



Joy
to the world
the Lord is come!



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2015 ❖ 8:00 p.m.



December 24, 2015
Christmas Eve

Liturgical Color: *White*

White is used on days we celebrate the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, such as Christmas, Easter and Communion Sundays.

SERVING THIS EVENING

Acolytes Supervisor, Michelle Moebes
Bell Ringer. James Moebes
Candle Lighter Jacob Moebes & Katie Moebes
Crucifer Katie Moebes

Chancel Guild Roby & Andrea Price

Communion Servers As an affirmation of their continuing ministry among us, our college students have been invited by the Session to serve Communion this evening.

Ushers Captain, Andrea Price; Martha Tate; Bruce & Forrest Herrick; Diane Markel

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are delighted you are worshiping with us! For more information about our programs, ministries or membership, please contact Pastor Steve Vance at 770.393.1424 (ext. 223), or visit our website: slpres.org.

A **HEARING LOOP** is accessible by switching hearing aids to T-coil.



In Preparation for Worship

The Word is born this very night: hail, Mary, full of grace!
A hanging lantern sheds its light on Joseph's anxious face.
The Word is born this very night, and humble is the place;
The world is dark, but hope is bright, and mortals look for grace!

Fred Pratt Green *The Word Became Flesh*



Gathering Prayer

Steve Vance

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

String Quartet

Welcome & Passing of the Peace

Phil Brown

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Tim, Louanne, Parker & Brown Cutler

* Call to Worship

Leader: Arise and shine for God's light has come.

People: **Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Leader: He put a new song in my mouth.

People: **Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Why, this is an amazing thing!

People: **Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ and let our lives reflect your light back to others.**

* Hymn #123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear *CAROL*

* Prayer of Praise

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **Glory to you, O God, in the heights of heaven! Glory to You, O God, from the depths of earth. We are amazed, afraid, and full of praise; we give thanks for all that You have done: for meeting us with a message of hope — the singing of angels, the bleating of sheep; for showing us Your long-awaited promise — the shepherd of souls, sleeping in a manger; for sending us what we were not expecting — a child wrapped in rags, Your Word made flesh. Teach us to treasure and ponder these things so that we may share this good news with all; through Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem. Amen.**

* **Song of Praise** Gloria in Excelsis Deo *GLORIA*
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7; page 600 Nancy Self
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson Luke 2:1-20; page 54
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon I Wonder as I Wander Steve Vance
Glenda Gray, Sonny Jester, Gerald Aldridge, Clair Maxwell

* **Hymn #134** Joy to the World *ANTIOCH*

* **Affirmation of Faith** *From A Declaration of Faith,
Presbyterian Church in the United States, 1977*

We affirm with the Church universal that...

Jesus, the long expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to His people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through His birth, life, death, and resurrection, Jesus Christ brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended. Thanks be to God!

Offering

Giving is a tangible sign of worship. If you give electronically, there is a blue, laminated, 'electronic giving' card in the pew rack to place into the offering plate as it is passed.

Offertory O Holy Night *arr. John Rutter* Chancel Choir & String Quartet

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, 'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn'.
Fall on your knees, O hear the angels' voices. O night divine, O night when Christ was born.
Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming, With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.

So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger; In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger, Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother; And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever, His power and glory evermore proclaim.
(John Sullivan Dwight)

* **Song of Thanksgiving** *ADESTE FIDELES*

**Sing choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

* **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 trays are filled with wine. Only the outer ring is filled with grape juice.

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.

Communion Music

El Rorro (The Babe) *Jeffrey Van*

Chancel Choir

O sleep, my lovely Jesu, O sweetest Jesu. A la ru ru ru, O slumber sweetly, my little Jesu.
The elephant and even the mosquito are guarding him in silence; make no noise now.
O night of happiness, night of rejoicing with blessed Mary, maid of God's own choosing.
Celestial choruses with sweetest accent are singing joyful tidings of the infant.

* **The Sharing of the Light of Christ**

Leader: The people who walked in the darkness saw a great light.

People: Lift up your heads, light is here!

Leader: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.

People: Lift up your heads, hope is here!

Leader: A Child, born to be light for us all, came to shine throughout the world and give us joy.

People: Lift up your heads, joy is here!

Leader: A Child, born to be light for us all, came to shine throughout the world and give us peace.

People: Lift up your heads, peace is here!

Leader: A Child, born to be light for us all, came to shine throughout the world and give us love.

People: Lift up your heads, love is here!

Leader: Lift up your heads...

People: And let God's light, hope, joy, peace and love fill the world!

* **Hymn #122**

Silent Night, Holy Night *STILLE NACHT*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, round yon virgin mother and Child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light. With the angels let us sing,
"Alleluia to our King! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!"**

At the conclusion of the hymn, the Sanctuary lights will come up and you are invited to extinguish your Christmas Candle.

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

Noel *Louis-Claude Daquin*

Musicians: Josh Klein, trumpet / Bruce Jones, guitar / Michele Volz, violin / Christina Volz Stomackin, violin / Kristeen Sorrels, viola / George Butler, cello

FAMILY REUNION COOKBOOKS We collected over 50 recipes at the Oct. 18th 'family reunion picnic' and put them together into one book! These special cookbooks are available in the lobby for \$15. Be sure to get your copy before they sell out!

HANG UP A PIECE OF SAINT LUKE'S You can purchase a miniature stained glass window for yourself or as a gift! Drop a check for \$60 in the offering plate (mark it for 'window') and pick up your window in the lobby. ALL money received goes to our outreach fund.

SEEKING NEW OFFICERS FOR SESSION & DIACONATE Now Accepting Nominations! The Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) of Saint Luke's is developing a slate of nominees to be elected to the offices of Ruling Elder and serving Deacon, Classes of 2019 – and we need your suggestions. Please use the recommendation form and Collection Box in the Lobby. You may also email or speak to Elders Rob Price and Chip Williams, co-chairs of the ONC.

TEMPS MAY DROP, BUT THE RUNNING WON'T STOP! Join us to celebrate 10 years of running and o'scottish tradition at the 2016 Tartan Trot on Feb. 6. Visit the Tartan Trot table in the lobby or tartantrot.com for more event information.

SAINT LUKE'S LITTLE SAINTS (SLLS) REGISTRATION Our preschool has a place for you! We would love to have your Little Saint, age 12 months through Pre-K, join our accredited weekday preschool.

Church members register: Tues., Jan. 19;

Current families register: Jan. 20;

Community families register: Jan. 21.

For more information, see our Registration Brochure online at www.slpres.org. Please contact Carol Perry, Director, to schedule a tour: 770.393.1424 x240 or carolperry@slpres.org

FAMILY PROMISE Saint Luke's is hosting again Jan. 17-24. Email or call David King (cell) 770.598.8682; sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/SLPCFP2016-01>.

3RD YUCATAN PENINSULA MISSION

TRIP: July 10-17, 2016, with our friends at Accion Ministries (friendsofaccion.org). 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 Dill (770.393.1424 ext. 229) if you are interested in participating or learning more about this unique experience!

CALLING ALL WOMEN! Our annual Women's Retreat will be March 4-6 at the Dillard House in Dillard, GA. We are thrilled to have Lyndsay Slocum, Associate Pastor of Roswell Pres. Church, as our guest speaker. Space is limited! Registration forms are in the church office, at www.slpres.org, or in the lobby.

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor Steve Vance
Associate Pastor Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor 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 Carol Perry
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry Emily Wilmesherr
Director of Communications Tina Knoedler
Administrative Assistants Liz Catlett, Lindsay Moss
Receptionist Sally Hawkins
Facilities Manager Roby Price
Treasurer Gary Phipps
Assistant Treasurer Mark Rogers

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

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

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

LEADERSHIP

Terry Nall, *Clerk to Session*

ELDERS

Class of 2016:

Claire Cummiskey (*youth*),
Rich Crutchfield, Mary Guerrant,
Tom Loftis, David McKenney,
Mark Ryan, David Tharp,
Allison Thornton

Class of 2017:

John Eagar, Saralyn Hill,
TJ McGoldrick, Paula Morris,
Donna Nall, Gary Phipps,
Rob Price, Pete Shelton

Class of 2018:

Gerald Aldridge, Carol Allen,
Barbara Douglass, Anne Hallum,
Dan Joyce, Jean Kammerer,
Chip Williams, Bill Womack

DEACONS

Class of 2016:

Sandra Clay, Amanda Dunnick,
Shawn Hamlin, Niki Rabren,
Katherine Robeson,
Rebecca Strickland (*moderator*),
Jenny Troha, Michelle Vail,
Hayley Wolfe (*youth*)

Class of 2017:

Sandra DuBois, Kris Hull,
Joyce Kratzenberg, Stacey Kruse,
Joanna Mangum, Stephen Moss,
Sharon Polensek, Barry Smith,
Russell Wolfe

Class of 2018:

Justine Burney, Bobby Ferretti,
Diane Lemaster, Joe Luranc,
Lucy Painter, Debbie Parkes,
David Stover, Shari Wassell,
Kristen Wescott