



SAINT LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 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

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Anthony Baldwin

INTROIT *Wait for the Lord* Berthier

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!*

HYMN *Rejoice, rejoice believers* Hymnal 68

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE
The Gaston 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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, 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 Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

ANTHEM

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming Praetorius/sandstrom

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright, amid the cold of winter
When half-gone was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to men a Savior
When half-gone was the night.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ANTHEM

People look east

Butler

THE SERMON

The Reverend David Hall

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. We pray for Glenda, our Bishop, the clergy of our parish, and Jane, our seminarian.

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, especially Joseph our President, Kay our Governor, all who govern and hold authority; 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, Scott Parker, 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 Stephanie Shayla Wright and Gene Lynn McCall, 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

Behold a star from Jacob shining Mendelssohn
Behold a star from Jacob shining, And a scepter from Israel rising,

To reign in glory over the nations.

Like some bright morning star is he, The promise of the coming day,
Beyond the night of sorrow.

Break forth, O Light!
We, our joyful hearts uplifting with thanksgiving,
Hail the brightness of Thy rising.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Therefore according to his command, O Father,

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

King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.

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

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymnal 56

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

Tell out, my soul

Hymnal 438

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 366

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

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Michael Burkhardt

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: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, *Bishop of Alabama*; The Rev. Richmond R. Webster, *Rector*; The Rev. William Boyles, *Associate 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 Jetmundsen- 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

Betsy Webster and Chris Parker

and in loving memory of

Mrs. Elizabeth Rost Copeland, Mr. Theodore Devoe Copeland, Jr.,
Mrs. Drucella Weddle Jordan, The Reverend Dr. Samuel Burney Jordan, Jr.,
Mr. Alfred Kenneth Parker, and Mrs. Brenda Weeks Parker.

Announcements



PLEDGE ONLINE

Stewardship Update as of December 15, 2021: Number of Pledges – 417; 2022 Pledges received - \$2,975,821; We have reached 79% of our 2022 Goal of \$3.7 million. As the year-end draws near, please take note of the Year End Giving Guidelines available on our website at www.saint-lukes.com/giving. Contributions to

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church are tax deductible as allowed by law. IRS rules recognize a contribution on the day of delivery. For contributions to be deductible for 2021, they must meet one of the following criteria:

- By Mail: Postmarked on or before December 31, 2021.
- Hand-Delivery: Received in the Finance office by noon, December 31, 2021. Any gifts dropped off after the office is closed will be treated as 2022 gifts.

Beginning now, and through February, we are collecting coats and jackets for the families who use the Grace/Wood-lawn 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!

St. Andy's Pantry is a ministry of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, feeding about 300 people at each food distribution. Volunteers are needed to stock the pantry, check in guests, and hand out bags. To volunteer, visit our website for the sign-up genius form.

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/.

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.

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.

Christmas Eve Services

2 p.m. Family Eucharist*

4:30 p.m. Prelude // 5:00 p.m. Family Eucharist with music from
The Word*

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 at 11 am on
Sunday, December 26 and Sunday, January 2.

