

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor Rev. 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
Treasurer Mark Rogers
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry Erin Rugh
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:

Bell Ringer- Jacob Moebes
Bible Bearer- Wells Waller
Candle Lighter- Jett Parker
Crucifer- Walker Wellford
Supervisor- Carol Waller

Chancel Guild- Mark and Kimey Reed

Continental Breakfast- Diane Lemaster

Greeters- Carol Hickey and Sonny Jester

Open/Close- Steve Klein

Sound Crew- Roby Price

Ushers- Donna Nall, Captain; Faye Cashwell, Alyson Cohen, Diane Lemaster, Fern Mitropoulos, and Deborah Parkes.

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 Cummiskey, Ron Davis, Kris Hull
Daryl Moore, Emily Ritzler,
Vivian Smith, Suzanne Thatcher



Third Sunday of Advent Service of Lessons and Carols

December 17, 2017

10:30am



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

December 17, 2017

Third 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 Mary and Billy Martin to the glory of God, in celebration of the Advent season, and in memory of their parents.

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 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).

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TARTAN TROT SPONSORS

Scotty is making his list and checking it twice! Let us know if you have any questions and thank you so much for supporting the race! Rebecca Strickland and Laura Singley

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.

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

NEW MEMBER CLASSES — Our next classes to 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. Please contact David Lower at davidlower@slpres.org to RSVP.

TARTAN IN TRAINING — Get ready for the 2018 Tartan Trot with Tartan in Training, group runs scheduled for 8am on the following Saturdays: January 6, 13 and 20. Come and train for the 5k or 10k! We'll meet in the lobby and child care will be provided for church members. Not a runner? We've got options! Join us at Cyclebar at 2pm on Saturday, January 13. Rides will be \$20 and all proceeds will benefit Tartan Trot. Or, try a free bootcamp at 9:30am on Saturday, January 20, in the Great Hall. Bring water and a towel/mat. Kilts optional! Contact TJ McGoldrick, tj.mcgoldrick@gmail.com to RSVP for these training events.

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>.

SPLASH! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

DECEMBER 21 – LIVE NATIVITY, 6PM

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.

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Both middle and high school will meet in the Sr. High room at 9:30am.

YOUTH GROUP

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. Please 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.

About Lessons and Carols

The service of Lessons and Carols dates back nearly 140 years ago to England. Through the service, the story is told of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus through a series of short readings from the Old and New Testaments, accompanied by the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and other music. While Lessons and Carols originated in the Anglican church, over the decades it has been adapted and used by other denominations worldwide. This wonderful tradition, moreover, has been duplicated in cathedrals and churches throughout America. The most well-known presentation of Lessons and Carols is broadcast annually from the chapel at King's College, Cambridge University. We welcome you this morning to Saint Luke's Presbyterian Church as we share in our Advent adaptation of this musical and liturgical worship tradition.

A Note to Parents About Faithful Friends

There will not be Faithful Friends this Sunday. Children are welcome to join their families for the Lessons and Carols service. Parents may take their children (through PreK) to their regular nursery classrooms in Sheppard Hall. Parents with children in K, 1st, and 2nd grade may take their children to watch a Christmas movie in the Dock, Room 212.



Gathering Prayer

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Advent Duet
arr. Patrick Liebergen

Mary Guerrant and Jenny Price, Soloists

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Douglass Family

Processional Hymn #140* Once in Royal David's City *IRBY*
Stanza 1 by Soloist, Stanzas 2-4 by all

Owen Hamlin, Soloist

The Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

*The Congregation, seated, shall respond with the leader the words indicated in **bold type**.*

Holy God, heaven and earth rejoice
in the newborn Child, Savior of the world.

We celebrate his birth;

for in him you come to be close to us, that we might be close to you.

Especially, we give thanks

**for the birth, life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
and all he means to us...**

for prospects of peace in the world...

for confidence in your almighty love...

for those who generously give...

for those who graciously receive...

for the Church's nurturing us in the faith...

God of all mercy, as you have come in Jesus Christ to be our guest,

inspire our hearts to a hospitality that welcomes all your children in his name.

Especially we pray

for those who have not heard your good news...

for the sick and suffering...

for those who know no laughter, only tears...

for those who govern and rule...

for those enslaved by tyranny...

for prisoners of addiction or abuse...

for the Church as a refuge for the needy...

**All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who taught us to pray...**

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.**



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

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.

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! Thursday, December 21 from 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.

OWLS CHRISTMAS PARTY RESCHEDULED — Same party details as before but now on Saturday, December 30 from 2-4pm at the home of John and Karleen Buchholz. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share with friends.



A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REST

Hosted by Stephen Ministry in the Chapel on December 17 at 5pm.

We invite you to this time of quiet reflection in the midst of this busy season. This service has become an important part of many of our lives, as one attendee has said:

"I want to thank the Stephen Ministers who allow us to open our hearts to the 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."

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.

Closing Hymn #136*

Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain, Refrain, Verse 3, Refrain

Benediction*

Postlude*

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come *arr. Walter Pelz*

Worship Notes: Thank you to all of the talented members who have shared their gifts with us today, especially our musicians: Ellie Eisenmesser, Allie Hearn, Will Hudson, Davis Keel, Catherine Kitchens, Mary Frances Kitchens, Katie Miller, Yvonne Miller, Jacob Moebes, James Moebes, Katie Moebes, Michelle Moebes, Emma Parker, Mark Rogers, Luke Sloan, Sydney Sloan, Grace Strickland, Emily Vail and Cameron Wescott. Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-719333.



A NOTE ON THE 2017 CHURCH BUDGET

— Last week we sent a reminder requesting members to please get their pledges fulfilled before the end of the year. We now provide financials through November so you can see the importance of your December giving. The total budget for 2017 is \$1.715 million dollars. Our expenses are running \$20,000 below plan (yeah team – well done!) and income is lagging plan by about 3%, not bad.

Unlike the Federal government, we are required to balance our budget each year. We project a need for \$195,000 in income in December. Outstanding pledges amount to approximately \$130,000, which we are prayerfully counting on, and we need \$65,000 in unpledged giving, which is in line with the amount received last year. Whether completing your pledge or making an unpledged gift, please know that only with your continued dedication and generous support will we raise \$195,000 to make budget and meet our Church's commitments.

Lesson One

An Abundant Life

Isaiah 55
Shannon Dill

Carol #82

Stanza 1 only

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus *HYFRYDOL*

Lesson Two

God Establishes the Covenant

Genesis 17:1-7
Alan Keel

Carol

On This Day, Earth Shall Ring Chancel Choir & Festival Ringers
arr. Neil Harmon

On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

God's bright star, o'er his head,
Wise Men three to him led;
kneel they low by his bed,
lay their gifts before him,
praise him and adore him.

His the doom, ours the mirth;
when he came down to earth,
Bethlehem saw his birth;
shepherds kneel before him,
praise him and adore him.

On this day angels sing;
with their song earth shall ring,
praising Christ, heaven's King,
born on earth to save us;
peace and love he gave us. (*Piae Cantiones*)

Lesson Three

The Promised Reign of the Coming King

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Ansley Crutchfield

Carol

Welcome, Dearest Jesus
arr. Helen Kemp

Westminster and Cherub Choirs

Welcome dearest Jesus, our beloved one:
You are a gift of love. God's Holy Son!
Welcome, dearest Jesus, to this needy, searching world:
"Gloria!" sing angels with peaceful wings unfurled.
Hallelujah! Shepherds on the hillside were startled by this sound,
"Oh, where," they asked, "can Christ, the child, be found?"
"Hurry now to Bethlehem; be led by heavenly light!
Bow before your Savior while yet the stars shine bright!"
Wise Men on their camels were beckoned by the star.
They came with gold and incense from a-far.
They, too, bowed before the King of Kings in humble stall.

Lesson Four

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Luke 1:26-33
Lindsay Moss

Carol

Child in the Manger *BUNESSAN*

Child in the manger, infant of Mary
Outcast and Stranger, Lord of us all
Child who inherits all our transgressions
All our demerits upon Him fall.
Prophets foretold him, Infant of wonder
Angels behold him on his throne
Worthy our Savior of all our praises
Happy forever are his own.

Lesson Five

The Shepherds and the Angels

Luke 2:8-20
Marshall Douglass

Carol

Sing We Now of Christmas *NÖEL NOUVELET*

Sing we now of Christmas,
Noel sing we here.
Hear our grateful praises
To the Babe so dear.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!
Angels called to shepherds,
"Leave your flocks at rest;
Journey forth to Bethl'hem
Find the Lamb-kin blest."
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!
In the stall they found him;
Joseph and Mary mild Seated 'round the manger,
Watching the holy Child.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Lesson Six

The Visit of the Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-3, 7-11
Forrest Bell, Sr.

Carol

We Three Kings *arr. Greg Scheer*

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star

**Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

Refrain

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising,
voices raising,
Worshiping God on high.

Lesson Seven

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-5, 10-14
Bailey Baldwin

Carol

Glory to God in the Highest *Giovanni Pergolesi*

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men!

The 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

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella
arr. Stephen Mager

Festival Ringers