



Welcome to Saint Luke's!
December 31, 2023

The flowers today are given in honor of Tom & Lela McIntosh's 65th wedding anniversary.

Prelude

O Little Town of Bethlehem
arr. Joshua Evanovich

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: Every year we celebrate Christmas.
People: **Every month we break bread.**
Leader: Every week we gather for worship.
People: **Every minute God is near.**
Leader: Each minute God is doing something new.
People: Let us worship Holy God.

Opening Hymn* 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Prayer of Confession*

God of rhythms and disruptions, we confess:
our faith would not be what it is without rituals.
Unlike you, we depend on bread and water.
We have to return to this space again and again
to hear old, familiar stories.
For if we stopped,
We know it would not take long before we lost our way.
But we confess that we get stuck in our ways, unable to see your wonders.
We thank you for our rituals and pray for hearts open to your disruptions.
Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

So hear this good news: no matter where you are on your journey of life, love, or faith, and no matter what you have done or left undone, you belong to God. You are claimed. You are known. You are forgiven. This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-40

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

Meditation

Disruptions at the Temple

Michael Sanchez

Affirmation of Faith

Apostle's 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.

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.

The Offering

Do You Hear What I Hear

arr. Jim Brickman

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 as they are passed.*
- 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* 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Benediction*

Postlude*

Good King Wenceslas

arr. Chip Davis

Please join us in the church lobby for fellowship and conversation!

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to slpres.org.

If you would like to share prayer concerns, or know someone who would (with their permission), you may submit prayer requests for inclusion in the Prayer Guide by sending them to prayerrequest@slpres.org.



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SLPRES.ORG

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