

## 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  
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](http://www.cccgeorgia.org)

## SERVING TODAY

**Chapel Guild**– Dan and Sally Joyce  
**Open/Close**– Josh Nunez

## CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS:

The Church administrative offices will be closed in observance of Christmas and the New Year holidays. We look forward to serving you with grace and renewed vigor in 2018! Thank you friends, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Friday, December 22– Closed  
Monday, December 25 –Closed  
Tuesday, December 26–Closed  
Friday, December 29– Closing at Noon  
Monday, January 1– Closed

## 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



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

10:30am



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

**December 24, 2017**  
Fourth 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.*

**REGULAR 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.

**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](mailto:laurasingley@att.net)) and let us know.

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

**TARTAN IN TRAINING** — New this year! 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. Please feel free to contact TJ McGoldrick at [tj.mcgoldrick@gmail.com](mailto:tj.mcgoldrick@gmail.com) to RSVP for the various events. Bring water and a towel or mat. Kilts are optional.

**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>.

**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](mailto:davidlower@slpres.org).

## Closing Hymn #119\*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *MENDELSSOHN*

## Benediction\*

## Postlude\*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice *arr. Jan Sanborn*

*Worship Notes:*

*Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net (A-719333).*

## SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:



**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.



**DECEMBER 24 SCHEDULE** — Please take note that the 10:30am morning worship service is Advent Four. A Morning Prayer service will be held in Saint Luke's chapel. Saint Luke's Christmas Eve services will begin with the 5pm Family service and then the 8pm Candlelight and Choir Service, both held in the sanctuary. We will conclude services with an 11pm Candlelight service in the chapel.



**OWLS CHRISTMAS PARTY RESCHEDULED** — All the details remain the same but will be held on Saturday, December 30 at the home of John and Karleen Buchholz. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share with friends!

## In Preparation for Worship

"I won't be made useless. I won't be idle with despair. I will gather myself around my faith for light does the darkness most fear. My hands are small, I know, but they're not yours, they are my own."

~Jewel, from the song "Hands."



## Prelude

Love Has Come *arr. Jan Sanborn*

## 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

The Shipley Family

## Hymn #133\*

O Come, All Ye Faithful *ADESTE FIDELES*

## Call to Confession\*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

## Prayer of Confession\*

**God of the new birth, we are so close to Christmas day.**

**In a few short hours we will sing praises for Jesus, the Christ, is born.**

**But we aren't there yet.**

**Teach us, Lord, to finish waiting.**

**Forgive us for the times we have not waited with the purpose of John the Baptist, telling the world of your coming.**

**Forgive us when we have lost the faith and trust of Mary and Joseph.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for our distractedness during this season.**

**Return us Lord to you.**

**Gather us up.**

**Teach us to wait with hope, peace, love, and joy.**

**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** John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.  
All things came into being through him,  
and without him not one thing came into being.  
What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.  
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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

## Tell us Our Story

*Children are always welcome to stay in worship. Childcare is not available for this service due to the special Morning Prayer format.*

**Anthem** O Nata Lux *Tom Porter* Chancel Choir Ensemble

O nata lux de lumine,  
Jesu redemptor saeculi,  
Dignare clemens supplicum  
Laudes preces que sumere.  
Qui carne quondam contegi  
Dignatus es pro perditis.  
Nos membra confer effici,  
Tui beati corporis.

O Light, born of light,  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
with loving-kindness deign to receive  
suppliant praise and prayer.  
You who once deigned to be clothed in flesh  
for the sake of the lost,  
grant us to be members  
of your blessed body.

**Sermon** Phil Brown

**Hymn #110\*** Love Has Come *BRING A TORCH*

## Morning Prayer\*

*Pastor prays and then leads into this said in unison*

...New every morning is your love,  
great God of light,  
and all day long you are working for good in the world.  
Stir up in us the desire to serve you,  
to live peacefully with our neighbors,  
and to devote each day to your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ the 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.

## 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** Away in a Manger *arr. Jan Sanborn*

**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.