

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



pardon OF CHRIST

MISSION Responding to God's call and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to join us in knowing, serving, and sharing Jesus Christ here and around the world.

VISION To be a beacon of faith, hope, and love – every member an active disciple in Christ's ministry.



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dec. 7, 2014  11:00 a.m.



December 7, 2014 2nd Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Purple
Purple marks the seasons of penitence and preparation, Advent and Lent.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Chapel Communion Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship Service
Nursery available at all services & Sunday School

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes Supervisor, Cailin Thelen
Bell Ringer Emma Troha
Bible Bearer Caroline Samuelson
Candle Lighter Jack Troha
Crucifer Grace Strickland
Chancel Guild Jared & Linda Elliot
Communion Servers Captain, Ken Painter;
Jared Elliot, Jan Kilgore, Becky & Tom Loftis, Mark Reed
Continental Breakfast Joanna Mangum
Faithful Friends Catherine Anne Thomas
Open/Close Miles Young
Sound Crew Roby Price
Ushers Captain, Mary Martin;
Bailey Baldwin; Pam, John, & Laura Eagar;
Kim Maxwell, Kristen Schiller

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are delighted you are worshiping with us!

DURING the Welcome, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass the Friendship Pad down the pew.

AFTER the worship service, please join Deacon Meg Wallace, Elder Jared Elliot, and our Pastors in the Narthex (Sanctuary lobby). They will answer questions and provide you with a Guest Packet and a homemade loaf of bread.

FOR MORE information about our programs, ministries or membership, please contact one of our Pastors at 770.393.1424.

THAT ALL MAY WORSHIP

ASSISTIVE hearing devices, large print hymnals, large print bulletins and pew cushions are available. Please contact an usher for further assistance.

CHILDREN are a precious part of our church family, and we encourage all families to include them in worship. Advent worship bags are available on the back ledges of the sanctuary for preschool and elementary ages to use and take home, and we invite all children to walk up for an age-appropriate message during "Tell Us Our Story" each week. After that time children are welcome to remain in worship, to play and hear a Bible story in **child care** (PreK and younger), or to learn more about our worship traditions in **Faithful Friends** (for K, 1st and 2nd grades).



In Preparation for Worship

We gather in God's gifts of comfort and joy. Last week, we heard how these promising gifts come to us through the peace of Christ. There is no more conflict with God. Today, we hear through the prophet Isaiah another word of God which adds comfort and joy to our lives: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."



Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten *arr. Wilbur Held*

Welcome & Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

GOD REST YE

Travis & Katherine Robeson

Pre-pare a high-way for our God, bring loft-y pla-ces low. Let self-ish pride be
put a-way and true re-pent-ance show. For Christ our Sav-ior came to earth to
pay the debt we owe: O___ ti - dings of com - fort and
joy, com-fort and joy, O___ ti - dings of com - fort and joy!

* Hymn #13

Prepare the Way *O ZION*

* Call to Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

* **Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus, we have walked down crooked paths of deception; we have run through perilous valleys of despair; we have exhausted ourselves climbing hills of consumption; we have been led into ways which caused us to stumble in our faith and life; we have made our lives rougher than You intended. Hear the confession of our hearts, lead us to true repentance and fill us with Your words of pardon and release as we pray now to You in silence... *(time of silent confession)*

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer, Amen.

* **Assurance of Forgiveness**

* **Song of Praise**

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Tell Us Our Story

Steve Vance

PRESENTATION OF THE CHRISMONS The Presbyterian Women present their annual gift to the children of the congregation.

Parents may take their young children (through PreK) to our nursery. Parents of children in K, 1st or 2nd grade may take them to the Narthex and fill out a [Faithful Friends](#) name tag, provided a child authorization form is on file. If a form is not on file, parents should take their Faithful Friend to The Harbor, Rm. 213.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11; page 627

Tom Loftis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:1-8; page 32

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Experiencing the Pardon of God

Shannon Dill

* **Affirmation of Faith**

Philippians 2:6-10

We believe in Jesus Christ who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled himself and

became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Amen.

Offering

Gloria in Excelsis from Twelfth Mass
Wolfgang A. Mozart

Chancel Choir

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

Laudamus, benedicimus, adoramus, glorificamus.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam,

We give you thanks for your great glory,

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

Lord God, heavenly King, God almighty Father.

Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe, Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

* Song of Thanksgiving

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY



Glo-ry be to God the Fa-ther, glo-ry be to Christ the Son, glo-ry
to the Ho-ly Spir-it, glo-ry to the Three-in-One. Here we of-fer to you
glad-ly all the gifts that you im-part, as we
glo-ry in your Pre-sence, giv-ing from a grate-ful heart.

* Prayer of Dedication

The Lord's Supper

When coming forward for Communion, please kneel at the closest available space to the center aisle. If you would like to be served where you are sitting, please raise your hand as the communion servers come down the center aisle and you will be served by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup). Everyone is invited to participate in the sacrament. Children who have discussed the sacrament with their parents and/or a pastor are welcome. A server with gluten-free bread will be standing at the center aisle. If you prefer gluten-free bread, please indicate your preference as you approach. Parents, please note the center rings of the communion are filled with wine. Only the outer ring is filled with grape juice.

Communion Music

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *arr. Malcolm Archer*

Morning Prayer & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Hymn #10

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *WINCHESTER NEW*

* Benediction & Response

Prepare the Way

Jacques Berthier



Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the
Lord, and all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

* Postlude

Prepare the Way, O Zion *arr. Paul Manz*

CHRISMONS & COOKIES RECEPTION During both services **TODAY**, our Presbyterian Women present their annual gift to our children (through 5th grade): a Chrismon ("Christ's Monogram"). All children, parents, and Chrismon-crafters are invited to a cookie reception in the parlor after 11:00 worship. This will allow the children to meet the person who made their ornament – and allow the ornament-makers to see who gets to take home their handiwork.

REGISTER NOW for MOUNTAIN T.O.P.

FAMILY WEEKENDS Your family has a unique opportunity to serve families in the Cumberland Mountains through working and worshipping together. You'll arrive Fri. evening, work in the community on Sat., worship Sat. evening, and leave Sun. morning after breakfast. Projects are based on the skills of family members and the expressed needs of the families we work with. Spaces fill up very quickly, so sign up today at <http://mountain-top.org/family-weekend/family-weekend-application>, or contact Shannon Dill with questions. 12 & under: \$50; 13 & up: \$60; \$200 max per family. 2015 Dates: **March 27-29** or **April 10-12**.

YUCATAN PENINSULA MISSION TRIP!

Our second trip to the Yucatan Peninsula is set for July 5-12, 2015, for a week of working side-by-side with our friends at Accion Ministries (friendsofaccion.org/)! We will stay in a lovely local hotel in the historic town of Valladolid. This trip is open to adults of all ages and youth (completed 6th grade and up) traveling with at least one parent. Please contact Shannon if you are interested in participating or learning more about this unique experience!

THE PEW RACK COMMITTEE would like to add a few members to our group. It involves keeping the racks on the backs of the pews filled and straight for each Sunday in your particular month. Please contact Jean Kammerer at 770-522-9612 or kammererj@bellsouth.net.

LET OUR NOMINATING COMMITTEES

HEAR FROM YOU! At the Nov. 16 congregational meeting, two committees were elected. The **Pastor Nominating Committee Nominating Committee** (PNCNC) is composed of Patsy Bradley, Sarah Caverhill, David King (chair), Todd Parker, Wayne Radloff, Kelly Sloan and Miles Young. The **Officer Nominating Committee** is composed of Beth Eisenmesser, Mary Guerrant, Sally Larson, Lindsay Moss, Laura Singley, Barry Smith and David Tharp (chair). If you would like to recommend someone to serve on the PNC or as an elder or deacon, please contact one of these committee members. Recommendation forms are in the lobby and narthexes.

A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REST

is hosted by Stephen Ministry in the Chapel on Sun., Dec. 14, at 5 p.m. We invite you to a time of quiet reflection in the midst of this busy season. Please join us for refreshments at the close of the program. Here's a note from an attendee last year:

"I want to thank the Stephen Ministers at Saint Luke's who allow us to open our hearts to all of the feelings and meanings of this season. The structure and spiritual grounding of this service offers me immense opportunity to be true to myself... to honor my parents and all of the Christmases we shared, to think about my own Christian experience and mortality, to pause and reflect on the life of my friends and their families so full of joy and change and loss as the years go by. This service tradition is precious, irreplaceable and feels touched by a sacred blessing."



Music Ministry

Clair Maxwell: clairmaxwell@slpres.org / 770.393.1424 ext. 227

TOYS FOR TOTS CONCERT: Today at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary

This annual event features our own Chancel Choir, Festival Ringers and members of the Premiere Brass. You'll enjoy music of the season and carol singing for the entire family. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for donation. Child care is provided, but all ages are welcome at this festive concert!

LESSONS AND CAROLS Our annual tradition returns on Sun., Dec. 14 at both morning services. Hear the retelling of the story of the coming of Christ and be led in song by our choirs at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Bring family and friends for a unique morning of scripture and music.

Special Choir Rehearsals in preparation for Christmas:

	Cherub Choir	Westminster	Youth Choir	Chancel Choir	Fest. Ringers
WEDNESDAY Dec. 3	5:15-5:45 p.m.	5:00-5:45 p.m.	-----	7:30-9:00 p.m.	6:15-7:15 p.m.
SUNDAY Dec. 7	-----	-----	5:30-6:30 p.m.	-----	-----
WEDNESDAY Dec. 10	5:15-5:45	5:00-5:45	-----	7:30-9:00	6:15-7:15
WEDNESDAY Dec. 17	5:15-5:45	5:00-5:45	-----	7:30-9:00	-----
SUNDAY Dec. 21	12:15-1:00	12:15-1:00	-----	-----	-----

GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC Consider donating one or more copies of the new Presbyterian hymnal, *Glory to God*, in honor or memory of loved ones as a unique and meaningful Christmas gift. The cost is \$20 per hymnal, and it is an enduring way to contribute to the worship and musical life of this congregation for years to come. Contact Liz Catlett or Clair Maxwell in the church office to make your contributions, and plan to be a part of the hymnal dedication and celebration on Sun., Feb. 8, 2015 at 4 pm.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC We gratefully appreciate your financial support of the Celebrate the Arts concert series at any level. If you would like to make a contribution and become a Friends of Music patron, please contact Clair for more information or donate online at slpres.org.



Youth Connection

Phil Brown: philbrown@slpres.org / 770.393.1424 ext. 238

DEC. 7, after 11:00 service

High School: Join Emily Wilmesherr for lunch.

DEC. 7, 3:45 p.m. Toys for Tots Service Night

Meet at church by 3:45 p.m. to help collect toys during the Toys for Tots concert that starts at 4. After the toys are loaded, we'll head to dinner at Moe's. Bring money for dinner and we'll we back in time for youth choir from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

DEC. 9, 6:45 a.m. HS Breakfast: Perimeter Pointe Chick-fil-A on Mt. Vernon

DEC. 14 Youth Christmas Parties

Middle School: Hosted by the Mangum family from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Bring a wrapped present (\$5 max) for a white elephant gift exchange. The Mangum's address is 5550 Bend Creek Rd., Dunwoody, 30338.

High School: Hosted by the Vail family from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Bring a wrapped present (\$5 max) for a white elephant gift exchange. The Vail's address is 4854 Summerford Dr., Dunwoody, 30338.

Summer Trip Reminder: Honduras deadline for deposit is Dec. 15th. Contact Phil with questions.

DEC. 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Live Nativity

Come serve hot chocolate to the hundreds of people from the community who come see all the live animals and hear the Christmas story.

DEC. 21, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Youth Childcare Afternoon

The youth are hosting a childcare afternoon for parents who have some last-minute Christmas things to get ready. Come ready to play with kids for a couple hours. Donations will be accepted for Tartan Trot.



Adult Ministry

Shannon Dill: shannondill@slpres.org / 770.393.1424 ext. 229

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES meet most Sundays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

The Story of the Bible	Rm 145
FINCH (Families in Christ)	Rm 203
Seasons of the Spirit	Rm 231 & 233
Faith Foundations	Rm 232
Soul Food	Rm 234 & 236

DISCIPLE IV CLASS Tues. from 7-9 p.m. in the Session room. (No class Dec. 23 & Dec. 30).

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fellowship and Bible study every Fri. from 6:40-8 a.m. in the Parlor with Dan Joyce.



Children's Ministries (SPLASH!)

Catherine Anne Thomas: cathomas@slpres.org / 770.393.1424 ext. 228

CALLING ALL YOUNG ARTISTS! Each year, our church family looks forward to seeing original artwork that shows the Bethlehem stable through the eyes of a child. Please submit drawings on 8½" x 11" paper in the box in our main lobby. Don't forget to include your child's name and age.

CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE We have reading and non-reading parts for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade; sign up at <http://goo.gl/Z4OcNA>. There is only one rehearsal: Sun., Dec. 14 at noon.

SAINT LUKE'S ICONIC WINDOW You can have a miniature of our stained glass window for yourself or as a gift. Look for the kiosk in the lobby, pick up a window, then drop a check for \$60 in the offering plate and mark it "window." ALL the money received goes to our Outreach Fund. A limited number of these windows were made; don't miss out!

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Dec. 13, 8 a.m.

At Saint Luke's, there's a man who flies helicopters to help save lives: Jim Strange. Jim will be our Men's Breakfast guest speaker on Dec. 13. You'll learn about his life-saving work and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by our Men's Breakfast chefs. Hope you can join us. Saint Luke's women and their guests are always welcome. Contact Daryl Moore: (H) 770.395.6278 / (Cell) 404.993.6203 / ddmoore@yahoo.com

FAITH & FILM meets the 3rd Friday of each month. Potluck dinner at 7 p.m.; movie starts at 7:45 p.m. Please RSVP to Cindy or Josh Nunez at breakingbread14@gmail.com or 678.230.1236. Dec. 19 The Christmas Choir NR / 2008

Women and their guests are invited to the annual **PW CHRISTMAS DINNER** and communion worship service on Mon., Dec. 8th at 6 p.m. Dinner will be in the Great Hall at 6:30 p.m., followed by a worship service in the sanctuary (led by Rev. Lyndsay Slocum, Senior Associate Pastor at Roswell Pres. Church). The cost is \$15 per person. Sign up in the lobby or online at www.slpres.org/pw-christmas-dinner/.

THORNWELL CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Saint Luke's Presbyterian Women has supported *Thornwell Home for Children* for over 30 years with a special Christmas Offering. Join our tradition of making a Thornwell donation in lieu of sending Christmas cards to your Saint Luke's Family! Place your contribution in the offering plate or use the envelopes provided in the lobby. Donations will be collected through Dec. 14. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN.**

ON A MISSION FOR MITTENS Again this year, PW is collecting mittens for children and adults to be given to the shelters where the sandwich project sandwiches will be distributed. There is a box in the lobby for your donations.

ADVENT COMFORT AND JOY

FOR KIDS: wreath/calendars and devotional guides are available in the main lobby.

FOR ADULTS: Devotional guides are available in the main lobby; a donation of \$2 to offset the cost of the books is appreciated. You can also access the “Comfort and Joy” devotional by using the links below:

for Nook®: <http://goo.gl/OWzzO8>

for Kindle®: <http://goo.gl/AYs4Tc>

CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join your Saint Luke’s family for Christmas food, fellowship, and fun on Dec. 13 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the home of Sally and Dan Joyce. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Childcare will be available from 5-9 p.m. (\$5 per child – please let us know their names and ages when you sign up). RSVP on the poster in the lobby. If you have any questions call Fern Mitropoulos or Donna Nall. Hope to see you there!

The **OWLS’ ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE** will be at Libby Neely’s on Dec. 13, 2-4 p.m. We will have shrimp and all sorts of goodies to enjoy. There will be drivers at the Church to carpool everyone to and from Libby’s. See you then!

POINSETTIAS Your purchase makes our church beautiful for the Christmas Eve services! Your donation of \$15 per plant may be in honor or remembrance of a loved one; their names will be published in the bulletin on Dec. 21. Envelopes are in the pew boxes until Dec. 14. Write “poinsettias” on the memo line of your check. You may take poinsettias home after worship on Jan. 4. Contact: Jan Slater, 770.391.0489 or Nancy Self, 404.237.6551.

Mark your calendar:

DECEMBER

7 Happy Birthday Jesus, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Chrismons & Cookies, Noon
Toys for Tots Concert, 4 p.m.

8 PW Christmas Dinner & Worship, 6 p.m.

13 Men’s Breakfast, 8 a.m.
OWLS Christmas Open House, 2-4 p.m.
Christmas Party, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

14 Lessons & Carols: special music at
8:30 and 11 a.m. services

Thornwell Children’s Home:
Last day for Christmas offering

Last day for **Poinsettias**

Rehearsal for cast of Christmas Eve
Family Service, Noon

Service of Comfort & Rest, 5 p.m.

16 Live Nativity, 6-7:30 p.m.

21 All choirs rehearse for Christmas Eve,
12:15-1:00 p.m.

24 Christmas Eve Services:
5:00, 7:30 & 11:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

NOV 30	WORSHIP	NURSERY	VISITORS
8:30	51	0	2
11:00	192	16	18

Each Sunday, many of our pews have first-time or repeat visitors. Your smile and welcoming words express the hospitable character of this congregation. Your kindness makes a difference.

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor	Rev. Steve Vance
Associate Pastor	Rev. Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor	Rev. Phil Brown
Pastor Emeritus	Dr. E. Moss Robertson
Director of Music & Organist	Clair Maxwell
Director of Children's Ministries	Catherine Anne Thomas
Director of Saint Luke's Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten	Carol Perry
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry	Emily Wilmesherr
Director of Communications	Tina Knoedler
Administrative Assistants	Liz Catlett & Bonnie Farrar
Receptionist	Sally Hawkins
Facilities Manager	Roby Price
Treasurer	Gary Phipps

SAINT LUKE'S PERIMETER COUNSELING CENTER

Georgia C. Griffin, J.D., M. Div.

Director, Perimeter Center

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist/Mediator

404.636.1457, ext. 452 • www.cccgeorgia.org

ELDERS

Class of 2015:

Jennie Burroughs, Jared Elliot,
Samantha Holley (*youth*),
Tricia Igleheart, Fern Mitropoulos,
Mark Reed, Chris Wiseman,
Les Woodsides

Class of 2016:

Rich Crutchfield, Mary Guerrant,
Tom Loftis, David McKenney,
Wayne Radloff (*Clerk*), Mark Ryan,
David Tharp, Allison Thornton

Class of 2017:

Candy Cox, John Eagar,
Saralyn Hill, TJ McGoldrick,
Donna Nall, Gary Phipps,
Pete Shelton

DEACONS

Class of 2015:

Maria Barnhart, Matt Biggerstaff,
Sarah Caverhill, Peter Keohane,
Julie Knotts, Jack McKenney (*youth*),
Billy Martin (*Moderator*),
Gena Spears, Taylor Vivian,
Krissy Williams

Class of 2016:

Sandra Clay, Amanda Dunnick,
Shawn Hamlin, Niki Rabren,
Katherine Robeson,
Rebecca Strickland, Jenny Troha,
Michelle Vail, Meg Wallace

Class of 2017:

Joyce Kratzenberg, Stacey Kruse,
Joanna Mangum, Stephen Moss,
Sharon Polensek, Barry Smith,
Russell Wolfe



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1978 Mount Vernon Road | Dunwoody, Georgia 30338

770.393.1424 | www.slpres.org | office hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.