

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

SERVING TODAY

Chapel Guild: Dan & Sally Joyce
Open/ Close: Bill Womack

LEADERSHIP

ELDERS

Class of 2020:

Carol Ciepluch, Leslie Hamlin, Kay Loerch (*Clerk of Session*), Florence Luranc, J J 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 Cummiskey, Ron Davis, Mark Douglass, Kris Hull (*Moderator*), Daryl Moore, Emily Ritzler, Suzanne Thatcher, Carol Waller, Nelson Cummiskey (*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



8:15 am



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1978 Mount Vernon Road Dunwoody, GA 30338
770.393.1424 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.

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 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 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 are a precious part of our church family, and we welcome them in worship. Worship activity sheets and tactile activities are available on the table just outside the Chapel doors. For your convenience, there is a Family Restroom located in the administrative office's hallway, on the first floor, near the main lobby.

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



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*

Prelude

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus *David Cherwien*

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

Beverly & Dick Miller

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*

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.

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

Children are always welcome to stay in worship. If preferred, parents may take their child(ren) to child care in Room 114.

Sermon

The Gift of Presence

David Lower

Affirmation of Faith*

Apostles' Creed

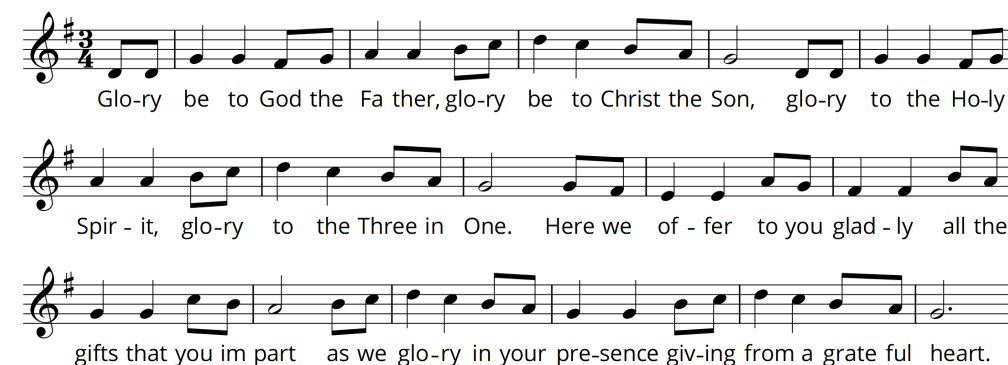
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; 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

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*



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.

Holy Communion

Communion will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). Everyone is invited to participate in the sacrament. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Words of Institution

Communion Music

Closing Hymn #145*

What Child Is This

Benediction*

Postlude*

Good Christian Friends Rejoice *Gordon Young*

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