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No. 50

December 13, 2020

Volume 56

## Christmas Giving

***“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:4-5)***



One way the light of Christ continues to shine in the darkness of human need is through our Christmas giving. In this season of sharing, there are several important ways you can direct the generosity of your heart through the ministry of St. Luke Church.

- (1) St. Luke Budget for Ministry and Mission for the current year. Each year about 25% of the annual support for ministry and mission at St. Luke is given by St. Luke members in December. December is always an important month for “catching up” or completing our annual giving. I hope you will prayerfully consider completing your pledged giving commitment for this year. Finishing this “unusual” year strong is important ground work for ministry in the year ahead.
- (2) Your estimate of giving (pledge) for 2021. Given the many variables and uncertainties of the year ahead, making a pledge of financial support for 2021 is truly an act of faith **for such a time as this**. It always is an act of faith. This year we feel profoundly the faith needed to step out in trust and make a pledge of our financial resources for Christ’s work. God is faithful and I am sure that you will be faithful too. Please make every effort to return your 2021 pledge card by Christmas.
- (3) Your special Christmas gifts in support of particular ministries at St. Luke. Special gifts of love, above and beyond our support of the overall ministry represented by our budget, can be especially meaningful at this time of year: The Samaritan Fund, The Food Pantry, Servants At Work (S.A.W.) repairing homes and restoring lives, Friends and Neighbor Network (F.A.N.N.) helping those in need develop community and move from hunger to food sufficiency for their family.

In any or all of the ways above, you can reflect the “light of Christ” through your Christmas giving. I pray that Christ will richly bless you and your family in this season of love and sharing.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor  
[rbeckum@stlukeum.com](mailto:rbeckum@stlukeum.com)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

The 11:00 a.m. service is streamed at [www.saintlukecolumbus.org](http://www.saintlukecolumbus.org) and broadcast at WLTC 103.7 Lite FM • Broadcast on WTVM Channel 9 at 10:00 a.m.

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Prelude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “A Rose Has Sprung” .....Johannes Brahms

Welcome and Opening Prayer.....Rev. Robert Beckum

Hymn..... “Life Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!” .....Dr. Marc Boensel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath.....(*8:30 a.m.*) The Marks Family: Andy and Barbara  
(*11:00 a.m.*) The Riley Family: Chandler, Lane, Cora, Rosie, Chandler, Jr.

Congregation’s Sung Reponse  
**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

\*\*Anthem (*Chancel Choir*)..... “O Come, Emmanuel!” .....Don Besig

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer.....Rev. Beckum  
**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, forever.**

Choral Prayer Response ..... “Dresden Amen” ..... Johann Naumann

The Children’s Sermon.....Mrs. Mary Pat Beckum

Hymn..... “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” .....Dr. Boensel

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

The Written Word.....Isaiah 61:1-4; Psalm126

The Spoken Word..... **“JOY”** .....Rev. Beckum

## An Advent Affirmation

**We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah whose coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled and our peace is sealed and our joy is completed.**

Hymn..... “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” .....Dr. Boensel

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

Choral Benediction Response (*11:00 a.m.*)..... “Come, Emmanuel” .....Dr. Boensel

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Lift Up Your Heads” .....Improvisation

\*\* Music Box

## OUR PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office, 706-327-4343 • Preschool, 706-327-4343

St. Luke School, 706-256-1301 • Early Learning Center, 706-322-2703

Ministry Center, 706-256-1017 • Respite Care Ministry, 706-256-3117

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## LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!

## IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,  
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.  
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time fore-told  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

## HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'an-gel-ic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

### Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the ever lasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. **Refrain**

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and Life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. **Refrain**

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### Permit

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# MUSIC BOX

Dr. Marc F. Boensel, Director of Music Ministries, [mboensel@stlukeum.com](mailto:mboensel@stlukeum.com)

**Chancel Choir** rehearsals are at 7p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the Sanctuary. Rehearsals will be limited to 30 minutes, socially distanced and masked at all times. Temperature checks will be taken between 6:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m. at the 3rd Avenue entrance to the Music Suite.

Please consider a gift to the **Music Ministry**. You may mark your donation to the Music Fund, Music Scholarship Fund, Orchestra Fund, or Organ Fund.

**Today's anthem:** *"Wandering aimlessly on through the night, walking in darkness seeking the light, we search for the truth our doubts to dispel. Oh come, oh come Emmanuel. Long we have waited for you to appear, bringing us hope and calming our fears. Descend now from heaven, among us to dwell, oh come, oh come Emmanuel. Come thou long-expected Jesus, come redeemer, Lord, and king. Precious Savior, come to lead us, fill us with the peace you bring. Soon we'll see a new day dawning, send a sign for all to see. End our darkness, doubt, and longing. Come and set our spirits free. Faithful believers, we watch and we pray. Soon you will come to show us the way. Then all of the world your story will tell, oh come, oh come Emmanuel."*

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**WORSHIP IN SPANISH:** 12:20 p.m. worship in Turner Chapel, Rev. Dr. Jose D. Resto/ Pastor, "The Harvest", Palabra Escrita: I Tesalonicenses 5:16-24. Palabra Hablada: La Regla para la Victoria.

**CONTEMPORARY SERVICE (THE NINE):** 9:00 a.m., Ministry Center, The Rev. Brett Maddocks, preaching.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** The beautiful flowers in the chancel area are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martha King Cunningham, Martha and Ralph King and Mary King Smalley by Billy Cunningham and Brooks Cunningham Dykes.

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY:** To Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie (Joanna) Culbreth in the death of her mother, Mrs. Joyce Harris, on December 5, 2020, Calhoun, KY. To Barbara Rivers in the death of her brother, Mr. Robert Rivers, December 5, 2020, Lawrenceburg, TN.

To Mr. Jamal Snell in the death of his grandmother, Daisy Mae Lipscomb, December 4, 2020, in Columbus, GA. Jamal is an employee of St. Luke.

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## Christmas Week Schedule at St. Luke

In order to assure space availability we ask you to register for the worship services by calling the church at 706-327-4343 or at [www.saintlukecolumbus.org](http://www.saintlukecolumbus.org)

|                    |             |   |
|--------------------|-------------|---|
| <b>December 20</b> | 5-7:00 p.m. | Live Nativity (Drive-by the front of Sanctuary)                 |
| <b>December 21</b> | 7:00 p.m.   | Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)                               |
| <b>December 22</b> | 5:00 p.m.   | Candles and Communion (Ministry Center)                         |
|                    | 7:00 p.m.   | Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)                               |
| <b>December 23</b> | 5:00 p.m.   | Candles and Communion (Ministry Center)                         |
|                    | 7:00 p.m.   | Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)                               |
| <b>December 24</b> | 11:00 a.m.  | Communion (Sanctuary)   |
|                    | 1-2:00 p.m. | Drive-Thru Communion (Church parking lot, main office entrance) |
|                    | 3:00 p.m.   | Communion (Sanctuary)   |
|                    | 5:00 p.m.   | Candles and Communion (Ministry Center)                         |
|                    | 7:00 p.m.   | Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)                               |

**11:00 p.m.** St. Luke Christmas Eve **pre-recorded** Broadcast, [www.stlukeum.com](http://www.stlukeum.com), *WTVM Channel 9*

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# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

mhubbard@stlukeum.com www.cornerkidz.com

*Save the Date!* On Sunday, December 20th from 5-7 PM, Children's Ministry will bring the nativity to life. Plan to drive by the church sanctuary that evening for what is sure to be a memorable and meaningful way to begin Christmas week.

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## BEFORE ENTRY PLEASE FOLLOW THESE PROCEDURES

1. **SANITIZE** YOUR HANDS USING THE PROVIDED SANITIZING SOLUTION.
  2. PUT ON A PROVIDED **FACE MASK** (IF YOU ARE ALREADY WEARING A PERSONAL FACE MASK THAT WILL SUFFICE).
  3. HAVE YOUR **TEMPERATURE TAKEN** BY THE RECEPTIONIST WITH A "TOUCHLESS" THERMOMETER.
    - A **TEMPERATURE OF 100.3 OR LOWER** IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE BUILDING.
  4. MAINTAIN A **PHYSICAL DISTANCE** OF AT LEAST 6 FEET OF ALL PERSONS NOT LIVING IN YOUR IMMEDIATE HOUSEHOLD.
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## MILITARY MINISTRY

Please let us know if you have a deployed loved one, family member or friend, that you would like to add to Saint Luke prayer list. Email [maggie@stlukeum.com](mailto:maggie@stlukeum.com) so we can be in prayer for the service member. For other military ministry requests, please contact Tony or Nicole Mayne [tony@gallantfew.org](mailto:tony@gallantfew.org) or [nmayne@stlukeum.com](mailto:nmayne@stlukeum.com).

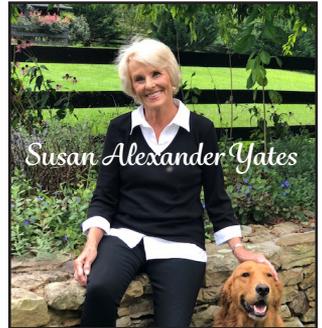
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## SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, February 20, 2021**

*Women's Day at St. Luke*  
*Speaker: Susan Alexander Yates*

**ST. LUKE MINISTRY CENTER**  
(Live Streaming option available)



## *Finding Peace in Times of Uncertainty*

Registration details will be available in January. Just save the date and plan to join us for this special day. For more information, contact Suzanne McCluskey [sfmcccluskey@gmail.com](mailto:sfmcccluskey@gmail.com) or 706-536-2439.

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We are forming a "Prayer Team" to pray specifically for this event - we'll meet once in December, once in January, and then a few times in February before and after the event. If you'd like to be on this "Prayer Team," please let Suzanne McCluskey know. We're planning to meet on Sunday mornings - after the 9:00 service and before the 11:00 service (from 10:15 to 10:45).

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## Tithes and Offerings

Offering plates/boxes are placed at entrances and exits at all of our in-person worship services. Of course, you can continue to support St. Luke Church with your tithes and offerings by mail, bank draft, or by going to the St. Luke website, <https://saintlukecolumbus.org/give/>, and clicking on "SecureGive" and then clicking on the "Church" button. If you need help with this option, please contact Renee Wilkinson at [renee@stlukeum.com](mailto:renee@stlukeum.com) or Brett Maddocks at [bmaddocks@stlukeum.com](mailto:bmaddocks@stlukeum.com).

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## ABIDING GIFTS

If you wish to honor or remember someone, please attach to your check the name of that person and the address to which you wish the acknowledgment sent and mail or bring to the church office. Contact [maggie@stlukeum.com](mailto:maggie@stlukeum.com).

**Altar Guild Fund:** In honor of Mrs. Joan Dickson for her 90th birthday by Mrs. Rosemarie Ward. In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mr. Jack Passailaigue, Jr., Mrs. Lee Harrell, and Mrs. Joan Dickson.

**Memorial Maintenance Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mr. and Mrs. Lowry Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Norris, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Heard, and Jerrilyn Holder Helbing and Family. In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Lee Harrell. In memory of Mr. Roy Greene by Mrs. Ann Land. In memory of Jean and Paul Amos, Constance Van Blarcum and John Kyle Spencer by Mr. Frederick Spitzmiller.

**Music Fund:** In memory of Mr. Frank Leonard by the Discovery Class.

**S.A.W. Ministry:** In memory of Mr. Bill Montgomery by the Discovery Class and Mrs. Joan Dickson.

**F.A.N.N. Ministry:** In honor of Mr. Ken Woodfin, Mrs. Annette Pollock, Rev. and Mrs. Mike McAfee, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hortman by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hutchens.

**Food Pantry:** In memory of Mr. Ed Adams, Mrs. Joan Holder, and Mr. Roy Greene by Mr. and Mrs. John Martin. In memory of George and Franke Adams by Mrs. Lee Harrell. In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder and Mr. Glenn Fish by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Hall. In honor of David and Kay Dunaway by Mrs. Ruth Laney.

**Fellowship/Jesus is Lord Class:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mrs. Sylvia Powell.

**Samaritan Fund:** In memory of Mr. Bill Montgomery by Mrs. Annette Pollock.



**The Merry Organ**  
Sunday, December 13 | 7:00pm

'Tis the season for beautiful music!  
Join us for a presentation of the America Guild of Organists (AGO) featuring local artists. This concert can be enjoyed on Facebook or our website at 7:00pm on Sunday, December 13.

[stthomascolumnbus.org/music](http://stthomascolumnbus.org/music)

## Prayer Calendars

If you would like a prayer calendar mailed to you please call the church office @ 706-327-4343.

**NEW BEGINNINGS** are collecting caps, gloves, and socks for Truth Springs Academy and Safehouse. They need adult and children's sizes. Place items in the dropbox right outside of Turner Chapel.



## THE CORNER

Jonathan and Lisa Moore, Directors of Student Ministries, [jmoore@stlukeum.com](mailto:jmoore@stlukeum.com)

### TWO CHRISTMAS PARTIES – ONE NIGHT!

Ministry Center Large Dining Room - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

**ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS**  
Your party will be 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.



**ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS**  
Your party will be 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

We can't wait for our Christmas parties on December 13! Make sure to bring a \$10 gift for the gift exchange. Games, food, Christmas music- you don't want to miss it!

No youth December 20 or December 27. Following the Christmas party, we will meet back together on January 3. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!