





1978 Mount Vernon Road • Dunwoody, Georgia 30338 770.393.1424 • www.slpres.org

In Preparation for Worship

"From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us. This Advent, may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go."

— Dr. Christine J. Honq, Sanctified Art

Prelude

Pastoral Symphony from Messiah G.F. Handel

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Opening Hymn* 80

O Come, O Come Emmanuel verses 1, 2, 5 and 7

Prayer of Confession*

Our lives are crammed so full, we find it hard to calendar you in; We find it hard to locate the time to welcome the Light of the World. We need your help, O God. Teach us to set aside our party wardrobes, and clothe us in Jesus Christ. Guide us into true readiness, even though we do not know the date and time when true peace will reign. Wake us up; shake off the cobwebs of our complacency; Plant your peace within us so that each day, each moment, we may be ready for the harvest of your love.

Hear now the prayers on our hearts...

(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy **People: Hear our prayer. Amen.**

Song of Praise* 609 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 24:36-44

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

Tell Us Our Story

Children are welcome to come forward for Tell Us Our Story. After Tell Us Our Story, parents will walk children across courtyard to Room 117 (3 and under) and Room 119 (PreK and K). 1st through 5th graders will gather in the narthex and walk with leaders to 252Kid and 252Preteen. Parents will pick up from The Dock and The Lighthouse. Of course, all children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families.

Anthem Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring J.S. Bach The Chancel Choir

Sermon "Wholly" Unexpected" Michael Sanchez

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 Gesu Bambino *Pietro Yon* Beth Eisenmesser, flute

All are invited to participate in support of God's work at Saint Luke's, in one of three ways:

- 1) Giving envelopes, available in each pew, may be placed inside the Friendship Pads or in the offering plate in the narthex,
- 2) Give online via slpres.org/giving,
- 3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

Closing Hymn* 93 Lift Up Your Heads

Benediction*

Postlude* In Dulci Jubilo J.S. Bach

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Many of today's worship elements are written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC |sanctifiedart.org

Saint Luke's Presbyterian Church *please stand 3