



SAINT LUKE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 5, 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

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

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

J.S. Bach

INTROIT *Savior of the Nations, Come*

*Savior of the nations, come! Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, both heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.*

HYMN *Come, thou long expected Jesus* Hymnal 66

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Danella 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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

ANTHEM

My Lord, What a Morning

Burleigh

*My Lord, what a morning, my Lord, what a morning,
Oh, my Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall,
When the stars begin to fall.*

Done quit all my worldly ways, join that heavenly band.

THE HOLY GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler

SERMON NOTES

of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ANTHEM

Comfort, Comfort arr. John Ferguson
Brian Viliunas, clarinet; Ashley Berry, clarinet; Barbara Harrington, flute.

*Comfort, comfort now my people; speak of peace - so says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever!*

*For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits his holy reign!
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.*

THE SERMON The Reverend Richmond R. Webster

THE NICENE CREED *All stand.* BCP 358

W*e 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. We give thanks for the birth of Reed Markham Muse.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially for Betsy Brown, Barbara Eisenhart, Barbara Johnson, Charles Machemehl, Scott Parker, Rogenia Troupe, 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, 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

Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Gregory Hamilton
* Clarinet soloist, Brian B. Viliunas

PRESENTATION ACCLAMATION All stand to sing

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above 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

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor
** Barbara Harrington, flute

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 *Love divine, all loves excelling* Hymnal 657

THE DISMISSAL BCP 366

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

POSTLUDE On this Day, Earth Shall Ring Robert Powell

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.

Clarinet Soloist: Brian B. Viliunas

**Clarinetist and conductor Brian Viliunas is an associate professor of music at Samford University, where he teaches clarinet, music classes, and conducts all orchestral activities throughout the United States.*

Floutist: Barbara Harrington

***Barbara Harrington, flute, has had a successful orchestral career, She lives in Birmingham with her husband Steve, who is a massage therapist, and two boys, ages 14 and 8, and rescue dog Daisy.*

Clarinetist: Ashlyn Berry

Ashlyn Berry is a high school student at Vestavia High School. She frequently assists in training younger musicians at her church.

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 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

Announcements



PLEDGE ONLINE

Stewardship Update As of November 30, 2021: Number of Pledges – 389; 2022 Pledges received - \$2,849,038; we have reached 76% 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!

Holiday Performance by the Junior League Choral Group Tuesday, December 7 at 10:15am in the Saint Luke's Pavilion. Enjoy a 30 minute performance, hot chocolate, and holiday spirit at this community show! All are welcome, so bring a friend! No RSVP and no cost! Questions? Contact Susanna Whitsett swhitsett@saint-lukes.com.

The 15th annual God and Jazz concert series is Wednesday, December 8 from 6:30 to 8 pm. The concert will cover a wide repertoire, spanning traditional jazz, contemporary, and holiday favorites. Tickets are available for purchase on Eventbrite. Students and children under 12 receive free admission. More information on the website at saint-lukes.com/god-jazz-2021/.

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/.

Our next Newcomer's Lunch is Sunday, December 12 at Noon. Join us, hear from clergy and staff, learn more about what we believe makes Saint Luke's special! Please rsvp to

Kate Clinton, kclinton@saint-lukes.com. Lunch provided.

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.

Come make a Joyful Noise with our Parish Choir! The choir is now open to parishioners who would like to sing our beautiful Advent and Christmas music. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 6:00-7:30. For more information contact Philip Copeland, Choral Director (pcopeland@saint-lukes.com) or Jamie McLemore, Parish Organist (jmclmore@saint-lukes.com) for more info.

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.