

CHURCH STAFF

Senior PastorRev. Dr. David Lower
Associate Pastor Rev. Shannon Dill
Associate Pastor..... Rev. 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
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry..... Erin Rugh
Treasurer.....Mark Rogers
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

Chapel Guild– Dave and Margaret Crow
Continental Breakfast– Emily Ritzler
Greeters– Ron Davis and Sonny Jester
Open/Close– Miles Young

LEADERSHIP

Terry Nall, *Clerk to Session*

ELDERS

Class of 2018:

Gerald Aldridge, Carol Allen,
Barbara Douglass, Anne Hallum,
Forrest Herrick (*Youth*), Dan Joyce,
Jean Kammerer, Chip Williams,
Bill Womack

Class of 2019:

Al Bridges, Beth Eisenmesser,
Sonny Jester, Bob Pile,
Bob Polensek, Terri Potter,
Whitney Samuelson, Steven Vivian

Class of 2020:

Carol Ciepluch, Leslie Hamlin,
Kay Loerch (*Asst. Clerk of Session*),
Florence Luranc, J J Singley, Kelly Sloan,
Steve Thornton, Brad Troha

DEACONS

Class of 2018:

Justine Burney, Bobby Ferretti,
Mary Frances Kitchens (*Youth*),
Diane Lemaster, Joe Luranc,
Lucy Painter, Debbie Parkes,
Ron Valdes, Shari Wassell,
Kristen Wescott (*Moderator*)

Class of 2019:

Melissa Blakely, Alyson Cohen,
Mark Douglass, A.J.Favero,
Carol Hickey, Dorothy Kitchens (*Vice
Moderator*), Carol Waller, Al Wang,
Scott Zannini

Class of 2020:

Thomas Brown, Karleen Buchholz,
Jenny Cumiskey, Ron Davis,
Kris Hull, Daryl Moore, Emily Ritzler,
Vivian Smith, Suzanne Thatcher



Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017 8:30am



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

December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Purple
Liturgical colors can orient us to the season of the church year and help to engage the sense of sight in worship. Purple (and sometimes blue, in Advent) designates a season of preparation.

Today's flowers are given by the Joyce family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Swift and Trygve Swift.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30am Chapel Communion Service
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am 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 Chapel 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 hearing devices, large print hymnals, large print bulletins and back cushions are available. Please contact an usher for further assistance.



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP notebooks and lacing crosses are available on the table just outside the Chapel doors. For your convenience, there is a Family Restroom located in the hallway of the administrative offices, on the first floor, near the main lobby.

ADULT MINISTRY

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Individual classes have begun. Please see the website for a full description of each class. (<http://slpres.org/program-ministries/adult-ministry/sunday-school>)

Faith Foundations: Room 232
House to House: Room 203
Seasons of the Spirit: Room 231/233
Soul Food: Room 234/236

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fellowship and Bible study every Friday from 6:40-8am in the Parlor with Dan Joyce.

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. Meet on Wednesdays at 10am in the church library.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Our next classes and welcome of new members in January, will start on Sunday, January 7 and will run for three consecutive Sundays. New members will be welcomed on Sunday, January 28 by the Session and the congregation. For more information, please contact David Lower at davidlower@slpres.org.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TARTAN TROT SPONSORS

Scotty is making his list and checking it twice! Will you please do us a favor and review this checklist? Let us know if you have any questions and thank you so much for supporting the race! Rebecca Strickland and Laura Singley, Tartan Trot Sponsorship

1) REGISTER FOR THE RACE — Use your complimentary race registrations! It's a perk of being a Sponsor. Use them yourself or give them away. Register NOW to guarantee a race t-shirt. Here is the registration link: <http://slpres.org/serve/tartan-trot/tartan-trot-sponsor-runner-registration/>.

2) PAY YOUR PLEDGE — Drop a check off in the collection plate or the church office. Be sure to write "Tartan Trot 2018" in the memo line. Prefer to use your card on file at the church? No Problem! Simply send an email (laurasingley@att.net) and let us know.

3) MEASURE UP — Tell us your t-shirt size (laurasingley@att.net), so you can sport your Tartan Trot gear around town.

WOMEN'S RETREAT, MARCH 2-4, DILLARD HOUSE — Registration is now open. Join us for a weekend of fellowship, fun and spiritual growth. Rev. Meredith Loftis will be the guest speaker. Deadline to sign up is January 28. <https://tinyurl.com/slpcwomensretreat2018>.

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

CHOIR REHEARSALS ON WEDNESDAYS

5:00-5:45pm Cherub Choir, Ages 4-5, *Yvonne Miller, Director*
5:00-5:45pm Westminster Choir, Grades 1-5, *Clair Maxwell, Director*
6:30-7:20pm Festival Ringers, Youth & Adults, *Clair Maxwell, Director*
7:30-9:00pm Chancel Choir, Youth & Adults, *Clair Maxwell, Director*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today: Toys for Tots concert with brass, 4pm.
December 17: Lessons and Carols service, 10:30am.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

HERE'S WHAT'S COMING UP IN YOUTH MINISTRY:

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All youth will meet in the high school room for Sunday school (Charlie Brown Christmas) at 9:30am.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth group will not meet tonight because of the High School Retreat. Come help out at the Toys for Tots Benefit Concert this afternoon at 4pm!

Sunday, December 17

5pm, Middle School youth group end of semester de-stress. Come make some sequined fabric boards and maybe even run around a little bit.

7pm, High School Youth Group at the Singley House. Come eat some dinner, make some sequined fabric boards, and take a little study break.

Thursday, December 21

Live Nativity. Be to the church by 5pm to help set up to serve Hot Chocolate. Wear your Tartan Trot gear. Clean up will be done by 8pm.

HIGH SCHOOL CHICK FIL A BREAKFAST

We will be meeting at the Jett Ferry Chick Fil A at 7am on December 12 for breakfast before school. Let Phil know if you'll be needing a ride to school.

In Preparation for Worship

"The beginning of wisdom is found in doubting; by doubting we come to the question, and by seeking we may come upon the truth."
- Pierre Abelard



Prelude

An Advent Prelude arr. Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

If you are new to Saint Luke's today, welcome, we are so glad you are here! We have a gift of fresh bread we would love to give to you as a token of our gratitude. Please introduce yourself after worship to receive your welcome gift.

Please take the time now to fill out the Friendship Pads situated at the end of each pew. Write down your names and pass the pad down the pew, so that you may greet your pew neighbors by name and that we may know you are here.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Rand and Sally Birsinger

Hymn #105*

People, Look East *BENSANÇON*

Call to Confession*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession*

God of hope,

your coming into our world fills us with joy and expectation.

We confess, however, that in the hustle and bustle of the season

we allow the lights in the trees to distract from your True Light.

Be born anew in our hearts this Advent.

Help us to give more of ourselves to each other,

to worship you more fully,

and to love all your children.

Hear now our silent prayers of confession...*(Silence is kept for personal confession)*

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

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

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise #113* Refrain from Angels We Have Heard on High *GLORIA*
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Passing of the Peace of Christ*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson Ezekiel 37: 1-14, page 806 of the Old Testament

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Tell us Our Story Chrismons Catherine Anne Thomas

The Saint Luke's Presbyterian Women have been making Chrismons for the children of our church for 25 years. The word "Chrismon" stands for "Christ Monogram" and is an abbreviation for His name or a representation of Him. This year's symbol is the chalice.

Children are always welcome to stay in worship. If preferred, parents may take their child(ren) to the nursery.

Sermon David Lower and Cameron Wescott

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.**

SPLASH! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

TODAY, DECEMBER 10 - CHRISMONS (CHRIST'S MONOGRAM)

The Saint Luke's Presbyterian Women have been making Chrismons for the children of our church for 25 years. The word "Chrismon" stands for "Christ Monogram" and is an abbreviation for His name or a representation of Him. This year's Chrismon will be revealed and distributed during both worship services.

DECEMBER 21 - LIVE NATIVITY

Invite your friends to this community favorite! We'll interact with the friendly beasts; see Mary, Joseph, shepherds, kings, angels, and a tiny baby; drink hot chocolate; make s'mores; hear beautiful music and the nativity gospel; and remember the joy and love! Mary Kent would love for you to email her and sign up for a part: children, teens and adults! Please contact her at gkent4@aol.com. 6pm-7:30pm.

DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY WORSHIP AT 5PM, SANCTUARY

This worship service, for many of us, is the foundation of our Christmas celebration activities. Led by our own children, it's a sweet and powerful reminder that Christ was born for all.

We need helpers to hand out the costume kits and adult directors to send folks to Bethlehem at the right time! We will have one run-through on December 17 directly after the 10:30am worship service. Please contact cathomas@slpres.org for more information.



Advent and Christmas Happenings

Some highlights of the season include:

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL — Move toward the manger of Christ this Advent with Frederick Buechner, one of the best-known Christian theologians of our time. Let this depth of wisdom prepare your hearts to cradle Christ. There are a limited number of copies available at Saint Luke's. They are in the narthex and outside of the chapel. Here are the links for purchasing at both Amazon or Barnes & Noble. <https://tinyurl.com/SLPCDevotionalAmazon> or <https://tinyurl.com/SLPCDevotionalB-N>. Please contact Shannon Dill with any questions at shannondill@slpres.org.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS — You can help decorate the church *and* honor or remember a loved one by purchasing a poinsettia. Donation envelopes are in the pew boxes. \$15 per plant (please write poinsettias on the memo line). Names will be published in the bulletin on December 17. Deadline for bulletin inclusion is this Sunday. On January 7, plants may be taken home to enjoy! Questions? Contact Nancy Self, 404.237.6551 or nself@comcast.net.

THORNWELL CHRISTMAS OFFERING — Join our tradition of donating to Thornwell in lieu of sending Christmas cards to your Saint Luke's family. Names will be published in the December 17 bulletin. Please make checks payable to SL PW, place your contribution in the specially marked envelope in the pew rack & then place in offering plate. Deadline: Sunday, December 10.

LESSONS AND CAROLS — Sunday, December 17 at the 10:30am service. Our annual tradition of readings and carols by congregation and choirs accompanied by youth instrumentalists, soloists, piano and organ. Arrive early for this special Sunday service of worship as we anticipate the light of Christ coming to our world.

A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REST — Sunday, December 17 at 5pm in the Saint Luke's chapel. We invite you to this time of quiet reflection in the midst of this busy season. Hosted by our Stephen Ministers.

LIVING NATIVITY — Invite your friends to this community favorite! We'll interact with the friendly beasts; see Mary, Joseph, shepherds, kings, angels, and a tiny baby; drink hot chocolate; make yummy s'mores; hear beautiful music and the nativity gospel; and remember the joy and love that the season brings! 6pm-7:30pm.

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 24 — Sunday morning worship which is Advent 4, will be at 10:30am in the chapel. Christmas Eve Services at 5pm, 8pm and 11pm.

Offering Invitation

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

Song of Thanksgiving* Christmas Doxology

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.

Holy Communion

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 will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). Everyone is invited to participate in the sacrament. Children who have discussed the sacrament with their parents and/or pastor are welcome. The cup holds grape juice, not wine, during this service. A server with gluten-free wafers will be standing directly in front of the communion table for those who prefer this option. If you would prefer to be served where you are sitting, please raise your hand.

Communion Music

Closing Hymn #104*

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You *VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN*

Benediction*

Postlude*

Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying *arr. Emma Lou Diemer*

Worship Notes:

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SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:



REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH — We ask all members to pause this December and remember all the blessings God bestows on us through our church family. December is the largest giving month on the church calendar and we need your financial support again this year. We encourage all members to complete their 2017 annual pledges before the end of the year. For those considering additional charitable giving, please include Saint Luke's. For investors with stock portfolios, the stock market has been up 13 months in a row. Now would be a wonderful time to contribute stock "in-kind." You avoid paying capital gains taxes and you receive a tax deduction on the market value of the donated stock; you get a double tax benefit. Interested members should contact Mark Rogers for instructions at 678-935-8980 or email him at jmarkrogers49@gmail.com.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE, TODAY—The PW will have two types of mini loaves available for purchase, Triple Chocolate & Cranberry-Orange. These delicious, homemade breads make wonderful hostess gifts. \$4 each mini-loaf. Please, cash or check.



TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT CONCERT—This afternoon, December 10, 4pm at Saint Luke's. The Premiere Brass Quintet, Festival Ringers and Chancel Choir present our annual community concert program benefitting the Atlanta Chapter of Toys for Tots. Christmas carols complete with an audience sing-a-long helps capture the spirit of the season. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for donation.



SAINT LUKE'S ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY—This evening, December 10 after the Toys for Tots Concert at the home of Dan & Sally Joyce. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Childcare will be provided in the kid-friendly basement of the Joyce home, complete with toys and a big screen movie. Babysitters will be on hand to supervise. Please sign up on the poster in the lobby.