

## 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 ..... Erin Murray  
Intern for Children & Youth Ministry ..... Erin Rugh  
Church Administrator ..... Lindsay Moss  
Interim Facility Manager ..... Ted Guerrant  
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](http://www.cccgeorgia.org)

## SERVING TODAY

**Chancel Guild:** Bona & Carol Allen

**Continental Breakfast:** Molly Naugher

**Open/ Close:** Bill Womack

**Sound:** Brad Troha

**Ushers:** Shawn Hamlin, captain; Leslie, Owen & Lilly Hamlin

## LEADERSHIP

### ELDERS

#### Class of 2020:

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

#### Class of 2021:

Bob Burroughs, Steve Cashwell, Tracy Coffie, Val DeFriece, Matt Fogarty, Nael McCarty, Todd Parker, Kristen Wescott

#### Class of 2022:

Rosemary Armstrong-Burton, Sylvia Jackson, Julie Lee (*Asst. Clerk of Session*), Tom Mangum, Nancy Moore, Cathie Rogers, Dustin Waller, Justin Wilkes

### DEACONS

#### Class of 2020:

Thomas Brown, Karleen Buchholz, Jenny Cumiskey, Ron Davis, Mark Douglass, Kris Hull (*Moderator*), Daryl Moore, Emily Ritzler, Suzanne Thatcher, Carol Waller, Nelson Cumiskey (*Youth Deacon*)

#### Class of 2021:

Marylyn Brown, Carol Hickey, Janis Jones, Alan Keel, Christy Keohane, Betsy King, Molly Naugher (*Vice Moderator*), Gena Spears, Steve Wassell

#### Class of 2022:

Tricia Bridges, Donna Crutchfield, Chas Davis, Lindy Farley, Janis Kilgore, David Strickland, Angela Thayer, Miles Young



To view bulletins online, go to:  
<https://slpres.org/worship-music/worship/bulletins/>

10:30 am



SAINT LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



SAINT LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**December 22, 2019**

4th 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.*

**Flowers:** *The flowers today are given by Ron and Judy Mason to the Glory of God and in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.*

**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  
astonishing grace,  
we are moved to love God,  
love each other,  
and love our neighbors  
near and far.

**VISION**

Boldly following Jesus,  
we will love all people  
and work to build a compassionate,  
just, and peaceful world.

**WELCOME, GUESTS!**

**DURING** the Welcome, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass the Friendship Pad down the pew.

**AFTER** worship, 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 precious to us, and we welcome them in worship. Activity sheets and tactile activities are available in the back of the sanctuary. Each week, children are invited to join us for "Tell Us Our Story." Afterwards, they may remain in worship, go to Faithful Friends (PreK-1st) or go to child care.

**SPECIAL CONNECTIONS** We welcome children, youth and adults with special needs. If someone in your family could benefit from having a buddy during their time here today please ask an usher or greeter for assistance.



**SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT:**

For information on all activities and events at Saint Luke's, please go to slpres.org.

**DEC. 29 SCHEDULE**— We will have one service on Dec. 29, at 10:30 am. So that our families and volunteers may travel and celebrate with loved ones, there are no children's Sunday School classes scheduled for December 29. Of course, children of all ages are welcome in child care classrooms.

**FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**— Saint Luke's will host our Family Promise guests, **Jan. 5-12, 2020**. Volunteers and meals are needed! Go to slpres.org for details and to sign up.

**JAN. 5: FAMILY MEETING: THE SUNDAY MORNING CHALLENGE** —We are family! And we get it. We see it. The Sunday morning struggle is real. So, that's why we want to hear from you! Families of children, middle & high school youth are invited to join us for a "family meeting" on Jan. 5, from 5:30 - 7 pm, so that we can hear how Saint Luke's can better be a part of your life. We want to help you and serve you! Because that's what families do. Dinner and childcare provided.

**2020 WOMEN'S RETREAT**— March 6-8 at Dillard House with guest speaker Rev. Betsy Turner. Registration is open! Go to slpres.org for all the details.

**FEAST STARTS IN JANUARY**— Join us for our Wednesday night dinner and program, "Faith Outside This Place," Jan. 15-Feb. 26. Dinner at 5:45 pm; Program 6:30-7 pm. Registration information coming soon!

**SAINT LUKE'S HOLIDAY HOURS**—The church office will be closed Dec. 24-26, and Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

**JAN. 11: CHURCH BREAKFAST**—The men of Saint Luke's will host a church-wide breakfast on Jan. 11 at 8 am, featuring a legislative update with Representative Mike Wilensky Georgia House District 79, Josh McLaurin - Georgia House District 51, and Sally Harrell - Georgia Senate District 40.

**JAN. 19: MENTAL HEALTH SPEAKER NIGHT**— 5:30-7:30 pm, featuring Youth Speaker Tim Blue, with To Know We Are Not Alone (TKWANA), and Parent Speaker Stephen Propst, a former chair of Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA). Chili potluck. Open to the community.

**YOUNG WORSHIP LEADERS**—Starting in January, Saint Luke's will introduce "Young Worship Leaders," a new initiative offering a variety of opportunities for children, youth and families to serve during worship. Be on the look out for more information about this exciting new initiative!

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**—Please join us on Tuesday, Dec. 24, at one of our Christmas Eve worship services:  
5 pm, The Christmas Story, Sanctuary  
9 pm, Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary  
11 pm, Peaceful & Unplugged, Chapel

**Closing Hymn #145\***

What Child Is This

**Benediction\***

**Response #92\***

While We are Waiting, Come

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

**Postlude\***

Good Christian Friends Rejoice *Gordon Young*

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**Saint Luke’s Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten**

**2020-2021 Registration**

Enroll your Little Saint in our church weekday school! We welcome all children ages 12 Months Old through Kindergarten. Registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins on Tuesday, January 21 for church members. Current families register on Wednesday, January 22 and new community families register on Thursday, January 23. Please contact Carol Perry, Director to arrange a tour of our wonderful school: carolperry@slpres.org.

**In Preparation for Worship**

“Was there a moment, known only to God, when all the stars held their breath, when the galaxies paused in their dance for a fraction of a second, and the Word, who had called it all into being, went with all his love into the womb of a young girl, and the universe started to breathe again, and the ancient harmonies resumed their song, and the angels clapped their hands for joy?”

*-Madeleine L'Engle, Bright Evening Star*

**Gathering Prayer**

**Prelude**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus *David Cherwien*

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*At this time, please print the requested information on the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew.*

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

The Douglass Family

**Opening Hymn #41\***

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

**Call to Confession\***

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

**Prayer of Confession\***

God-with-us, Emmanuel,  
We have longed for your presence this season;  
Forgive us for failing to see you in our neighbors who are in need.  
We have longed for your peace this season.  
Forgive us for holding on to grudges with family members and friends.  
We have longed for your light this season.  
Forgive us for stumbling around in the darkness of our own making.  
Save us, restore us, and lead us in the way of grace and peace.  
Hear also the personal confessions on our hearts...  
*(silence is kept for personal reflection...)*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

**Assurance of Forgiveness\***

## Song of Praise #360\*

Christ is Coming (*first verse*)

Christ is coming! Let creation from its groans and labor cease;  
let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase:  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, O blessed Prince of peace.

## Passing the Peace of Christ\*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.  
People: And also with you.

## Prayer for Illumination

### First Lesson

Luke 1:5-13

### Second Lesson

Luke 1:57-80

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

## Tell Us Our Story

Shannon Dill

*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, get a nametag, and walk together to The Harbor for  
Faithful Friends.*

## Anthem

Lo, How a Rose *arr. Greg Scheer*

Chancel Choir

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.  
O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels in glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere.

True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death now save us,  
And share our every load.  
Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.  
*(16<sup>th</sup> Century German)*

## Sermon

The Gift of Presence

David Lower

## Hymn #138\*

Who Would Think That What Was Needed

## 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.

## 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\*

