First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016 8:30am

SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

November 27, 2016
First Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: *Purple*
Purple marks the seasons 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 & 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 activity sheets 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.

In Preparation for Worship

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope...It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope." *Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship*

Leader: Holy God, the beginning and the end of all things: we join our voices with the angels to sing your praises.

People: Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Leader: Blessed are you for your promise of deliverance to Daniel and all who find themselves in dens of despair.

People: Blessed are you in the hopes and dreams of the prophets Joel and Isaiah.

Leader: Blessed are you for Mary and Joseph's openness to your will.

People: Blessed are you for your Son Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Leader: Alleluia! The Lord is coming soon.

People: Christ is coming indeed. Alleluia!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Beth, Morgan & Sydney Underhill

Opening Hymn #165*

The Glory of These Forty Days ERHALT UNS, HERR

Call to Confession*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession*

God of Deliverance,
we confess that we are not ready for Your advent.
We scoff at those who await Your return, and live as though You were never here.
We long for Your coming to change the world,
and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts.
Deliver us from these sins and open our eyes to see Your presence all around us...
(time of silent confession)

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

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

Scripture Lesson Daniel 6:6-28 pages 827-828

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story Shannon Dill

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

Sermon Awaiting Deliverance David Lower

Hymn #97* Watchman, Tell Us of the Night *ABERYSTWYTH*

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.

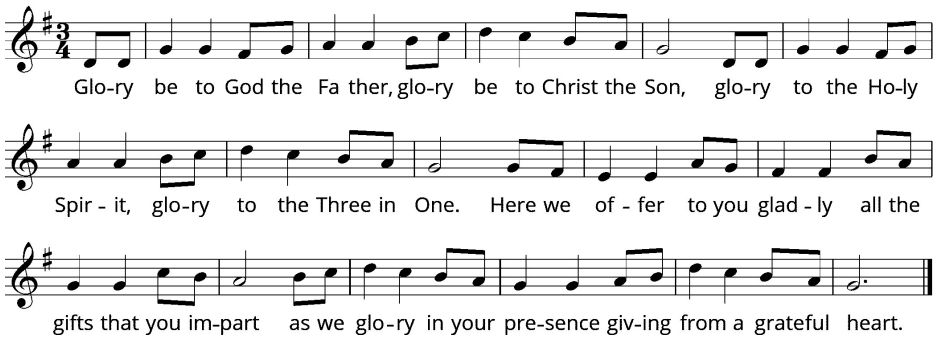
** please stand*

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

Song of Thanksgiving*



Prayer of Dedication*

The Lord's Supper

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.

Closing Hymn #92* While We Are Waiting, Come *WAITING*

Charge and Blessing*

Postlude*

Worship Notes:

Trey Clegg is our guest organist this morning.
Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-719333.

Sunday Spotlight:

2017 COMMITMENT UPDATE: Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday because it brings family and friends together over good food and maybe a football game; just come and enjoy the company. As we reflect on the blessings in our lives, let us remember all bounty comes from God. We in turn commit a portion of our good fortune back to St. Luke's in order to support the spreading of the good word and acts of kindness. Thank you to all who have made pledges for 2017. We encourage all members to financially support the work we do in this sacred place.

SANTA CLAUS EXPRESS—Saint Luke's will be a drop off location again this year for this Presbyterian Women sponsored gift collection for residents at Presbyterian health services. Deadline for purchases to be brought to Saint Luke's is this Wed., Nov.30. There is a drop off bin in the lobby. Please refer to the flyer attached to the bin as it details more about the program.

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE... ADVENT!

1st Sunday of Advent. Some highlights include:

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 Dec. 18. On Jan. 1, plants may be taken home to enjoy! Questions? Contact Nancy Self, 404.237.6551 or nself@comcast.net.

SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE— As a reminder, unwrapped purchases need to be returned to the lobby by Fri., Dec. 2. Please contact Jan Slater at 770.391.0489 or 770.757.5924.

SAINT LUKE'S ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY—Sat., Dec. 3 from 5-8pm 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 & a big screen movie. Two babysitters will be on hand to supervise.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) CHRISTMAS DINNER—Mon., Dec. 5. Mingle in the lobby from 6-6:30pm, followed by a delicious dinner prepared by Chef Quentin & concluding with a candle-light communion service. Please sign up & pay online at www.slpres.org, or in the lobby. Inviting family & friends is highly encouraged. $15 pp. Checks can be made out to SL PW. Questions? Please contact Stephanie McGoldrick at tsmcgoldrick@gmail.com.

OWLS CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE— Saint Luke's OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors) will host their Christmas Open House on Dec. 10 from 2-5pm. The event will be held at the home of the Buchholz's. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the lobby.

TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT CONCERT—Sun., Dec.11 at 4pm at Saint Luke's. Ret. Col. Richard H. White, Chairman of the Board, GA Military Veterans' Hall of Fame will be there for the presentation of the GA Military Veterans' Hall of Fame Certificate of Honor to Master Sergeant Cecil W. Hannaford & Lieutenant Colonel Byron Craig Brown. Marylyn Brown will receive this recognition for her late husband, Byron. All are cordially invited to a reception after the concert.

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 Dec. 18th bulletin. Make checks payable to SL PW , place your contribution in the specially marked envelope in the pew rack & then place in offering plate or on the tree in the lobby. Deadline: Sun., Dec. 11.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE—The PW will have two types of mini loaves available for purchase, Triple Chocolate & Cranberry-Orange, Sun., Dec.11. These delicious, homemade breads make wonderful hostess gifts. $4 each. Please, cash or check.

AWAIT, AWAKEN, ARISE, ASTOUND and ABIDE

NOV 27 ***1st Sunday of Advent***

Pick up Advent Resources in the Lobby:

* A Journey of Memories: Advent Devotional
* Advent Sharing Box
* Manger in the Mantle

DEC 4 ***2nd Sunday of Advent***

11AM Service of Lessons and Carols

DEC 5

6PM PW Dinner & Worship Service

DEC 11 ***3rd Sunday of Advent***

PW Christmas Bake Sale

4PM Toys for Tots Benefit Concert & Presentation-GA Military Hall of Fame

DEC 15

5:30PM Live Nativity

DEC 18 ***4th Sunday of Advent***

JOY Offering

Chrismons ("Christ's Monogram") Presentation by PW; both services

9:30–11AM Happy Birthday Jesus & Fellowship Brunch

5PM Service of Comfort & Rest

DEC 24 ***Christmas Eve Worship Services***

5PM Family *(Sanctuary)*

8PM Candlelight *(Sanctuary)*

11PM Candlelight *(Chapel)*

DEC 25 ***Christmas Day***

11AM Worship Service *(Sanctuary)*

S P L A S H ! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

ADVENT SHARING BOX– Pick up your box in the church lobby & awaken the "giving spirit" of the season. Collect non-perishable food items in the provided box for donation to The CAC.

MANGER ON THE MANTLE– This unique activity is a wonderful tool which reinforces the Advent season of wait, watch and prepare. Pick up your Manger on the Mantle Kit in the church lobby.

LIVE NATIVITY – Thur., Dec. 15 at 5:30pm. Consider if your family would like to portray a costumed Bethlehem character. Contact Mary Kent at gkent4@aol.com, if you are interested in playing a role or if you would like to intern with Mary Kent to take the reins in 2017.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS & FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH – Sun., Dec. 18 from 9:30-11:00am. Contact Catherine Anne Thomas, cathomas@slpres.org, if you'd like to help plan and share in this intergenerational event with your Saint Luke's family.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE– Sat., Dec. 24 at 5pm. Every child who comes will have a part, but contact Catherine Anne if your child would like an assigned part. If you would like to sing with the Christmas Eve choir, rehearsals will be Dec. 7, 14, and 21 at 5-5:45pm in the choir room.

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

We have some exciting opportunities planned for youth during the upcoming holiday season. They include:

- Participating in the Lessons & Carols Service at Saint Luke's on Dec. 4.
- Caroling for Community Assistance Center on Dec. 8.
- Also, participating in the Live Nativity on Dec. 15.
- For those interested in singing with the Christmas Eve choir, rehearsals are Dec. 7, 14 and 21 from 5-5:45pm in the choir room.

Email Clair with your interest and stay current with music updates by texting @choirsl to 81010.

SAVE THE DATE

Sun., Dec. 4 at 11am Service – Advent Lessons and Carols

Sun., Dec. 11 at 4 pm – Toys for Tots benefit concert featuring our choirs & the Premiere Brass quintet. At this service, Cecil Hannaford & Byron Brown will be honored by the Georgia Military Hall of Fame. Reception to follow. Childcare provided.

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 upstairs from 9:30-10:30am to decorate the youth rooms for Christmas.

YOUTH GROUPS– No Youth Group on Nov. 27, please enjoy time with your family.

HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST- Tues., Dec. 6 at 7am at the Jett Ferry Chick-fil-A.
Other dates: Dec. 20. Text Phil by Mon. night at 8pm if you need a ride in the morning.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Toys for Tots on Dec. 11, 4pm. From 3-6pm, youth will be providing childcare for 3yr. olds through 5th graders during the concert. This is a great opportunity to prepare for Mountain TOP camp. We would also like a few adult volunteers. Talk to Phil or Emily if you can help out.
- Live Nativity on Dec. 15, 5:30pm. Come in your Tartan Trot gear to help set up. We will be selling hot chocolate to raise money for Tartan Trot.

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.

STEPHEN MINISTERS People don't always need advice. Sometimes all they really need is a hand to hold, an ear to listen, and a heart to understand them. If you are experiencing difficult times and would like a Stephen Minister to help, please contact Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinators: Rev. Shannon Dill (shannondill@slpres.org, 770-393-1424, ext. 229) or Laura Strange (jandlstrange@comcast.net, 770-392-9284). If you have a friend in need, have the person call or obtain permission to inquire on their behalf.

ADVENT RESOURCES AT SAINT LUKE'S Please be sure to stop by the Advent Outpost in the church lobby to pick up a few tools for you and/or your family's use during this Advent season. There are three items available this year. ***A Journey of Memories*** is a daily Advent devotional published through Presbyterians Today. The ***Advent Sharing Box*** is an outreach tool for all who are interested in collecting food for The Community Assistance Center. Finally, for families with small children, be sure to pick up a ***Manger in the Mantle*** kit!

FAMILY PROMISE—Join us for our last Family Promise host week opportunity of 2016! We will welcome homeless children & their parents to make themselves at home at SLPC on Dec. 11 & will host them through Dec.18. We are so thankful for each of you who are able to offer hospitality, time, meals, prayers and support. Sign up at: http://tinyurl.com/SLPCFP2016-12. David King, cardheel@yahoo.com or Beth Underhill, bunderhill.mail@gmail.com.

HOOPS AT SAINT LUKE'S!—Start your day off right with morning basketball in the Great Hall from 6-7am each Thursday. Questions? Email TJ McGoldrick, tsmcgoldrick@gmail.com.

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

Chapel Guild– Dan and Sally Joyce
Continental Breakfast– Gena Spears
Open/Close– Miles Young

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