

The Church of *Saint Luke* & The Epiphany



LISTENER'S GUIDE TO SAINT LUKE'S HEARING LOOP

What is a hearing loop? A hearing loop (also called an “induction loop”) is a device that transmits sound from our public address system directly to a wireless receiver called a T-coil found in most hearing aids and in all new cochlear implants. It provides sound that is exceptionally clear and distinct to hard-of-hearing individuals.

How can I use the hearing loop? Simply walk into the nave, take a seat, and switch your hearing instruments to T-coil mode. Your hearing instruments will automatically receive the audio output of the public address system. No extra devices or headphones are needed.

I have never heard of a T-coil. How can I find out if my hearing instruments have them? Contact the audiologist from whom you purchased your hearing instruments and ask if your devices are equipped with T-coils. You may have to make a quick visit to the audiologist’s office so that your T-coils can be activated. If the user manual you received with your hearing instruments fails to mention T-coils, don’t assume your devices lack T-coils. Always ask your audiologist to make sure.

Where should I sit in church for the best reception? The hearing loop signal is weakest in the pews along the north wall, and in the front two or three rows of pews in the nave. If you have individual volume controls for your hearing instruments, you may be able to compensate for the weak signal by turning up the volume. Otherwise you’ll be happier if you avoid these areas. (The following locations are not covered by the hearing loop at all: the gallery level; the chancel and sanctuary; Furness Chapel; and the north chapel). The hearing loop signal is strongest when you are sitting or standing facing forward with your head held erect. If you incline your head forward the signal will weaken, sometimes disappearing altogether.

If my hearing instruments lack T-coils, or if I don’t have any hearing instruments, can I still use the hearing loop? Yes, you may borrow a hearing loop receiver and a pair of headphones from one of the greeters in the narthex as you enter the church.

For more information about using hearing loop receivers, see the handout entitled *Listener’s Guide to Saint Luke’s Hearing Loop Receivers*.

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