

In Response to God
Activities for the Week of January 18, 2026

Today’s Lectionary: Isaiah 49:1-7 and Ps. 40:1-11; Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

Sunday	January 18	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship Service
		11:00 am –	Refreshments & Fellowship
			Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Monday	January 19	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy Church Office Reopens
Tuesday	January 20	10 am-2 pm –	CCSC Food Collection
		3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm –	Strength Training
Wednesday	January 21	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Thursday	January 22	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
		4 pm	Strength Training
Friday	January 23	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	January 24	9 am-5 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	January 25	9:00 am –	Church School
		10:00 am –	Worship Service
		11:00 am –	Refreshments and Fellowship
			Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Save the date:	January 20	6:30 pm –	Spirits and Spirituality
	February 1	10:00 am –	Ordaining and Installation
	February 8	11:00 am –	Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday
	February 15	10:00 am –	Jazz Communion
	February 16	6:30 pm –	Spirits and Spirituality
	February 17	6-7:30 pm –	Jazz in the Parking Lot & Fish Fry

ST. LUKE’S STAFF

Pastor..... The Rev. W. Scott Harbison
Parish AssociateThe Rev. Laureen Suba
Parish AssociateThe Rev. Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Music-Organist/Choirmaster..... Marvin 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 18, 2026

The Order of Worship

January 18, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
BEACH SPRING *The Sacred Harp*, 1844, arr. Daniel Burton

✠WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠OPENING HYMN 447 Lead on, O King Eternal
LANCASHIRE

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS
Congregation: Thanks Be to God.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 165) 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Liturgist, Alana Glover

SCRIPTURE READING (NT p. 57) John 1:35-42

REFLECTION ON THE WORD Rev. W. Scott Harbison
“Better Man”

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 How Excellent Is Thy Name
From Psalm 8 Warren Angell (1907-2006)

✠HYMN OF PREPARATION 388 O Jesus, I Have Promised
ANGEL’S STORY

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 How Beautiful
Janet Bardin, soloist Twila Paris

✠CHORAL RESPONSE Shalom, Chaverim! *Farewell, Good Friends*
Israeli round, arr. Marvin Gaspard

✠BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun
DUKE STREET John Hatton (1809-1886), arr. Marvin Gaspard

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 is still in the process of relocating. We will not be doing our usual monthly baking in January 2026. Please stand by for future updates.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of her children’s birthdays this month, Kyra and Dwight Hebbert by Luanne Hodgson

Drop by the Cookie Room: If you would like to provide cookies for an upcoming Sunday, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Cookie Room. **Cookies today** are provided by St. Luke’s Strength Training Class.

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.

Serving as the Sunday Liturgist is an easy way to participate in the church community. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Save the Date for Souper Bowl Sunday on February 8th following worship service, our annual Jazz Communion service during worship on February 15th, and St. Luke’s Annual Jazz in the Parking Lot and Fish Fry on Tuesday, February 17th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. **Check out the back of your bulletin for more important upcoming dates!**

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.