



Insisting on Hope

December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
WELCOME TO SAINT LUKE'S!
DECEMBER 21, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In Preparation for Worship

"This week, we're not asked to fix the world.
We're asked to take each other's hands and walk forward into it—together."
- Rev. Dr. Boyung Lee, *What Do We Fear?*

Prelude

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy
Peter Tchaikovsky, arr. Maurice Hinson

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Wellford Family

Please respond, "Let us live in the hope of the Lord," each time the leader prompts with "People of God."

Leader: People of God,
All: Let us live in the hope of the Lord.

Opening Hymn* 92

While We Are Waiting, Come

Prayer for the Day*

Loving God, thank you for your grace.
You have called us to walk with you, but we have not followed.
Forgive us when we ignore you and each other.
Have mercy on us and show us your way
so that we can learn to do your will. Amen.

Song of Thanksgiving* 137 He Came Down

He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.

Passing of the Peace*

Sacrament of Baptism

Harrison Lee Clark

Shannon Dill

Affirmation of Faith*

adapted from work of Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed
A Sanctified Art LLC

We believe in a with-us God.
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.
We believe that good news is louder than fear.
We believe this good news is for all people.
So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles,
even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news.
We will reach for each other.
We will look for God in our midst.
We will sing songs of joy.
We will proclaim:
Unto us, love is born.

Response Hymn 482

Baptized in Water

Welcome

Following the elder's statement the congregation shall respond...

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Harrison into Christ's church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support him, to share the good news of the gospel with him, and to help him to know and follow Christ.

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Hickey

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 41:5-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Michael Sanchez

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 120 (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.

Anthem

Love Come Down at Christmas

Text by Christina Rossetti, Music by David Ashley White

Chancel Choir

Love came down at Christmas,
love all lovely, love divine;
love was born at Christmas:
star and angel gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,
love incarnate, love divine,
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine,
love to God and neighbor,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Sermon

Give Me Your Hand

Shannon Dill

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.

Moment for Christmas Joy Offering

Abby Bunn

The Offering

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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* 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

People, Look East
arr. 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.

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