



10:30 am Worship Service
Welcome to Saint Luke's!
January 18, 2026

In Preparation for Worship

"I refuse to accept despair as the final response to the ambiguities of history. I refuse to accept the idea that the "is-ness" of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching up for the eternal "ought-ness" that forever confronts him. I refuse to accept the idea that man is mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life, unable to influence the unfolding events which surround him."

- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Prelude

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
Jerry Westenkuehler

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Holy One, you walked across chaos, and called all creation into life.
People: **You poured out your heart, shaping us in your image of love, filling us with joy and peace.**
Leader: When we turned away from you, and set out to follow our own dreams,
People: **you sent prophets to call us back to faithful living.**
Leader: Finally, you sent Jesus to us, proclaiming the good news of your kingdom drawing near.
People: **So, with those who listen for your voice in every place, and with those who follow in every time, we join our voices in praise to you.**

Opening Hymn* 596

You Are Holy

Prayer of Confession

from a prayer by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Eternal God,
we humbly confess that we have not loved you with our hearts, souls and minds,
and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us.
We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses
rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ.
We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies.
We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget.
And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact
that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you.
O God, have mercy upon us.
Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be.
Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will.
Give us the devotion to love your will.

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

Highlights:



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1978 Mt. Vernon Rd. Dunwoody, GA 30338
slpres.org. 770.393.1424

To give:



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.

Passing of the Peace*

Prayer for Illumination

Carol Hickey

Scripture Reading

John 1:29-42

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

All children are invited to come forward for Tell Us Our Story. Afterwards, parents will walk their children to Room 119 for "Frolic" (ages PreK and K) or Room 117 for childcare (birth through 3's.) 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

Down in the River to Pray
David L. Mennicke

Sermon

Abiding

David Lower

Affirmation of Faith*

from Belhar Confession (1986)

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family.
And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active,
in that we love one another;
that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another,
that we share one baptism together,
that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together,
that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope,
which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

Anna Jean Lower

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.
- 2) Give online via slpres.org/giving or scan the QR code.
- 3) Send a text message to 73256, starting with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

Closing Hymn* 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

Over My Head
Thomas W. Jefferson

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

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.