



SAINT LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

11:00 am ✠ Rite II

Please enter quietly as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Welcome! The congregation's responses are in bold. Children of every age are welcome. Please see an usher for assistance.

THE GREAT PROCESSION

PRELUDE

of the Father's Love Begotten

Wilbur Held

INTROIT

Wait for the Lord

Berthier

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

HYMN *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry* Hymnal 76

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Coltharp Family

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Children 3K – 3rd Grade are invited to follow the Crucifer to Sunday School.

THE FIRST LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

ANTHEM

Rejoice in the Lord

Redford

Rejoice in the God alway, and again I say, rejoice.

Let your softness be known unto all men;

The Lord is e'en at hand.

Be careful for nothing;

But in all prayer and supplication,

let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,

Keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.

THE HOLY GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Luke

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

SERMON NOTES

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ANTHEM

And the Glory of the Lord Handel

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

Isaiah 40:5

THE SERMON The Reverend Richmond R. Webster

THE NICENE CREED *All stand.* BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name

may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially for Jessie Key, Charles Machemehl, Kathy Mouron, Scott Parker, Sally Thomas, and Fred Tyson; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially William Barry Morton, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

CONFESSION BCP 360

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Advent Supplication

Hopson

PRESENTATION ACCLAMATION *All stand to sing*

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow;
 praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;
 praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

SANCTUS et BENEDICTUS Robert Powell S129

The Celebrant continues

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Officiant and 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for
 ever and ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the Consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM *Be Known to Us* Boles

The Gifts of God for the people of God
 Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and
 feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Chorale from "He Comes to Us"

Marshall

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Officiant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN *Prepare the way, O Zion* Hymnal 65

THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake For Night Is Flying Charles Callahan

*Please feel free to share your joys or concerns with a member of the
 Prayer Team. If you have a prayer request please contact Sandy Porter
 at 205-802-6207 or sporter@saint-lukes.com. Copies of the prayer list
 are on the table in the Communication Stations and in the weekly
 church emails.*

CLERGY AND STAFF: Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, *Bishop of Alabama*; The Rev. Richmond R. Webster, *Rector*; The Rev. David Hall, *Associate Rector*; The Rev. Corey Jones, *Associate Rector*; The Rev. Rebecca Debow, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Maurice L. Goldsmith, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Stephen McWhorter, *Priest Affiliate*; The Rev. Dr. Mark LaGory, *Deacon*; The Rev. Katy Smith, *Deacon*; Mr. Shaun Pezant, *Artist in Residence*; Dr. Philip Copeland, *Choral Director*; Mr. Jamie McLemore, *Organist*.

THE VESTRY

Vestry meetings are held the last Monday of each month from 6:00-7:00pm. Vestry meetings are open to members of Saint Luke's unless in Executive Session.

Rector- The Rev. Richmond R. Webster

Class of 2021

Rebecca Eubanks- Communications & SLDS
 Trippe Gray- Facility Management
 Norman Jettmundsen- Sr. Warden
 Scarlett Simmons- Jr. Warden & Youth Ministry
 Norman Tynes- Adult Education & Stewardship

Class of 2022

Reed Avant- Children & Family Ministry
 Ann Johnson- Outreach, MACE, & Founders Place
 Bill Pitts- Finance
 Krislin Smith- Pastoral Care & Communication
 Wayne Trucks- Jr. Warden, Worship & Facility Management

Class of 2023

David Kimberlin- COVID-19
 Allyson Mouron- Worship & Events
 Susan Silverstein- New Members & Adult Education
 Beth Wilder- Outreach & Communication
 Turner Williams- Finance & SOAR

Appointed Members

Kevin Collins- Clerk
 William Nicrosi- Treasurer

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and
and in thanksgiving for the marriage of

Sarah Hayden Logan and Aaron Oliver Clement

and in loving memory of

James Vann and Ann Douglas Henagan, Edward Lee and
Ann Schutze Logan, Carroll Henry and Marguerite Albin Clement,
and Rebecca Elizabeth Colbert.



PLEDGE ONLINE

Announcements

Stewardship Update As of December 8, 2021:

Number of Pledges – 406; 2022 Pledges received
- \$2,945,221; we have reached 79% of our 2022
Goal of \$3.7 million.

Give a gift to honor a loved one with a donation for poinsettias. You can make your gift in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one or a special ministry. Names of your gifts will be included in the Christmas Memorials Bulletin. If you would like to participate, please pick up an order form from the communication stations around the church and return it along with your check to the Church: Attn: Stephanie Sierke, Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, 3736 Montrose Road, Birmingham, Alabama, 35213. Please make your check payable to Saint Luke's Church. In order for the names of your gifts to be included in the Christmas Memorials bulletin, please have your form in the church office by **Wednesday, December 15th.**

Beginning now, and through February, we are collecting coats and jackets for the families who use the Grace/Woodlawn food pantry. Please bring any used (clean and in good condition) coats and jackets to the closet in Graham Hall. As you enter Graham Hall from the Commons, the closet is located on the left side of the entrance. Please place coats in the designated boxes. All sizes of coats will be appreciated, both children's and adults. Thank you!

Saint Luke's Claypool Scholarship Board and Selection committee is requesting applications for the 2022- 2023 school year. Visit our website for more information- saint-lukes.com/claypool-scholarship-board-now-accepting-applications/.

Men! Do you have thoughts, opinions, ideas, and wisdom that the world does not yet appreciate? Are you now or someday hope to be a curmudgeon? Then you will want to join David for coffee on Monday mornings at 8:00 am in the Founders Room. There will be coffee and fellowship and the opportunity to solve the problems of the world. For more information, email the Rev. David Hall at dhall@saint-lukes.com.

The Children's pageant is around the corner and we would love for your child to participate! On Sunday, December 19 at 10am in the Nave, 'A Saint Luke's Christmas' will embody the true meaning of Christmas through scripture readings, Christmas singing, and of course our recreating of the Manger scene. For more information, contact Betsy Owenby, bowenby@saint-lukes.com.

A Newcomer's Lunch will take place TODAY at Noon in the Founders Room, and we would love for you to join us. Hear from clergy and staff, and learn more about what we believe makes Saint Luke's special! Lunch provided. Children are welcome.

The St. Luke's Foundation

Building the future of mission and ministry!

With the end of 2021 right around the corner, there are charitable gift options which may be especially helpful in your year-end tax planning.

1. Qualified charitable distributions (QCD) from IRAs. If you are 70½ or older, you can distribute up to \$100,000 per year from traditional IRAs to Saint Luke's and The St. Luke's Foundation. It will be excluded from your federal taxable income and count for your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.

2. Gifts of appreciated securities. If you own long term securities with significant capital gains, use these to make an end-of-year gift to the Church and Foundation. You can claim an income tax deduction for the stock's fair market value and avoid capital gains tax entirely.

With both of these strategies, you are helping the build the future of Saint Luke's. For more information, contact the Rev. David Hall at (205) 802-6203 or dhall@saint-lukes.com.

Give via Text (205) 576-4100

1. Text the amount you would like to give to (205) 576-4100.
2. If you are a first time, text-giving donor you will be prompted to visit a secure link. The message should appear like below: "You're almost done! Finish your gift to Saint Luke's Episcopal Church with this link."
3. Once you click the registration link, you can enter your credit card information.
4. At this point, your donation will process. Please note that Msg & Data rates may apply with your phone carrier.
5. You will see a confirmation text showing your donation and registration were successful. The following message should appear: "Your giving was successful. Thank you!"

Christmas Eve Services:

2 p.m. Family Eucharist*

4:30 p.m. Prelude // 5:00 p.m. Family Eucharist with contemporary music*

7:00 p.m. Prelude // 7:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite II with brass and Saint Luke's Parish Choir*

9:00 p.m. Prelude // 9:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist, Rite II with brass and Saint Luke's Parish Choir

*Childcare available for 3k and under

No service on Christmas Day. We will worship with one service on Sunday, December 26 at 11 am.