



**Welcome to Saint Luke's – December 29th, 2024
First Sunday of Christmas**

In Preparation for Worship

“Human beings may separate things into as many piles as we wish—separating spirit from flesh, sacred from secular, church from world. But we should not be surprised when God does not recognize the distinctions we make between the two.” – *Barbara Brown Taylor*

Prelude

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing
arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn* 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Prayer of Confession*

Creator God, what you have planned for us unfolds slowly.
Your love is often unrecognizable, unappreciated, unnoticed.
We have often fallen short of who you call us to be.
And yet, you continue to speak to us, in us, and through us through the work of the Spirit.
Help us to magnify your love through our thoughts, words, and actions
so that the world might know about your gracious promises.
Fill us with the love you desire us to know through the birth of Jesus,
who hears our prayers both aloud and now silently. *(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)*

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

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise* 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:13-20

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

Tell Us Our Story

Abby Bunn

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

Special Music

What Child Is This

Anna Jean Lower

Sermon

What a Wonderful Child

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.

The Offering

The Holly and the Ivy

arr. Patti Drennan

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 in the offering plates 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* 147

The First Nowell

Benediction*

Postlude*

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

arr. Paul Manz

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.