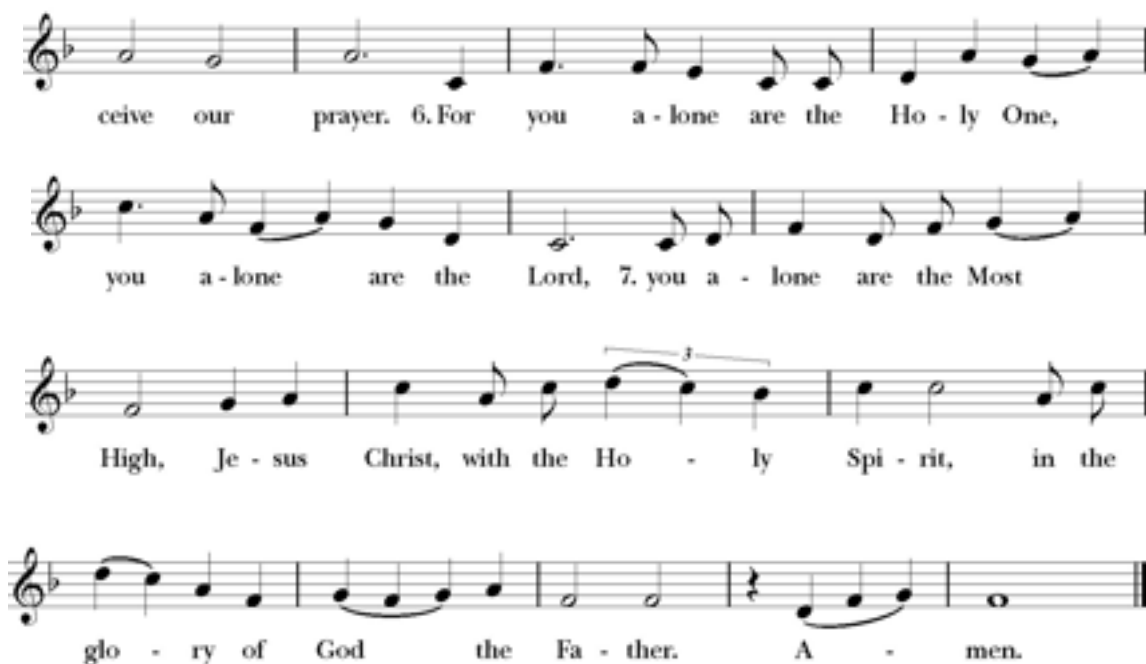
Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God, who has come among us to dwell.

All **Blessed be God, Immanuel.**

Gloria

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



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Collect

Presider May God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Reader 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

All

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84 *(spoken together)*

All

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts! ***
My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;
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 God of hosts,
my Ruler 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; *
 the God of gods will be revealed in Zion.**
- 7 O 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,**

Text: Order of Saint Helena, © 2006, Church Publishing, Inc.

Second Reading

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.

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heav - en - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 veiled in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

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The Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Gospeler
All

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the

teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily

The Rev. Kristin Saylor

The Nicene Creed

Presider Let us proclaim our faith by saying together the Nicene Creed

All **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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

Presider On this holy day in which God joins heaven and earth, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those in need, saying: O God of wonder, hear our prayer.

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church around the world as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Bless all those who are entrusted with Christian ministry that your Word might be proclaimed with truth and courage across our world. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray that your wisdom be granted to all who govern, that in honoring the earth and its diverse races, cultures, and religions, we may celebrate the light of this holy day. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray for all victims of religious oppression, ignorance, injustice or intolerance; and all who are afraid. Grant reconciliation to those surrounded with conflict and violence everywhere, that they may live in the peace of this holy day. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray for all who are cold, hungry, or alone this day. Embrace with your tender care all who wander alone or have no place to lay their head, they may experience the hope of this holy day. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray for all who are anxious, depressed, or ill. Draw near to those who find this season a source of pain or grief, and to all who are suffering or sick, those who we now remember either aloud or in our hearts. May they feel the comfort of this holy day. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray for parents, families, and newborn infants. Strengthen families in the bonds of love and commitment, that they may delight in the joy of this holy day. O God of wonder.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us pray for ourselves and for the blessings of Christmas. Open our hearts to your presence, that we may be transformed by the new birth of this holy day. O God of wonder,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Let us give thanks for all the faithful departed who have been bearers of the Word made flesh especially those who we now name. Give us grace to follow your holy ones in lives of faith and commitment that we may join with the hosts of heaven in singing the praises of this holy day. O God of wonder,

All **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Good and gracious God, on this holy day you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy day draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host, that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God forever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Offertory Music

The First Nowell

Hymnal 109

The musical score for 'The First Nowell' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef), both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The lyrics are arranged in five parts, numbered 1 through 5. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system covers the next three lines. The lyrics are as follows:

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full rev - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5 their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Words: English Carol, 18th cent.; Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1841-1901); Meter: Irr. with Refrain

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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, born of 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 (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

All **We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Lawrence and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

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Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

Ushers will guide you to the front of the congregation, where you will have the option to receive regular or gluten-free bread.

We offer two options for receiving wine. If you wish to drink directly from the common cup, please proceed to the communion ministers holding chalices, directly next to the bread stations. If you wish to receive by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine), please proceed to the external communion stations, where you will find Eucharistic ministers holding intinction bowls.

Communion Music

I want to walk as a child of the light

Hymnal 490

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
 I want to look at Je-sus.
 I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa-tience the race, and we

star of my life is the Je-sus.
 show me the way to the Fa-ther.
 shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus,

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934); Music: *Houston*, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934); Words and Music © 1970, 1975, Celebration. Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

The sending forth of Eucharistic Visitors

When Eucharistic Visitors are sent out the following words are used.

All **In the name of God and 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. We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All **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

Presider May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

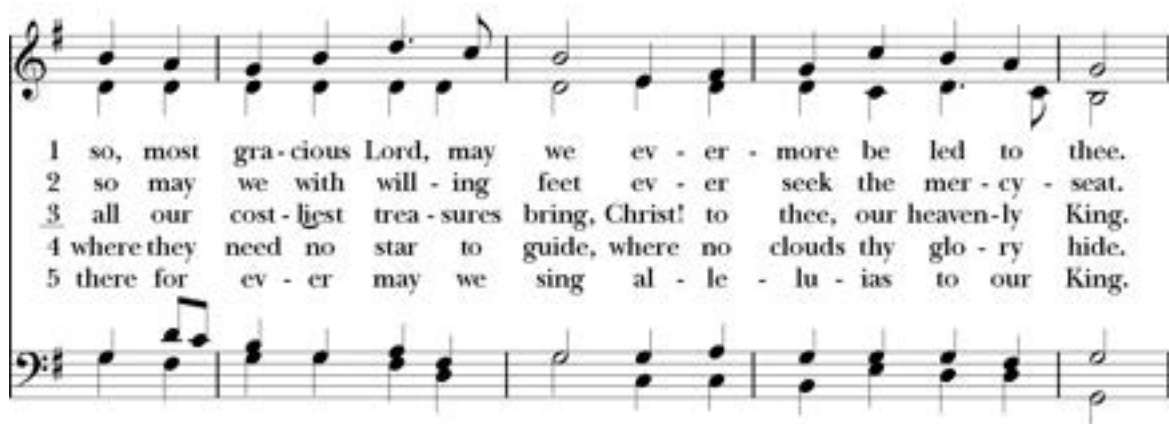
Closing Hymn

As with gladness men of old

Hymnal 119

1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;
4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav - en - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:



Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898); Music: *Dix*, melody Conrad Kocher (1786–1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823–1889); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

WELCOME!

New to St. Lawrence? Please complete the top part of the newcomers card found in the pews and either drop it in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

If you need assistance with the Hear Aid Loop, please see an usher.

Welcome to the **Soft Space!**

This special area is for children age 5 and under a cozy place to wiggle, wonder, and worship.
 Here, little ones can experience our liturgy, worship, and communion
 in a comfortable and engaging way.
 Here, little ones can feel at home in God's presence just as they are!

Join us for coffee hour in the narthex immediately following the service

Those attending a worship service at St. Lawrence are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur on behalf of St. Lawrence. Please be aware that these images may be used for promotional purposes, including on our website or social media, without obtaining express written permission.

Community Prayers

The Universal Church, its members and its mission; The Church of the Province of Central Africa; and for our Companion Dioceses of Southeast Mexico and Renk

The concerns of the local community, especially those who are affected by gun violence

Those who suffer and are in any trouble and those who have requested our prayers: Sherry, Joe, Celeste, Danny, Kristine, Valorie, Craig, Jane, Evelyn, Cara, Debi, Jack, Carl, Steve, Tom, Robin, Duke, Phyliss, Mike, Ruth, Dirimar, Danielys, Wilquer, Benjamin, John, Kathy, Kay, Jennie, Nick

We pray for those who are incarcerated, especially: Karlondo, Jermain, Christino, Maurice, Rickie, Apolinar

We pray for those awaiting children, especially: Diana and Shane; Ashton and Cory

We give thanks for the arrival of children.

We pray for those who have died.

For those who have lost loves ones, especially: the Smith family, the Frank family

We pray for our beloved animal companions, especially: Buster, Oreo

We pray for peace and healing in our nation and the world.

We pray that peace and justice may come soon in places of war and conflict, and for all whose life of service puts them at risk; and for all victims of religious, racial and gender oppression throughout the world.

If you have a loved one you would like mentioned in the Prayers of the People list, please write their first name on the clipboard located at the rear of the church. You may also visit www.stlawrencechurch.org and click on "worship" and look for "Online Prayer Group". Names are checked and updated weekly and refreshed every month.





St. Lawrence
Episcopal Church

125 West Church Street
Libertyville, IL 60048
847 362-2110 • www.stlawrencechurch.org