

## 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

## SERVING TODAY

### Acolytes:

**Bell Ringer-** Jacob Moebes  
**Bible Bearer-** Thom Rabren  
**Candle Lighter-** Marshall Douglass  
**Crucifer-** Eliza Thatcher  
**Supervisor-** Cheryl Wellford

**Chancel Guild-** John and Ellen Massey

**Continental Breakfast-** Emily Ritzler

**Greeters-** Ron Davis and Sonny Jester

**Lay Reader-** Suzanne Thatcher

**Open/Close-** Miles Young

**Sound Crew-** Roby Price

**Ushers-** TJ and Stephanie McGoldrick, Captains; Elliott, Sydney and Nolan McGoldrick. Dustin and Carol Waller, Wells and Cooper Waller.

## 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, JJ 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



## Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017      10:30am



**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 Hamlin family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Stephen Roy Hamlin.*

**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 or a church officer 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](http://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 lacing crosses 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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.

**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

December 10: 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

## 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



### Gathering Prayer

### Chiming of the Hour

### Prelude

An Advent Prelude arr. Charles Callahan Michelle Moebes, flute

### 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 Moebes Family

They say God loved the world so dear  
He set aside His crown  
And cloaked Himself in human shape; They say that He came down,  
And dwelt awhile among us here. He came on down.

### Opening Hymn #105\*

People Look East BENSON

Jill Hudson, Solo

### 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.

\* please stand

## **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 759 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 Chrismon symbol is the chalice.*

*Parents may take their children (through PreK) to our nursery, Room 120 in Sheppard Hall. Parents of children in K, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2nd grade may take them to Faithful Friends in The Harbor, Room 213 in Sheppard Hall.*

## **Anthem**

**Of the Father's Heart Begotten** arr. David Willcocks Chancel Choir  
 Of the Father's heart begotten,  
 Ere the world from chaos rose,  
 He is Alpha, from that fountain  
 All that is and hath been flows;  
 He is Omega, of all things,  
 Yet to come the mystic Close,  
 Evermore and evermore.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
 When the Maid the curse retrieved,  
 Brought to birth mankind's salvation  
 By the Holy Ghost conceived,  
 And the Babe, the world's Redeemer  
 In her loving arms received,  
 Evermore and evermore.

By His Word was all created  
 He commanded and 'twas done;  
 Earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
 Universe of three in one,  
 All that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
 All that breathes beneath the sun,  
 Evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body,  
 Frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
 That the race from dust created,  
 Might not perish utterly,  
 Which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
 In the depths of hell to lie,  
 Evermore and evermore.

This is He, whom seer and sibyl  
 Sang in ages long gone by;  
 This is He of old revealed  
 In the page of prophecy;  
 Lo! He comes the promised Savior;  
 Let the world his praises cry!  
 Evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
 Angels and Archangels, sing!  
 Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
 Let your joyous anthems ring,  
 Every tongue his name confessing,  
 Countless voices answering,  
 Evermore and evermore. (*Roby Furley Davis*)

## **SPLASH! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

**Catherine Anne Thomas** [cathomas@slpres.org](mailto: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 this Sunday, December 10.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Sermon

David Lower and Cameron Wescott

## Musical Response

O Radiant Light, O Sun Divine *CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM*

O radiant light, O sun divine Of God the Father's deathless face,  
O image of the light sublime that fills the heav'nly dwelling place.  
O Son of God, the source of life, praise is your due by night and day;  
Unsullied lips must raise the strain Of your proclaimed and splendid name.

(*Phos Hilaron*)

## 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.

## Offering Invitation

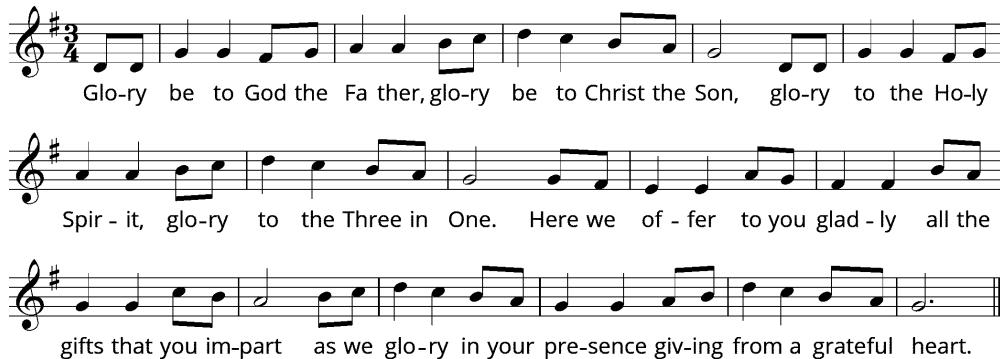
*Giving is a tangible sign of worship. If you give electronically, there is a blue, laminated, electronic giving in the pew rack to place in the offering plate as it is passed.*

## Offertory

Michelle and Jacob Moebes, Duet

## 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.

## 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.**

## Closing Hymn #104\*

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

## Benediction\*

### Response\*

While We Are Waiting, Come *WAITING*

While we are waiting, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel.

### Postlude\*

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

*Worship Notes: Thank you to Michelle and Jacob Moebes for sharing their talent with us today.  
 Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net (A-719333).*

## 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](mailto: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.