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No. 51

December 20, 2020

Volume 56

## 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)



- Dec. 20** 5-7:00 p.m. Live Nativity  
(Drive-by the front of Sanctuary)
- Dec. 21** 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)
- Dec. 22** 5:00 p.m. Candles and Communion (Ministry Center)  
7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)
- Dec. 23** 5:00 p.m. Candles and Communion (Ministry Center)  
7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)
- Dec. 24** 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) **FULL**  
\*5:00 p.m. Candles and Communion (Ministry Center) **FULL**  
\*7:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion (Sanctuary)  
*\*5 and 7 p.m. service will be Live Streamed*

**11:00 p.m. St. Luke School Christmas Eve pre-recorded Broadcast,**

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## CARING AND SHARING FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

St. Luke is in the midst of a wonderful Advent season filled with a spirit of gratitude and a commitment to caring that can only be characterized as "Christ-like." In the spirit of caring and sharing, there are two financial matters to which I would like you to give your attention. First, help St. Luke finish the year strong. Please do your best to fulfill your pledge to the operating budget for the current year. If all of us meet our pledge goal, St. Luke will end the year strong and faithful in our ministry for Christ!

**Second**, please join the many members who have already turned in their pledge toward next year's (2021) budget for ministry and mission. I know your great love for Christ and for St. Luke Church, and I know that St. Luke can depend on you **for such a time as this**. You may make your pledge by filling out a card in worship this Sunday and placing it in the offering plate, by emailing your pledge to [renee@stlukeum.com](mailto:renee@stlukeum.com), or by mailing your pledge to the church office. (P.O.Box 867, Columbus, 31902)

Thank you for the investment of your time, prayers and resources in the ministry of Christ through St. Luke Church.

Robert Beckum, Senior Pastor  
[beckum@stlukeum.com](mailto:beckum@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 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Prelude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Gabriel’s Message” .....arr. Hal Hopson

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

Hymn..... “Joy to the World” .....Mr. Marc Boensel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath.....(*8:30 a.m.*) The Adams Family: Thomas &Victoria  
(*11:00 a.m.*) The Turner Family: Jack, Ashley, Weezie, Guy and Betsy

Congregation’s Sung Reponse

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

\*\*Anthem (*Chancel Choir*)..... “Immanuel” .....Benjamin Knoedler  
(*William Bontempo, violin and Karen Lewis, piano*)

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..... “In the Bleak Midwinter” .....Mr. Boensel

Special Music ..... “Mary Did You Know?” .....Buddy Greene  
(*Shana Monteith and Shara Bryan-Torsiello with Ken Bailey, piano*)

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.....Luke 1:39-56

The Spoken Word..... “LOVE” .....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, our peace is sealed, our joy is completed, and our love is consummated.**

Hymn..... “What Child Is This” .....Mr. Boensel

The Benediction.....Rev. Beckum

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

Postlude (*Ken Bailey*)..... “Joy to the World” .....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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## JOY TO THE WORLD

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders, of his love.

## IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.  
In the bleak mid-winter a table place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and arch-angels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim throng-ed the air;  
but his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

## WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

### Refrain:

This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. **Refrain**

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. **Refrain**

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### Permit

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# MUSIC BOX

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

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:** "God with us, Immanuel, heaven's King, sent from above. Glory bound, the babe is born, Son of God, to prove his love! *God with us, Immanuel; the Promised One has come. Hope is here, his star shines bright, victory's born on earth this night.* God with us, Immanuel; through the Son, see heaven's Lord. No more wait, the Savior's near. He has come to *save the world.* *God with us...* Gone the fear man faced alone. Now before the newborn Christ, as in heaven before the throne: *God with us...*"

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**WORSHIP IN SPANISH:** 12:20 p.m. worship in Turner Chapel, Rev. Dr. Jose D. Resto/ Pastor, Palabra Escrita: Lucas 1:26-38. Palabra Hablada: "Anuncio del nacimiento de Jesús."

**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 by the Altar Guild.

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## BULLETIN COMING LATE?

We have heard from many of you that the weekly bulletin is coming late. Unfortunately we are unable to control when the post office delivers the mailed bulletin. We know this is frustrating but please know we are doing all we can on our end to avoid these delays. If you have access to email or internet, we encourage you to sign up for the emailed bulletin. Or you can view it on our website each week. It is posted to the website and emailed on Thursday afternoons. If you do not receive the bulletin by email already, please contact Maggie at 706-327-4343 or [maggie@stlukeum.com](mailto:maggie@stlukeum.com) to make sure we have your correct email address.

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## Prayer Calendars

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

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**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.

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## S.A.W. MINISTRY NEEDS

The S.A.W. Ministry is in need of mattresses and beds (twin, double, queen), chairs, tables, etc. If you can help please contact Lee Myers at [leemyers.co@gmail.com](mailto:leemyers.co@gmail.com) or call the church office at 706-327-4343.

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## HOW DO I JOIN THE CHURCH?

You may become a part of the St. Luke family of God in one of the following ways:

1. If you have never joined a church before, you may become a member by profession of faith in Jesus Christ and by being baptized. If you have already been baptized (as a child or as an adult) in a Christian Church, your baptism is recognized by St. Luke United Methodist Church. You will be asked to uphold St. Luke church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.
  2. If you are a member of another United Methodist Church or another Christian denomination, indicate to one of the pastors that this is your desire. St. Luke will then transfer your membership.
  3. If you have any questions about faith in Christ, about United Methodism in general or St. Luke in particular, please ask one of the pastors!
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# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

mhubbard@stlukeum.com www.cornerkidz.com

Join us **TONIGHT** as Children's Ministry brings the nativity to life. Plan to drive by the church sanctuary between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. for what is sure to be a memorable and meaningful way to begin Christmas week.

**Our nursery is hiring!** We are prayerfully seeking compassionate and reliable caregivers to provide childcare for our church families on Sunday mornings. Interested applicants should contact Nicole Mayne at [nmayne@stlukeum.com](mailto:nmayne@stlukeum.com) for both an application and details.

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## HOLIDAY HOURS

**St. Luke School** and **St. Luke Preschool** will be closed beginning December 21. The **ELC** will be closed December 24-25, December 31 at 12:00 p.m. and January 1.

The **church office** will close at noon on December 24 and will be closed December 25, and January 1.

The next regular bulletin will be published on January 3,  
and will include abiding gifts.

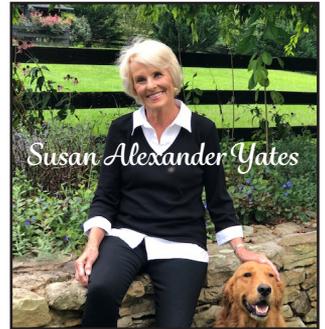
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### SAVE THE DATE

**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).

### CHURCH MAILING ADDRESS

Please do not use the physical address of the church for mailing. The church mailing address is P.O. Box 867, Columbus, GA 31902. The Post Office will no longer deliver items that are addressed to our physical address. Thank you!  
*As always, thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry of St. Luke Church.*

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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).

**Abiding gifts received between December 14-23 will appear in the January 3 bulletin. Abiding gifts received after December 23 will appear in the January 10 bulletin.**

**Food Pantry:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mrs. Beverly Gross and Mr. Billy Cunningham. In memory of Mr. Bill Montgomery by Mrs. Debbie Hamilton. In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder and Mr. Bill Montgomery by the New Beginnings UMW. In honor of Mrs. Peggy Gindville by Ms. Adele S. Lindsey. In memory of Mr. John Cartledge by Mrs. Carolyn Cartledge. In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder and Mrs. Martha Cunningham by Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Fay.

**Memorial Maintenance Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Callier Witt CPA's LLP, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Bruni. Mr. and Mrs. Thad Estes, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Kenimer, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn N. Smith, Jr. In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder and George and Franke Adams by Mrs. Loraine Stewart. In honor of Mrs. Joan Dickson and in memory of Mr. R. Eugene Dickson by Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Ward III.

**Altar Guild Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mrs. Mary Bass.

**Samaritan Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Emmie Johnson by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Randall.

**Music Scholarship Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Mary Anne Willis, Mr. Sonny Ward, Mrs. Jean Amos, Mr. Sonny Clements, Mr. Jim Sigmund, Mrs. Frances McCluskey, Mr. George and Mrs. Franke Adams, Mr. Jens Sturup, Mr. Dick Jones, and Mrs. Gladys Pitts by Mrs. Carol Orr. In memory of Mr. Jens Sturup and Mrs. Gladys Pitts by Mrs. Janice Sigmund. In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Rick Anthony by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

**Music Fund:** In honor of Mrs. Rose Marie Ward and in memory of Mr. Robert A. Ward, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Ward III.

**Adopt A Family Project:** In memory of David and Joyce Land by Mr. and Mrs. Win Fowler.

**Naomi's Village:** In memory of Mrs. Frances McCluskey by Mrs. Janice Sigmund.

**F.A.N.N. Ministry:** In honor of the F.A.N.N. volunteers and Mr. Richard Jarboe by Ms. Nancy Pedersen.

**Altar Guild Fund:** In memory of Mrs. Joan Holder by Mr. and Mrs. Greg Pridgen.

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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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**THE CORNER**

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

Our Synthesis Leadership retreat was INCREDIBLE! We had about forty high school leaders growing in leadership, community, and their relationship with God. Thank you for all your prayers and support!

**No youth December 20 or December 27.** We will meet back together on January 3. **Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!** We love you!"

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