



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

11:00am



1978 Mount Vernon Road • Dunwoody, Georgia 30338
770.393.1424 • www.slpres.org

December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: *Purple*
Purple marks the season of preparation and penitence: Advent and Lent.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30am Chapel Communion Service
9:30am Sunday School
11:00am Sanctuary Worship Service
Nursery available at all services and 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.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are delighted you are worshipping 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 us outside the Sanctuary where our Pastors will be available to answer questions and provide you with a loaf of freshly-baked bread.

FOR MORE information about our programs, ministries or membership, please contact one of our Pastors at 770.393.1424, or visit our website: slpres.org.

THAT ALL MAY WORSHIP

ASSISTIVE A hearing loop is accessible by switching hearing aids to T-coil. Also, large print hymnals and back cushions are available. Please contact an usher for further assistance.



CHILDREN are a precious part of our church family, and we welcome them in worship. Worship notebooks and activity packets are available on the back ledges of the sanctuary for preschool and elementary ages. Each week, children are invited to walk up for an age-appropriate message during "Tell Us Our Story." After that time, they may remain in worship, go to Faithful Friends (K-2nd) or go to child care (PreK and younger).

In Preparation for Worship

"We are called to be witnesses of God's by the love we extend to others;
precursors of his justice by our unfailing commitment to what is right and good;
lamps reflecting the light of God's Christ in our forgiveness, mercy and compassion;
harvesters of souls through our humble and dedicated servanthood." - *Anonymous*

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

O Come, All Ye Faithful *arr. Lani Smith*

Kelly Sloan
Clair Maxwell

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Cummiskey Family

Opening Hymn #107*

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn *REJOICE, REJOICE*

Call to Confession*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession*

Eternal God,

we confess that we resist your holy realm.

You look with favor on the poor

while we often treat the lowly with neglect and disdain.

You scatter the plans of the proud

while we aspire to power and privilege.

Forgive us, God of love.

Teach us what you desire,

so that our hearts may leap with joy at the coming of our Savior,

Jesus Christ our Lord... (time of silent confession)

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer. Amen.**

* please stand

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise*

Gloria in Excelsis Deo *GLORIA*

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Passing of the Peace*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Mark Douglass

Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-45

Mark Douglass

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Shannon Dill

Parents may take their children (through PreK) to our nursery, Room 120, in Sheppard Hall.

Parents of children in K, 1st or 2nd grade may take them to Faithful Friends in The Dock for a special Christmas movie.

Anthem

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Chancel Choir

Sermon

Magnification

David Lower

Hymn #100*

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout *STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN*

Affirmation of Faith*

Apostles' Creed

**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.

Prayers of the People **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.

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 in the offering plate as it is passed.

Offertory

Lullaby *John Ness Beck*

Chancel Choir

A child, a holy child, fast asleep beneath a winter sky
is warm at rest at his mother's breast as she sings her lullaby.

The lambs, the cattle too are sleeping in a bed of hay,
and all around there's no other sound than lullaby, lullay.

"Sleep well, my precious one, my love, my only son; new life has now begun."

So the story goes: once upon a winter morn a tiny boy bringing love and joy,
the Prince of Peace was born.

Song of Thanksgiving*



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 grateful heart.

Prayer of Dedication*

Closing Hymn #93*

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates *TRURO*

Benediction Response*

Postlude*

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come *Johann Pachelbel*

Worship Notes:

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ADVENT & CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS AND FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH—Today from 9:30-11:00am.

The Fellowship Committee invites all ages to enjoy a wonderful brunch, and share the joy of fellowship during this holy Advent season.

COOKIES AND CHRISMONS—Today! Chrismons (Christ's Monogram) presentation at both services. Following the 11am service, to celebrate this sharing of faith, the children of Saint Luke's, their families and the PW members are invited to enjoy Christmas cookies in the parlor.

WHAT GOES UP, MUST COME DOWN—Please join us after the combined 11am service on Sun., Jan 1st for a few minutes to help take down the decorations. Many hands make light work! Thanks for lending a helping hand. Any questions, contact Nancy Self , nself@comcast.net or 404.237.6551.

AWAIT, AWAKEN, ARISE, ASTOUND & ABIDE

DEC 18 4th Sunday of Advent

 **A Service of Comfort and Rest** 

Hosted by Stephen Ministry in the Chapel, **Today at 5PM**

We invite you to this time of quiet reflection in the midst of this busy season.

DEC 24 Christmas Eve

5PM Family Service (*Sanctuary*)

8PM Candlelight & Communion (*Sanctuary*)

11PM Candlelight & Communion (*Chapel*)

DEC 25 Christmas Day

11AM Worship Service (*Chapel*)

JAN 1 New Year's Day

11AM Worship Service (*Chapel*)

FINANCIAL SPOTLIGHT:

A NOTE ON THE CURRENT 2016 CHURCH BUDGET—Despite being ahead of budget for the first 10 months of the year, based on the Nov. financial results, Saint Luke's enters Dec. with a material gap to bridge in order to make budget for 2016. Nov. was a tough month with actual income \$52,000 under what was budgeted. The total Church budget is \$1,652,000 for 2016 and the purpose of this message is to urge you to thoughtfully and prayerfully fulfill your 2016 pledge now. Only with your continued dedication and generous support will we bridge the \$202,800 required in Dec. to make budget and meet our Church's commitments this year. So please continue your 2016 pledge payments, and if you are seeking a worthy cause for a year-end tax deductible gift, please consider making a gift beyond your pledge to Saint Luke's. Thank you.

2017 COMMITMENT UPDATE—We are coming down the home stretch of the campaign, but are still short of the budget target. As of Dec. 13, we received 180 pledges totaling \$1,225,000. This is about \$180,000 short of the 2017 budget. There are approximately 50 individuals or families that pledged last year that have not responded to date. We can meet the church's financial needs if everyone participates. We also ask those who contribute on a regular basis, but do not make a pledge, to prayerfully consider a formal commitment for 2017. We are all reluctant to freeze wages, reduce outreach support, and restrict meaningful programs, but in early Jan., the Finance Committee will need to consider options, including a second appeal, if we cannot meet the proposed budget.

TAX SAVINGS AND GIVING—After a slow start, the stock market rallied during third quarter and surprised many investors with the post-election rally, which has carried into Dec. The market is now trading at record levels. This is a blessing for those who want to increase their financial support to the church. You may gift appreciated securities, typically individual stocks, stock mutual funds, or ETFs, to the church and get a tax deduction on the market value of your gift. You also avoid paying capital gains taxes on the appreciation. When the church sells the securities it pays no taxes on the gains. You may use this strategy to complete or add to your 2016 pledge and you may do the same for your 2017 commitment. If you have an interest, please contact Mark Rodgers and he will walk you through the steps.

SAINT LUKE'S LITTLE SAINTS PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Registration for the 2017 ~ 2018 school year is coming in January!

Our accredited program honors the individuality of the child as we prepare each student for elementary school. Children ages 12 months through Kindergarten enjoy learning in our beautiful classrooms under the guidance of our dedicated and experienced teachers.

We would love to welcome your child as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary!

Church members register on Jan.24.
Current families register on Jan.25.
New community families register on Jan 26.

Questions or tours, Carol Perry, carolperry@slpres.org, 770.393.1424 x240

SPLASH! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS & FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH – Today from 9:30-11:00am.

The Fellowship Committee invites all ages to enjoy a wonderful brunch & share the joy of fellowship during this holy Advent season.

HELP TELL THE GREATEST STORY! Elementary-age children, youth, and their families are invited to help tell the story of Christ's birth at an amazing event. Sign-up sheets are on the Children's Ministries bulletin board in the main lobby for the Christmas Eve 5:00 Family Worship service.

FAMILY SERVICE CHRISTMAS EVE REHEARSAL—Today, in the Sanctuary, immediately following the 11am service. This is for all individuals who have a pre-assigned role in the service.

ADULT MINISTRY

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL classes meet between the worship services, 9:30-10:30am
Descriptions of current groups are available on our website (slpres.org) or
<http://bit.ly/AdultSundaySchool>. Please join us!

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Fellowship and Bible study every Fri. from
6:40-8:00am in the Parlor with Dan Joyce.

DISCIPLE SERIES The final study in the Disciple Series, *Christian Believer*, focuses on
essential doctrines of the Christian faith and makes connections between the doctrine and daily
living. Classes are Tuesdays, 7-9pm.

BIBLE STUDY: "WAYFARERS" Come join David, Shannon or Phil as this week's preacher leads a
study of the scripture for the upcoming Sunday's worship. Wed. at 10am in the church library
on the 2nd floor.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Emily Wilmesherr emilywilmesherr@slpres.org / 770.393.1424 ext. 234

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL- Join us for Happy Birthday Jesus & Fellowship Brunch today!
9:30-11am in The Great Hall. Please note, next week on Dec.25, Sunday School classes will
not meet.

YOUTH GROUPS- Please note, next week on Dec.25, Youth Groups will not meet.

HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST- Tues., Dec. 20 at Chick-Fil-A Jeff Ferry. Please text Phil by Mon. night
before 8pm if you need a ride in the morning.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTIES TODAY!

Middle School Christmas Party- at Underhill's home **today from 3:30-5:00pm**, with
White Elephant gift exchange, treats, food and games! Also, please bring \$5 donation to
utilize for purchasing grocery gift cards for those in need.

High School Christmas Party- at Singley's home **today from 5:30-7:30pm**, Christmas
Murder Mystery Party and dinner. Also, please bring \$5 donation to utilize for purchasing
grocery gift cards for those in need.

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

CHOIRS IN DECEMBER:

Regular Wed. choir rehearsals continue through Dec. 21 (no Festival Ringers that evening).
Combined Cherub & Westminster Choir rehearsals in Dec. – refreshments served on Dec. 21.
NO rehearsals -Dec. 28.
Adults resume rehearsals - Jan. 4., Children resume rehearsals -Jan. 18.

CHRISTMAS EVE:

5pm - Combined children's choir sings – warm up at 4:30 pm.
8pm – Chancel Choir sings – warm up at 7:15 pm.

TARTAN TROT 2017

Sponsorship—To sponsor, visit our lobby table or contact Laura Singley:
laurasingley@att.net.

Volunteers: We need you!—It takes 150 volunteers to host this event safely! Contact Krissy Williams: kcwills7104@yahoo.com or Christine Crutchfield: gafrog01@hotmail.com to sign up or visit our table in lobby to sign up.

Runners/Walkers—Please visit our site, tartantrot.com for all race information and to register. Cost is \$30 for the 5K/10K or \$15 for the 1 Mile.

Bakers: The Tradition Continues!—We are known for our pies and cakes!! Please sign up to bake a pie (or cake) for Race Day! Visit the lobby for sign up sheet and also new this year, check out our new **#willrunforpie** t-shirts and sweatshirts. Great Christmas gift... limited quantities available.

WOMEN'S RETREAT —will be held on Mar., 3-5 at the Dillard House in Dillard, GA. We are excited to announce our guest speaker will be Kelly Fitzgerald, who is a former intern for Saint Luke's. Join us for a weekend of fellowship, fun & spiritual growth! Registration continues through Feb. 19. Cost is \$250 (\$258 if paying online) which includes 2 nights lodging, dinner Fri., three meals Sat. & breakfast on Sun. Contact Christy Keohane at christykeohane@yahoo.com, Jenny Troha at jbtroha@bellsouth.net or Shannon Dill at shannondill@slpres.org.

BILLS, BILLS: GA LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW—Our legislators, Senator Fran Millar, Rep. Tom Taylor and Rep. Wendell Willard will be with us on Sat., Jan. 7 at 8am to preview upcoming legislative activity. Always popular, this Men's Breakfast event is sure to be entertaining as well as informative. You can enjoy a delicious breakfast, congratulate Fran, Tom, and Wendell for winning in the Nov. election and be a knowledgeable citizen with a pretty good idea of the issues the General Assembly will tackle. RSVP to Daryl Moore at 770.395.6278/404.993.6203 or ddmoore@yahoo.com. Saint Luke's women and their guests are always welcome.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor David Lower
Associate Pastor Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor. Phil Brown
Director of Music & Organist. Clair Maxwell
Director of Children's Ministries. Catherine Anne Thomas
Director of Saint Luke's Little Saints Preschool. Carol Perry
Director of Communications. Tina Knoedler
Facility Manager. Roby Price
Treasurer. Mark Rogers
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry. Emily Wilmesherr
Church Administrator. Pam Melton
Administrative Assistant, CE & Music Ministry. Liz Catlett
Receptionist. Sally Hawkins

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

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes– Supervisor, Todd Tomsik
Bell Ringer– William Tomsik
Bible Bearer– Mason Douglass
Candle Lighter– Marshall Douglass
Crucifer– Luke Sloan
Chancel Guild– Mark and Kimey Reed
Continental Breakfast– The Ferretti Family
Open/Close– Steve Klein
Lay Reader– Mark Douglass
Sound Crew– Brad Troha
Ushers– Captain, David Blake; Janice Blake, Rob & Sarah Caverhill and Ron Mason.

LEADERSHIP

Terry Nall, *Clerk to Session*

ELDERS

Class of 2017:

Zachary Burroughs (*youth*),
John Eagar, Gil Hearn, Saralyn Hill,
TJ McGoldrick, Paula Morris,
Donna Nall, Rob Price,
Pete Shelton

Class of 2018:

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

Class of 2019:

Al Bridges, Beth Eisenmesser,
Sonny Jester, Cindy Nunez,
Bob Pile, Bob Polensek,
Whitney Samuelson, Steven Vivian

DEACONS

Class of 2017:

Sandra DuBois, Kris Hull,
Caroline Hurst (*youth*),
Joyce Kratzenberg, Stacey Brooks,
Joanna Mangum, Stephen Moss,
Sharon Polensek,
Rebecca Strickland (*Moderator*),
Russell Wolfe

Class of 2018:

Justine Burney, Bobby Ferretti,
Diane Lemaster, Joe Luranc,
Lucy Painter, Debbie Parkes,
David Stover, Shari Wassell,
Kristen Wescott (*Vice Moderator*)

Class of 2019:

Melissa Blakely, Mark Douglass,
A.J.Favero, Carol Hickey,
Dorothy Kitchens, Richard Lawry,
Carol Waller, Al Wang,
Scott Zannini



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1978 Mount Vernon Road Dunwoody, GA 30338
770.393.1424 www.slpres.org Office Hours: M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm