

Baptism & Holy Eucharist

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

10:00 AM



Saint Luke's Parish
Darien, Connecticut

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship today. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this leaflet. Ushers are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About Today's Service

We continue to celebrate the Great 50 Days of Eastertide, which stretch from Easter Day to the Day of Pentecost. This Fourth Sunday of Easter is also traditionally called Good Shepherd Sunday.

The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd of his people is one of the most famous in all the New Testament. It echoes the use of the shepherd image throughout the Hebrew scriptures to express the care God has for all people. Very early in the church's life, it was also an image connected with Holy Baptism. In Baptism, the Good Shepherd claims us as his own forever.

In the Book of Revelation, a portion of which is read this year on every Sunday of Easter, we hear today the description of the gathering of all the redeemed. Their white robes are the sign that they have been baptized, for in earlier times the newly baptized were clothed in white. This custom is preserved in many places with christening gowns. The redeemed rejoice, for Christ is in their midst as the Good Shepherd.

Our reading from Acts today describes the ongoing work of the risen Christ through the church. Peter raises Tabitha from death. The great excitement which the early Christians felt was their discovery that Jesus continues to live in his faithful people.

As in John's vision of the heavenly worship so in our Eucharistic gathering Christ the Good Shepherd stands in our midst leading us to the springs of the water of life.

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The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Baptism & Holy Eucharist

In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayers,
please observe silence upon entering the church.

"Be still and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10

Opening Voluntary

Rector's Welcome

Hymn 205 "Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!" *Gelobt sei Gott*

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson | Acts 9:36-43

Pew Bible, NT p. 98

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please

come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Psalm 23

Sung by the Choir.

The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Text: Psalm 23
Music: Howard Goodall (b. 1958)

The Second Lesson | Revelation 7:9-17

Pew Bible, NT p. 196

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Gospel Acclamation *Sung by all, standing*



| | |
|---------------|---|
| <i>Cantor</i> | Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. |
| <i>People</i> | Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. |
| <i>Cantor</i> | My sheep hear my voice. I know them, I give them eternal life, and |
| <i>People</i> | Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. |

The Gospel | John 10:22-30 Pew Bible, NT p. 79

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

Holy Baptism

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

**Halston Lynn Baldwin
James Thomas Schwab
Peter Martin Schwab
Josephine Fairbairn Small**

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and
Godparents* I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented, the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and
Godparents* I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and
Godparents* I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People
We will.

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant *Please stand.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Celebrant Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant concludes the prayers by saying,

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People

Amen.

Please be seated.

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who says,

*N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

*N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.***

*N., receive this candle and be as the light of Christ in the world. **Amen.***

When all have been baptized, please stand and join in the following prayer.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.

Celebrant

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

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

The Clergy and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. To make an electronic gift today, please either visit www.saintlukesdarien.org/give or scan the QR code below with your smart phone's camera. Thank you for your generosity.



Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

-Psalm 50:14

Offertory Anthem

Sung by the Choir.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

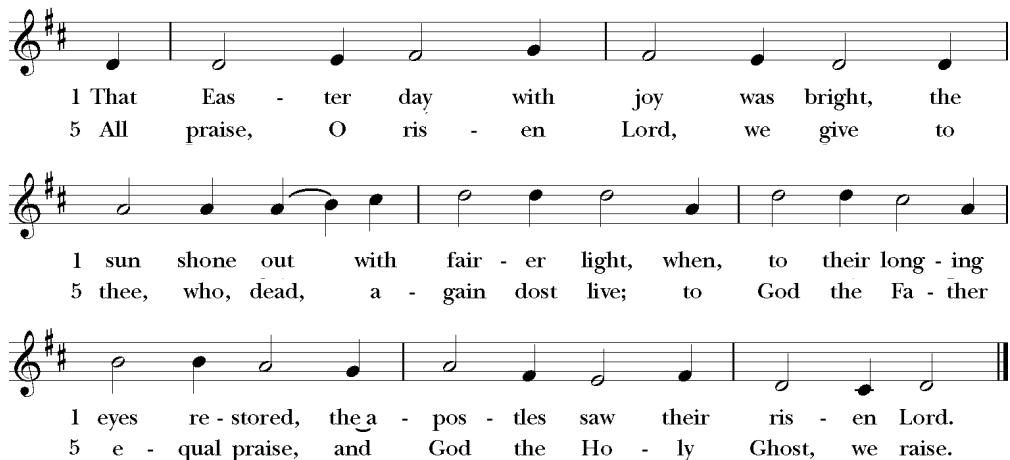
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
For you are with me, you will comfort me,
You are with me, you will comfort me.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Music: Howard Goodall (b. 1958)

Presentation Hymn

Sung by all.



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the
 5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
 5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther

1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Text: Latin, 5th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*

Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571–1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; alt. acc. John F. Erickson (b. 1938)

The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant 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.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Setting: William Matthias (1934-1992)

The people remain standing as 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.

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,

All

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

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 the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Luke, and 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 for ever.

All

AMEN.

Celebrant

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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 *Sung by all.*

This setting is not used in Lent.

Setting: David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion, regardless of age or denomination. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please request one. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Hymn 645 "The King of love my shepherd is" *St. Columba*

The Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.
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.

The Easter Blessing

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 708 "Savior, like a shepherd lead us" *Sicilian Mariners*

The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Closing Voluntary

Altar flowers are given today to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Ruth Dorfmeyer from her daughter, Martha Rhein.

Participants in Today's Service

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Ansley E. Walker |
| Preacher | The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor |
| Deacon | The Rev. Charles G. Martin |
| Assisting | The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim The Rev. G. Hartwell Hylton |
| Children's Chapel | The Rev. Susan C. Wyper |
| Lectors | Gavin Doody, Rusty Martin |
| Intercessor | Mark Campbell |
| Chalice Bearers | Janes Lyons, Judy Barnett, Peter Wells |
| Acolytes | Will Moore, Benjamin Sweet, Jack Douglas, Reid Faulkner, Poppy Douglas, Reagan Faulkner |
| Ushers | Al Briganti, Ben Ruffel, Bill Castell, Howard Courtemanche, Joe Steuert, John Wall |
| Musicians | David Pulliam, Oak Martin and the Saint Luke's Parish Choir |
| Altar Guild | Kristen Nelson, Kinsey Ferguson, Nancy Hooper, Jessica Fogg |
| Flower Guild | Susan Dolep, Rosemary Roberto, Liza Smith |
| Flower Delivery | Elizabeth Brown Roach |

Prayer List

For the Church

In our Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

In our Diocese, we pray for Intentional Episcopal Communities in Connecticut, including the Episcopal Church at Yale, Seabury Retirement community, Haven community & All Saints Parish prayer groups, intercessory prayer chains, healing prayer groups, parish & community bible studies.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for the staff at Saint Luke's Parish.

Those who have requested our prayers

For members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble: Charlie, Cody, Lauren, Anne, Foster, Joel, Nathan, Desi, Mary, Chloe, Christian, George, Joleen, Quay, Elizabeth, Jim, Michael, Debbie, Anne, Sophie, Fred, Steven, Tim and his children, Bill, Amanda, Samantha, Kerry and Gillian, Beth, Ellen, Jack, Jim, Ed, Brad, Ed, Ellen, Wendy and Charlotte, John, Kelly, Marshall, Enzo, Barbara, Ronald, Cindy, Fletcher, Leslie and Jane

In our Outreach cycle of prayer, we pray for Homefront all their homeowners, staff and volunteers.

Those who have died

All whom we love but see no more.

All who have died in civil and military conflict around the world, especially in the Holy Land, Sudan, and Ukraine.

About these Prayers

Saint Luke's is a community committed to prayer. Holding one another's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice at the heart of our life together. We encourage you to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family. We invite you to add yourself or others to the Saint Luke's prayer list by submitting a prayer request card or notifying the Parish Office at 203-655-1456 or info@saintlukesdarien.org.

Pastoral Visits

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. We often have no other way of knowing a visit is needed. Please email a member of the clergy or call the Parish Office.

Flowers

The Flower Guild adorns the church with flowers and greens thanks to donations given in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for special occasions. The names are listed in the service bulletins. If you would like to make a gift of flowers, please contact Aynsley Joyce at 203-655-1456 or aynsleyjoyce@gmail.com.

Saint Luke's Parish

A parish in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut,
a member of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop of Connecticut
The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

Rector

The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

2025-2026 Vestry

Beverly Kelsey, *Senior Warden*

David Martin, *Treasurer*

Bill Bowman, *Junior Warden*

Fred Elliott, *Clerk*

Class of 2026

Al Briganti

Whitney Cruetz

Barbara May

Class of 2027

Eric Bickford

Victoria Bolton

Lida Ward

Class of 2028

Barclay Bowen

Bion Piepmeier

Tammy Sload

Assisting Clergy and Program Staff

Erika Caputo

Director of Children's Ministries

The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim

Associate Rector

Lyle Foster

Facilities Manager

H. David Pulliam

Director of Music and Organist

Dee Fumega

Office Manager

The Rev. Ansley E. Walker

Associate Rector

The Rev. Charles G. Martin

Seminarian Intern

Kelly Wheeler

Director of Engagement

Oak Martin

Associate Organist

Ron Wilson

Director of Finance

Amy O'Kane

Director of Communications

The Rev. Susan C. Wyper

Pastoral Associate

Priest Associate

The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann

The Rev. G. Hartwell Hylton

Campus Partners

Elizabeth Hearle

Parish School Director

Nancy Coughlin

Director of Person-to-Person



Saint Luke's Parish

Grow
Love
Serve

Our Vision

A world transformed by the love of Jesus Christ for all people.

Our Mission

Living together as disciples of Christ, we seek to:

Grow personally in faith,
acknowledging our imperfection and need of grace;

Build an accepting & transforming community,
extending God's unconditional welcome to all;

Work alongside our neighbors,
forming partnerships to serve the world.

Let it begin with me.

Our Invitation

Grow in love of God.

Love your neighbor as yourself.

Serve the world in Christ's name.

1864 Post Road, Darien, CT 06820 | 203-655-1456

saintlukesdarien.org