

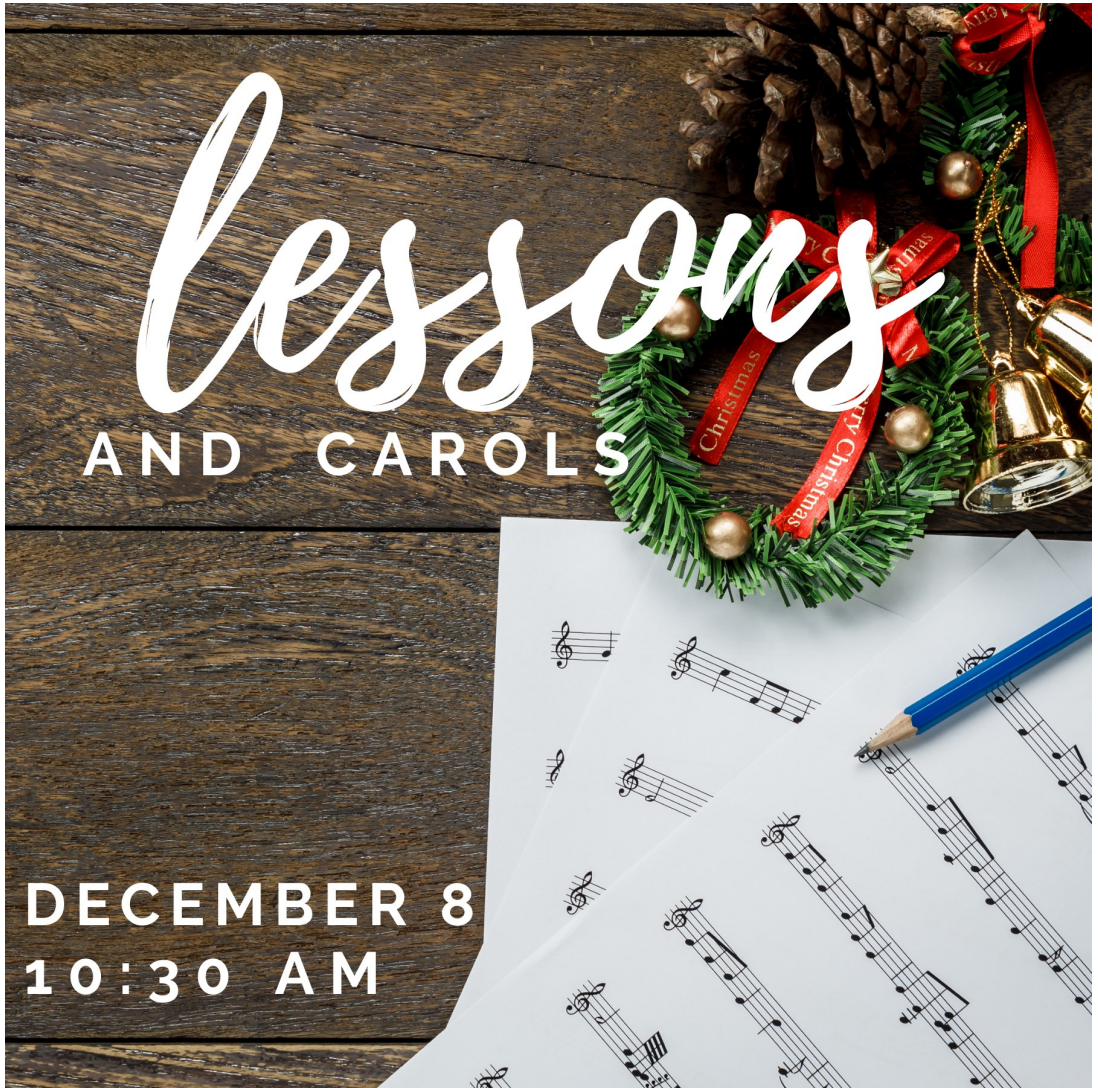


SAINT LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Lessons

AND CAROLS

DECEMBER 8  
10:30 AM





SAINT LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1978 Mount Vernon Road • Dunwoody, Georgia 30338  
770.393.1424 • [www.slpres.org](http://www.slpres.org)

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## December 8, 2024

Second 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 preparation (Advent and Lent).*

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 9:30am Faith Formation classes for Children, Youth & Adults
- 10:30am Sanctuary Worship Service

*Nursery available during Faith Formation and worship.*

## 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 for fellowship and conversation.

**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](http://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 Faith Formation (PreK-5th) or go to child care.\*

## In Preparation for Worship

“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” – *The Lord’s Prayer*

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### Prelude

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Festival Ringers

### Welcome and Announcements

**Processional Hymn\* 140** Once in Royal David’s City

### Lighting of the Advent Candle\*

Rob, Kristen & Louin Davis

### Song of Praise\*

Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest! Sing glory to God! Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth!**

### Prayer for Illumination

#### Carol

Psalm 42

Lindsey Sanders, Cantor & Chancel Choir

As the Deer *Bob Hurd*

*As the deer longs for running streams, so I long for you.  
Athirst my soul for you, the God who is my life! When shall I see the face of God?  
Echoes meet as deep is calling unto deep, over my head, all your mighty waters, sweeping over me.  
Continually the foe delights in taunting me: “Where is God, where is your God? Where, o where are you?”  
Defend me God, send forth your light and your truth,  
they will lead me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling place.  
Then I shall go unto the altar of my God.  
Praising you, O my joy and gladness;  
I shall praise your name.*

#### Lesson

Genesis 1:1-5

### Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

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

#### Carol 850\*

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness *stanza 1*

#### Lesson

Genesis 12:1-3

**Carol**

Hicaz Pashrev

Kaiden Ates, nay

**Shared Reflection**

Beyza Delen, Rabbi Spike Anderson, David Lower

**Lesson**

Ruth 1:16-19a

**Carol**Comfort, Comfort, Now My People  
*arr. Tom Trenney*

Chancel Choir

*“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.  
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”*

*For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.  
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.*

**Lesson**

Isaiah 11:1-5

**Carol 850\***In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness *stanza 2***Reading**

“The Coming of God” by Ann Weems

Our God is the One who comes to us in a burning bush, in an angel’s song,  
in a newborn child.  
Our God is the One who cannot be found locked in a church, not even in the sanctuary.  
Our God will be where God will be with no constraints, no predictability.  
Our God lives where our God lives, and destruction has no power  
and even death cannot stop the living.  
Our God will be born where God will be born,  
but there is no place to look for the One who comes to us.  
When God is ready God will come even to a godforsaken place like a stable in  
Bethlehem.  
Watch ... for you know not when God comes.  
Watch, that you might be found whenever wherever God comes.

**Carol**Love Came Down at Christmas  
*arr. Cynthia Dobrinski*Festival Ringers  
with Michelle Moebes, flute**Lesson**

Luke 1:30-33, 38

## Carol 110\*

Love Has Come *stanzas 1 & 2*

## Lesson

Luke 1:46-55

## Carol

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day  
*arr. Cliff Duren*

Chancel Choir  
with Sydney Moss, soloist

*I heard the bells on Christmas day, their old familiar carols play.  
And mild and sweet their songs repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.  
And the bells are ringing, "Peace on earth."  
Like a choir they're singing, "Peace on earth."  
In my heart I hear them: "Peace on earth. Good will to men."*

*And in despair I bowed my head. "There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"for hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."*

*Then rang the bells more loud and deep. God is not dead nor does He sleep.  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men.*

*Then ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day.  
A voice, a chime, a chance sublime of peace on earth, good will to men.*

## Lesson

Luke 1:67-79

## Carol 121\*

O Little Town of Bethlehem *stanzas 1 & 2*

## 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

Blessed Are the Peacemakers  
*Rosephanye Powell*

Chancel Choir  
with Michelle Moebes, flute

*Blessed. Blessed. Blessed are the peacemakers.  
They will be called, "Children of God."  
Bear with each other; forgive one another. Put on love.*

*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](https://slpres.org/giving).  
3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.*

## **Closing Hymn\* 372**

O for a World

## **Benediction\***

## **Passing the Peace\***

## **Postlude\***

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People  
*Jerry Westenkuehler*

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

For the latest Saint Luke's news and information, go to [slpres.org](http://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](mailto:prayerrequest@slpres.org).

*Many thanks to our friends at Temple Emanu-El and The Atlantic Institute for joining us this morning, and offering leadership and music to help make this special Advent service even more meaningful!*

*Additional thanks to Jen Weier, the Chancel Choir, the Festival Ringers, and all the special musicians for the wonderful and inspiring music!*

*Music: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net (A-719333).*

*You're invited!*  
**LIVE NATIVITY**



**DECEMBER 15**  
**5-6:30 pm**

**DRIVE THROUGH NATIVITY | PETTING ZOO**  
**LIVE MUSIC | HOT CHOCOLATE**



**SAINT LUKE'S**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**THE WAY  
OF PEACE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**  
**AT SAINT LUKE'S**

**10:30 AM, 5 PM, 8 PM**

**SLPRES.ORG**

*\*please stand*

