

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/Candle Lighter- Emma Troha

Crucifer/Candle Lighter- Jack Troha

Communion Servers - Terry Nall, Captain; College students

Lay Readers- Jennie Burroughs and her sons, D.M. Mothershed and Zach Burroughs.

Open/Close- Josh Nunez

Sound Crew- Bob Burroughs

Ushers- Andrea Price, Captain; Al and Tricia Bridges, Carol Hickey, and Nancy Moore

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



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

8:00pm



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

December 24, 2017

Christmas Eve

Liturgical Color: White

Liturgical colors can orient us to the season of the church year and help to engage the sense of sight in worship. White is used for special feast days and communion.

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 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 Sunday during the year, children are invited to walk up for an age-appropriate message during "Tell Us Our Story."

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.

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. Space is limited at Cyclebar, so please take a moment to register at: <https://dunwoody.cyclebar.com/class-detail/?apptid=4551735>. 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.

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.

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.

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING 2018 EVENTS

Details to follow in future publications.

- Back to School Pizza Lunch, 11:30am, Sunday, January 7. Follow up meeting from Conversations about Worship.
- FEAST begins on Wednesday, January 17
- PW Sandwich Project is Sunday, January 21
- Boy Scout Sunday is also January 21
- VBS is June 11-14

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

PARENT RETREAT IN MONTREAT, FEBRUARY 9-11:

More information here on an amazing weekend to recharge, learn, and grow as parents with people from around the Southeast. www.authenticparents.org. Let Phil know if you are interested in a roommate for the weekend. We have a female looking for a roommate too. It looks like the retreat housing is going to fill up so let's get those registrations in.

Registration price increase January 5.

JANUARY 8 IS MT. TOP REGISTRATION DAY:

More details coming next week. Registration will open at 8:00 pm on the Saint Luke's website. Spots will be filled on a first come-first serve basis. Dates: June 24-30, 2018. Total cost of the trip still TBD, but will be around \$325-\$350. \$150 deposit and paperwork due by February 1.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT DATES:

We had to reschedule the high school retreat due to the snow. New dates are March 16-18. Same details as before. Still going to Mt. TOP. Still, need adults to come along with us. The new registration page will be up next week.

CONFIRMATION CLASS:

Typically for 8th graders in the spring semester. We will begin in January. Look for more information next week.

Preparation for Worship

"Salvation is come, and hope is alive."

~Luke 2:1-20, paraphrase



Prelude

Christmas Carol Selections

String Quartet

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.

Note about communion servers: Tonight college students have been invited by the session to serve communion. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support for them throughout the school year.

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Kitchens Family

Processional Hymn #133* O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTE FIDELES

Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

Prayer for Christmas Eve*

Emmanuel, God-With-Us,

**this is the night heaven's heart bursts open with joy,
when you come to make all things new.**

**We thank you, loving God, for the gift of Jesus,
light in darkness and hope of the world.**

Forgive us for the times we lose sight of your presence and power.

**With all creation and with singing angels,
we praise your name and rejoice in the birth of earth's salvation! Amen.**

Anthem

The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem Sara Boss

Chancel Choir

The hills are bare at Bethlehem, no future for the world they show;
yet here new life begins to grow, from earth's old dust a greenwood stem.
The stars are cold at Bethlehem, no warmth for those beneath the sky;
yet here the radiant angels fly, and joy burns new, a fiery gem.
The heart is tired at Bethlehem, no human dream unbroken stands;
yet here God comes to mortal hands, and hope renewed cries out: "Amen!"

Prayer for Illumination

Jennie Burroughs

First Lesson

Luke 2:1-7, page 54 of the New Testament

Jennie Burroughs

Carol #115Away in a Manger *MUELLER*

Away in a manger,
 no crib for his bed,
 the little Lord Jesus
 laid down his sweet head.
 The stars in the bright sky
 looked down where he lay
 the little Lord Jesus
 asleep on the hay.

Second LessonLuke 2:8-14, *page 54-55 of the New Testament* D.M. Mothershed**Carol #119**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *MENDELSSOHN*

Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.
 Peace on earth and mercy mild
 God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise
 Join the triumph of the skies
 With angelic host proclaim
 Christ is born in Bethlehem
 Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.

Third LessonLuke 2:15-20, *page 55 of the New Testament* Zach Burroughs**Carol #113**Angels We Have Heard on High *GLORIA*

Angels we have heard on high
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains
 And the mountains in reply
 Echoing their joyous strains
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Sermon

God Shows Up Rev. Dr. David Lower

Hymn #110*Love Has Come *BRING A TORCH***Affirmation of Faith**

From The Confession of 1967

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself.
 Jesus Christ is God with humankind.
 He is the eternal Son of the Father,
 who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation.
 God is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit
 to continue and complete his mission.
 Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God
 and to one another. Amen.

ADULT MINISTRYShannon 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.

MUSIC MINISTRYClair 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*

JOIN A CHOIR IN THE NEW YEAR!

Chancel and Festival – resume January 3
 Westminster and Cherub – resume January 17

The Gospel According to John*

from John 1, responsively

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.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**He was in the world, and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.**

He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God.

**And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.**

At the conclusion of the reading of John 1:1-5, the sanctuary lights will come up and you are invited to extinguish your Christmas candle.

Closing Hymn #134*

Joy to the World *ANTIOCH*

Benediction*

Passing the Peace of Christ*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Postlude*

Joy to the World *arr. Emma Lou Diemer*

Musicians: George Butler, Christina Volz Stomackin, Julie Rosseter Sweeney, Michele Mariage Volz.

Prayers of the People*

responsively

God of glory, by your grace a child has been born for us,
Jesus Christ, the hope of all creation.

We now make these prayers in his holy name.

Jesus Christ, Light of the World,

**be with people of faith and goodwill everywhere,
and all who seek the way of peace.**

Jesus Christ, born in a stable,

**be with our brothers and sisters
who are without shelter, food, family or friends tonight.**

Jesus Christ, child of Mary and Joseph,

be with all mothers and fathers and nurturers and teachers throughout the world.

Jesus Christ, visited by shepherds,

**be with our neighbors who work tonight and tomorrow,
and all those who long to work.**

Jesus Christ, greeted by kings,

**be with the leaders and rulers of this world,
and all who make decisions that affect the common good.**

Jesus Christ, who became a refugee,

**be with immigrants and refugees fleeing violence and oppression,
seeking safety for their families.**

Jesus Christ, who comes with healing hands,

**be with our friends and family who are sick and homebound,
those who are dying, and those who are mourning.**

God of Light, we seal these prayers to you,
along with the silent prayers of our hearts,

with the great prayer that Jesus, our Savior and Lord, taught us, saying...

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

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

Silent Night *arr. Rhonda Polay*

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.

Prayer of Dedication*

Holy Communion

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

Mary's Lullaby *John Rutter*

See the child that Mary bore
On her lap so softly sleeping
In a stable cold and poor
Ox and ass their vigil keeping
Sing lullaby, sing lullaby
My own dear son, my child
Lullaby, sing lullaby
Lullaby, my little baby

Flights of angels round his head
Sing him joyful hymns of greeting
Peace on earth, goodwill to men
Each to each the song repeating
Shepherds kneeling by his bed
Offer homage without measure
Wise men, by a bright star led
Bring him gifts of richest treasure

Communion Music

What Is This Lovely Fragrance? *arr. Healy Willan*

What is this lovely fragrance wafting like to the scents of flow'rs in spring?
Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty? Hear you not heav'nly caroling?
What is this light so fair, so tender breaking upon our wond'ring eyes?
Never the Morning Star so radiant followed his course o'er eastern skies.
Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps seek the Savior, born today.
Low at his feet we lay our treasure, heart's adoration, love for aye.

The Sharing of the Light of Christ*

Hymn #122*

Silent Night, Holy Night *STILLE NACHT*

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
'round yon Virgin Mother and Child!
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from Thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.