



SAINT LUKE'S PARISH
1864 Post Road, Darien, Connecticut 06820

FEAST OF DEDICATION | KICKOFF SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

8:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

PREACHER: *The Reverend Ryan C. Fleenor*
CELEBRANT: *The Reverend Derek J. Stefanovsky*

The Tower Bells

Please stand as the clergy and worship leaders enter.

The Word of God

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshiped in this place, and we pray that all who seek you here may find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

I Kings 8:22-30

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, ‘O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, “There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.” Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

‘But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, “My name shall be there”, that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 84:1-6

Spoken in unison.

- 1 ***How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!****
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 ***The sparrow has found her an house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;***
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 ***Happy are they who dwell in your house!****
they will always be praising you.
- 4 ***Happy are the people whose strength is in you!****
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims’ way.
- 5 ***Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,****
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 ***They will climb from height to height,****
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

The Second Lesson

I Peter 2:1-5, 9-10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

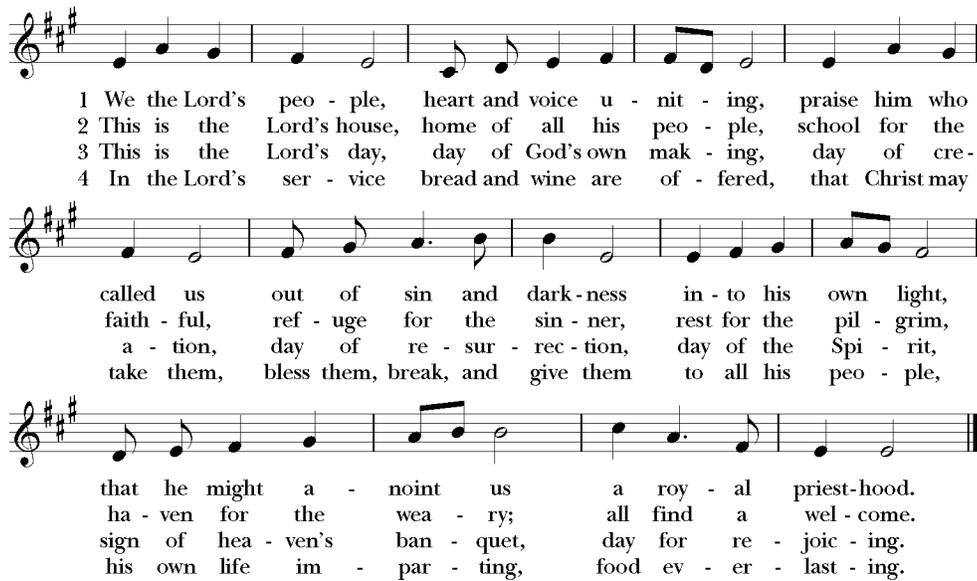
Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 51

Please meditate on the text and music while refraining from singing with the soloist.



1 We the Lord's peo - ple, heart and voice u - nit - ing, praise him who
2 This is the Lord's house, home of all his peo - ple, school for the
3 This is the Lord's day, day of God's own mak - ing, day of cre -
4 In the Lord's ser - vice bread and wine are of - fered, that Christ may
called us out of sin and dark - ness in - to his own light,
faith - ful, ref - uge for the sin - ner, rest for the pil - grim,
a - tion, day of re - sur - rec - tion, day of the Spi - rit,
take them, bless them, break, and give them to all his peo - ple,
that he might a - noint us a roy - al priest - hood.
ha - ven for the wea - ry; all find a wel - come.
sign of hea - ven's ban - quet, day for re - joic - ing,
his own life im - par - ting, food ev - er - last - ing.

Text: J.E. Bowers (1923—1987)

Music: Decatur Place, Richard Wayne Dirksen (1921—2003)

The Gospel

Matthew 21:12-16

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you are making it a den of robbers."

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself?'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Ryan C. Fleenor

The Nicene Creed

Said by all, standing.

***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.*

A Litany of Thanksgiving for a Church

BCP, 578-579

Let us thank God whom we worship here in the beauty of holiness.

Eternal God, the heaven of heavens cannot contain you, much less the walls of temples made with hands. Graciously receive our thanks for this place, and accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory.

For the Church universal, of which these visible buildings are the symbol, *We thank you, Lord.*

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered together in your Name, *We thank you, Lord.*

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God, *We thank you, Lord.*

For making us your children by adoption and grace, and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life. *We thank you, Lord.*

For the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the pardon of our sins, which restores us to the company of your faithful people, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the faith of those who have gone before us and for our encouragement by their perseverance, *We thank you, Lord.*

For the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Luke, our patron, and of all your Saints, *We thank you, Lord.*

Lord, we pray for our own needs and those of others.

Your prayers are invited, aloud or silently. The Celebrant concludes with the following Doxology,

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty;
For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom;
And you are exalted as head over all. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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 Celebrant 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.*

Maintaining proper physical distancing, we greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

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 a gift today, please either visit www.saintlukesdarien.org/give, scan the QR code below with your phone, or drop an offering in the designated boxes this morning. Thank you for your generosity.



The Offertory Anthem

“Brother James’ Air”
Daniel McGrew, *tenor*

arr. Brian Dean

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand.

Enriching Our Worship 1

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. Through Jesus Christ our great High Priest; in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before you a sacrifice of praise and prayer which is holy and pleasing in your sight. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please remain standing.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People,

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of all your children, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Luke, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now as our Savior 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

In union, dear God, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my self, my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I tie myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live, now and forever, in your love. Amen.

Silence is kept.

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 Blessing

Like living stones, precious in God's sight, may you be built up into a temple of Christ's presence and a sign of Christ's peace in the world. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Tower Bells

*You will be dismissed by ushers. For your health and safety,
please abide by Saint Luke's guidelines by maintaining physical distancing
and wearing a mask while on the church campus.*

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory
of The Rev. Albert M. Holloway, Bertha K. Holloway and David K. Holloway
by Ginny and Joe Lovas; and in loving memory of Neil H. Van Ginhoven by Wendy Moore.*

*We are thankful for everyone serving at today's service;
especially today's Lay Readers, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and Ushers.*

Welcome to Saint Luke's!

*We are a vibrant community of faith that welcomes everyone—regardless of where you are on your faith
journey—to hear God's word, to be fed at God's table, and to experience the love of community,
so that you will be strengthened to serve God in the world.*

*To begin receiving our weekly e-newsletter, join our mailing list by visiting www.saintlukesdarien.org.
To learn more about getting more involved or becoming a member of Saint Luke's Parish,
please contact Cindy Scam in the Parish Offices.*

*cindy.scam@saintlukesdarien.org
(203) 655.1456.*

We encourage parishioners to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family:

For those who are ill: Sheila, Janetta, Robert, Stephen,
Mary, Dave, Jim, Jessica, Lilia, Lois, Nick, Karen, Caroline, Verna, Neil,
Rose, Joan, Peter, Liz, Caroline, Arian, John, Clark Winter, and Tom.

For those with special needs: Mark, Allison, Aldin, Ann, the Singh family,
Roland and Ruth, Zeke, Simon, Nia, and Jack.

If you or someone you know is in need....

If you or someone you know is facing an illness, hospitalization, death in the family or any other stressful life situation, please consider a visit or call from one of our clergy or trained lay volunteers. Please call the parish office at 203.655.1456. We can also place your name on the list of people who receive prayers during our worship service.

CLERGY AND PROGRAM STAFF

The Reverend Ryan C. Fleenor, *Rector*

The Reverend Derek J. Stefanovsky, *Assistant Rector*

The Reverend Susan C. Wyper, *Associate Rector*

H. David Pulliam, *Director of Music and Organist*

Will Roslak, *Associate Organist*

Naomi Cunningham, *Youth Director*

& Assistant for Adult Spiritual Ministry

Erika Caputo, *Director of Children's Ministries*

The Reverend Dr. Don Thompson, *Assisting Clergy*

Cindy Scam, *Director of Administration*

Maggie Domont, *Dir. of Stewardship & Communications*

Ron Wilson, *Director of Finance*

Elizabeth Hearle, *Parish School Director*

Nancy Coughlin, *Director of Person-to-Person*

Dave Scam, *Buildings and Grounds Supervisor*



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