



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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
 Treasurer Mark Rogers
 Program Coordinator for CE & Music Ministry Melissa King
 Intern for Children & Youth Ministry Erin Rugh
 Church Administrator Lindsay Moss
 Interim Facility Manager Roby Price
 Receptionist Matthew Dobson
 A/V Director Roby Price

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

Bell Ringer: Madeleine Douglass
Bible Bearer: Mischa Douglass
Candle Lighter: Mason Douglass
Crucifier: Mason Douglass
Chancel Guild: Paula Humer
Lay Reader: Catherine Kitchens
Open/Close: Bill Womack
Sound: Bob Burroughs

LEADERSHIP

ELDERS

Class of 2019:

Al Bridges, Beth Eisenmesser,
 Sonny Jester, Bob Pile, Bob Polensek,
 Terri Potter, Whitney Samuelson,
 Steven Vivian, Sydney Sloan (*Youth
 Elder*)

Class of 2020:

Carol Ciepluch, Leslie Hamlin, Kay
 Loerch (*Clerk of Session*), Florence
 Luranc, JJ Singley, Kelly Sloan,
 Steve Thornton, Brad Troha

Class of 2021:

Bob Burroughs, Steve Cashwell (*Asst.
 Clerk of Session*) Tracy Coffie, Val
 DeFriece, Matt Fogarty, Nael McCarty,
 Todd Parker, Kristen Wescott

DEACONS

Class of 2019:

Melissa Blakely, Alyson Cohen,
 Mark Douglass, A.J.Favero,
 Carol Hickey, Dorothy Kitchens
 (*Moderator*), Debbie Parkes, Carol
 Waller, Al Wang, Rosie Coffie (*Youth
 Deacon,*)

Class of 2020:

Thomas Brown, Karleen Buchholz,
 Jenny Cumiskey, Ron Davis, Kris Hull
 (*Vice Moderator*), Daryl Moore, Emily
 Ritzler, Vivian Smith, Suzanne Thatcher

Class of 2021:

Marylyn Brown, Kelda Hearn, Janis
 Jones, Alan Keel, Christy Keohane,
 Betsy King, Molly Naugher, Gena
 Spears, Steve Wassell



2nd Sunday of Advent 10:30am



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

December 9, 2018
2nd 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 marks the seasons of penitence and preparation., Advent and Lent.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:15am Chapel Communion Service
- 9:15am 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.

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 activity sheets and tactile activities are available on the blue Worship Carts in the back of the sanctuary. 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).

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL - HOPES AND FEARS: BE NOT AFRAID— We hope you'll follow along daily, be deepened in your faith, and prepare your heart to celebrate the birth of Christ. This year's devotional is provided by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

There are a wide variety of way to access the devotional!

- Read online. Go to our website www.slpres.org and follow the link for Advent Devotional
- Receive daily e-mails. Go to www.pts.edu/email, click "Signup for Seminary News," and "Devotionals (Advent and Lent)."
- Follow along on the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Facebook and Twitter pages.
- Download the free app:
 - Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.pts.devotions>
 - Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/devotions-advent-lent/id945697533?ls=1&mt=8>
- A limited number of printed copies will be available at the church.

Contact Shannon Dill if you have any questions!

THANK YOU!— A big thanks to all who weathered the rain last Saturday to help with the Advent decorating! Your help was greatly appreciated!

SAINT LUKE'S LITTLE SAINTS PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN 2019 REGISTRATION DATES: **January 22nd** (Church Members); **January 23** (Current Families); **January 24th** (New Families) For further information and to arrange a tour, please contact Carol Perry, Director: 770.393.1424 x240 or carolperry@slpres.org.

WOMEN'S RETREAT— MARCH 1-3, 2019 AT DILLARD HOUSE Registration is now open. Join us for a weekend of fellowship, fun and spiritual growth. Rev. Julie Bailey will be our guest speaker. Julie serves as the Director of Alumni and Church Relations at Columbia Seminary. Registration forms are available in the lobby or you can sign up on line at: <https://slpres.org/2019-womens-retreat/> Deadline to sign up is February 1. (return registration forms to Melissa King)

TARTAN TROT NOTES:

- Reminder to **Sponsors to Register** using the promo code provided by email. Also, please contact TJ McGoldrick or Rebecca Strickland if you have not picked up your sponsor gift.
- It's not too late be a **Sponsor!** Contact TJ McGoldrick at TJ.McGoldrick@gmail.com
- **Volunteer** information and details for Race Day will be sent out the beginning of January
- **CycleBar:** Join us at Cyclebar at 1:00p.m. on **Saturday, January 12**. Rides will be \$20 and all proceeds will benefit Tartan Trot. More details to follow along with Registration Link.

Please feel free to contact TJ McGoldrick (TJ.McGoldrick@gmail.com with any questions

MUSIC MINISTRY

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

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Sunday, December 16 - Our church orchestra members will participate in worship for our annual Lessons and Carols. Rehearsal is at 9:15 am that morning in preparation for the service at 10:30 am.

Christmas Eve - We are looking for musicians to participate in the 9 pm service on Christmas Eve. Contact Clair for more details.

WESTMINSTER AND CHERUB CHOIRS

Sunday, December 16 - Our children's choirs will be singing for the Lessons and Carols service at 10:30 am. Warm up begins at 10 am that morning.

Christmas Eve - We would like as many of our children to participate in singing for our 5 pm service as possible. Contact Clair for more details.

NO rehearsals for any of our choirs on December 26 and January 2.

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.

In Preparation for Worship

"Could there be any more exciting turn in the road than the will of God?"

— Anonymous



Gathering Prayer

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying *Flor Peeter*

Prelude

Chiming of the Hour

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.

Call to Worship*

Leader: Christ draws near.

People: **A new day is dawning.**

Leader: The day of the Lord's reign draws near.

People: **A new day is dawning.**

Opening Hymn #105*

People, Look East

BENSANÇON

Lighting of the Advent Candle*

Thompson Family

Advent Prayer*

Gracious God, renew in us this day the promises that light overcomes darkness, hope defeats despair, and joy conquers fear, so that we may live out those promises today and every day. Amen.

Song of Praise* (refrain from hymn #314)

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Passing the Peace of Christ*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Catherine Kitchens

Scripture Reading

Esther 4:1-17 pg. 425 of the Old Testament

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

After Tell Us Our Story, parents may walk children 3 and younger to their classrooms in Sheppard Hall. Pre-K, K and 1st graders may gather in the narthex, make a nametag, and follow your teacher up to The Harbor for a series of "Whirl" videos.

The Saint Luke's Presbyterian Women have been making Chrismons for the children of our church for 26 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 a sailboat, which reminds us of the Holy Spirit powering Christians through uncertain waters.

Anthem

The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem Sara Boss Chancel Choir
Allie Hearn, Violin

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 fi'ry 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!"
(Royce Scherf)

Sermon

"For Such a Time as This"

David Lower

Hymn #83*

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

DECEMBER 9

Sunday School: 9:15-10:15 am

Youth Group: Tailgate Party in Youth Room. 12:30-Halftime to watch the Falcons v. the Packers. Bring \$10 to cover snacks, supplies, and pizza.

LIVE NATIVITY—DECEMBER 20

Youth come help with Live Nativity, Hot Chocolate, S'mores, and more. Set up at 5:00 PM, We will be cleaned up by 8:00 PM.

COLLEGE STUDENTS TO HELP WITH COMMUNION ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Every year the session invites college students to serve communion at the 9:00 and 11:00 services on Christmas Eve. Let Phil know if you'd like to serve. philbrown@slpres.org or text him.

PARENT RETREAT—FEBRUARY 8-10

A weekend in Montreat, NC focused on parenting kids of all ages. Sponsored by Saint Luke's and other churches around the Southeast. For more information: www.authenticparents.org

MARRIAGE RETREAT— FEBRUARY 8-10, 2019

Whether you are newly married wanting to know more about what's ahead, parents in the midst of busyness looking to reconnect, or just want to have a weekend away with your spouse join us at Calloway Gardens for the **Better Marriages retreat, February 8-10, 2019**. You can stroll through the gardens, attend workshops designed to enrich your marriage, and meet great people! Register now! For any questions email or call Bob and Christine Crutchfield at 770-364-8079 and Gafrog01@hotmail.com.

SPLASH! CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

DECEMBER 20 – LIVE NATIVITY 6:00-7:30PM

Invite your friends to this community favorite! We'll interact with the friendly beasts from the Little Red Barn; 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 that one birth brought to our world.

If you or someone in your family would like to portray a Bethlehem role during the live

nativity, please contact Mary Kent, gkent4@aol.com. Time commitment for characters is 5:30-7:15pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE CREATIONS

All Saint Luke's kids are invited to help share the nativity story through artwork. Just draw a color picture of the Bethlehem scene with marker or crayon on white paper. All entries will be displayed and published; we will pick one for our 5:00pm Christmas Eve bulletin cover! Leave all drawings in the office mailbox of Catherine Anne Thomas by December 16th. They can do it during worship with the clipboards and white paper!

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 and 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.

The Offering Invitation

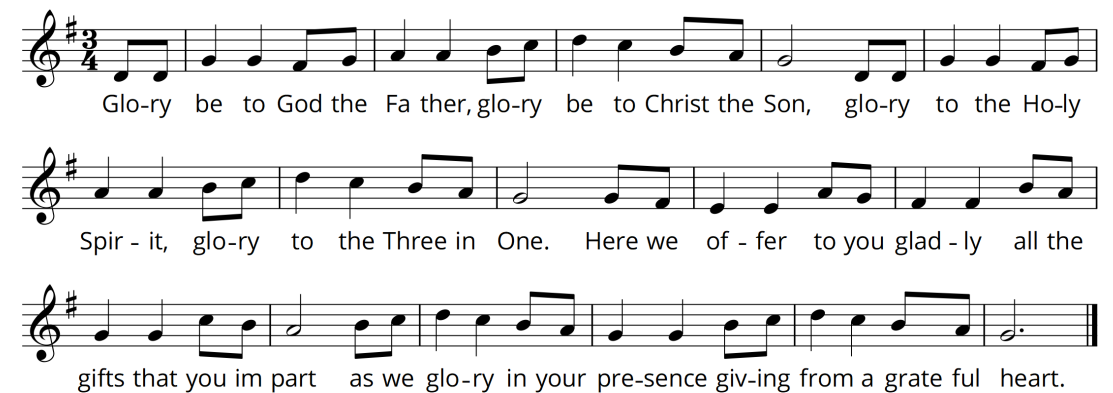
Giving is a tangible sign of worship. If you give electronically, there is a blue, laminated, electronic giving card in the pew rack to place in the offering plate as it is passed.

Offertory

Carol Percy Whitlock

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 grate ful heart.

Closing Hymn #384*

Soon and Very Soon

Benediction*

Benediction Response*

While We Are Waiting, Come

Chancel Choir

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

Postlude*

Postlude on "Hyfrydol" *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

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SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:



A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND REST — TODAY at 5pm

in the Saint Luke's chapel. This special service offers hope and comfort to those who are finding it difficult to celebrate this season due to the loss of loved ones or broken relationships, or for any other reason. Please join us and invite someone you know who needs to feel the warmth and comfort of hope.



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 16. On January 6, plants may be taken home to enjoy! Questions? Contact Nancy Self, 404.237.6551 or nself@comcast.net. Deadline: Sunday, December 9.



TODAY! PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

—The PW will have two types of mini loaves available for purchase, Triple Chocolate & Cranberry-Orange on **Sunday, December 9**. These delicious, homemade breads make wonderful hostess gifts. \$4 each. Please, cash or check. These delicious baked goods are wonderful to have on hand during the Christmas holidays!



LESSONS AND CAROLS — Sunday, December 16 at 10:30 am.

Our annual tradition of worshipping through readings and seasonal music led by members of the congregation and all our choirs. Invite friends and neighbors to this celebratory service as we prepare for the coming of Christ, hear anew the familiar story, and sing together as one voice.



CHRISMONS FOR CHILDREN

—The Saint Luke's Presbyterian Women have been making Chrismons for the children of our church for 26 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 distributed during both worship services **TODAY**.



ADVENT SEASON IS HERE!

Some highlights include:

OWLS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON — Saint Luke's OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors) will host their Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 11 at 11:30 am at the home of David and Amanda Lower (4696 Devonshire Rd., Dunwoody, GA 30338). Please bring a dessert to share. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the lobby. Join us for lunch and friendship!

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 23 bulletin. Please make checks payable to SL PW. You may place your contribution in the envelope on the Thornwell poster in the lobby or in the specially marked envelope in the pew rack & then place in offering plate. Deadline: Sunday, December 16. Any questions, please contact Julie Knotts at 404-668-4008.

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY — Come join your Saint Luke's family for the annual Christmas Party at the Joyce's home (7430 StoneyKirk Close, Atlanta, Ga. 30350), **5:30-9pm on Saturday, December 15, 2018**. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share and enjoy food, fellowship, and Christmas fun! Sign up on the poster in the lobby to RSVP. The Joyces are even providing childcare in their fun basement! Call Fern Mitropoulos at 770-3438996 or tmitropoulos@comcast.net with any questions.

LIVE NATIVITY— Invite your friends to this community favorite on **December 20, from 6:00-7:30pm**. We'll interact with the friendly beasts from the Little Red Barn; 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 that one birth brought to our world.

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 24 — Please join us on Monday, December 24th at Saint Luke's Christmas Eve services...

Beginning at **5pm** with the beloved telling of the Christmas story.,

Followed by the **9pm** Candlelight and Choir Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols.

The **11pm** Peaceful & Unplugged Candlelight Communion in the chapel.

We look forward to seeing you as we welcome the Christ child!