

In Response to God
Activities for the Week of January 4, 2026

Today's Lectionary: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18

Sunday	January 4	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship Service
		11:00 am –	Refreshments & Fellowship
			Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Monday	January 5	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy Church Office Reopens
Tuesday	January 6	10 am-2 pm –	CCSC Food Collection
		3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm –	Strength Training
Wednesday	January 7	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Thursday	January 8	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm	Strength Training
Friday	January 9	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	January 10	9 am-5 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	January 11	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship Service
		11:00 am –	Refreshments and Fellowship
			Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Save the date:	February 8	11:00 am –	Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday
	February 17	6-7:30 pm –	Jazz in the Parking Lot & Fish Fry

ST. LUKE’S STAFF

Pastor..... The Rev. W. Scott Harbison
Parish Associate The Rev. Laureen Suba
Parish Associate The Rev. Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Music-Organist/ChoirmasterMarvin Gaspard
Business Manager..... Patti Ernst
Assistant to Head of Staff.....Alana Glover
Artists in Residence.....
..... Sarah Bunk, Ann Guercio, Don Mims, & Laura Smith



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Lyrics and Music with Permission
CCLI No. 3460677



St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church
January 4, 2026

The Order of Worship

January 4, 2026

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TOLLING

✦WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

✦OPENING HYMN 56 v.4-6
THE FIRST NOWELL

The First Nowell

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Congregation: Thanks Be to God.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (OT p. 690)

Isaiah 60:1-6

Liturgist, Kenneth Russell

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 2)

Matthew 2:1-15

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Rev. W. Scott Harbison

“Welcoming Jesus”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦APOSTLE’S CREED

Hymnal p. 1
Traditional

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERTORY

We Three Kings of Orient Are
John Henry Hopkin, Jr.
arr. Marvin Gaspard

✦RESPONSE

Gloria No. 23 Refrain

“*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*”

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION 63

DIX

As with Gladness Men of Old

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

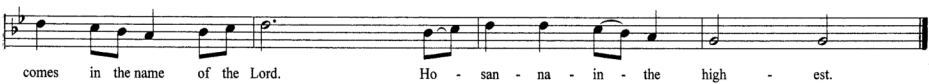
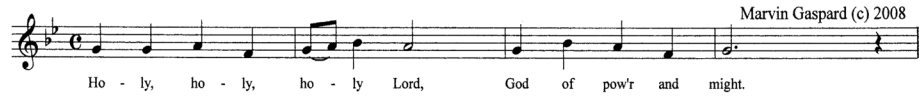
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues . . .

The congregation sings . . .



DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright
15th c. melody, Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

✦CHORAL RESPONSE

Nowell!
English carol, arr. Healey Willan (1880-1968)

✦BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
Harmonized by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome to St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church! If you are looking for a church home in Houston, we invite you to unite with St. Luke’s. New members are welcomed by the Session following worship each Sunday. Speak to Rev. Harbison after worship if you have any questions.

Sunday School: Children’s Sunday School meets at 9 a.m. in Room 115 with Don Mims teaching the class. **Our Youth Group** meets every other Sunday at 9 a.m. in Room 129. Pastor Scott Harbison teaches the Youth Group. **Adult Sunday School** meets at 9 a.m. in the Library. The Adult Sunday School Class will begin a 2026 study of the Old Testament prophets and their books in the Bible. You are invited to join us for a study of 17 prophets throughout most of the year. With resources in our church library and the class text, “From Judgment to Hope” written by Walter Brueggemann, we will study histories of the prophets, their societies, upheavals, and hope. Join us each Sunday in the church library to study Hosea, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, and numerous other prophets.

Joys and Concerns are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving or intercession with the congregation. You will have an opportunity to mention these verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer.

The Montrose Street Reach: The upcoming service date is January 22nd. Let Jeanne Leach (713.409.0997) know if you would like to bring a dessert or help serve.

Worship services on YouTube: Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, recorded, and stored on our YouTube channel (St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Houston). You can view the published videos on YouTube and on our website. Subscribe to our channel to be notified of new video postings as they become available.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and for Mary Ann Harbison’s birthday by the Harbison Family

The 2026 Flower Calendar and Cookie Sign ups are now posted in the Cookie Room. If you would like to provide flowers for our Sanctuary, please choose a Sunday and add your name(s) to the calendar. Use the envelopes provided to enclose your check (\$100 for two arrangements) and let us know how to acknowledge your gift. If you would like to provide cookies after worship, please choose a Sunday and add your name(s) to the calendar.

Save the Date for Souper Bowl Sunday on February 8th right after worship service, and St. Luke’s Annual Jazz in the Parking Lot and Fish Fry on Tuesday, February 17th from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The Church Office will officially reopen Monday January 5th. On behalf of the St. Luke’s Staff, we hope you had a wonderful holiday season and we are excited to see what the New Year brings!