

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Time For Peace December 10, 2023 9:00 AM

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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> Rev. Monte Peterson, Pastor Heather May, Youth & Family Minister Carol Peterson, Music Director Becky Cunningham, Office Manager

Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love, Reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world.



Welcome to Worship! All words will be displayed on the screen. Kids, don't forget your Praise Packs! Children's Bulletins are available in the Praise Packs!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: We gather today.
- C: It is time to worship!
- P: We listen for God
- C: It is time to hear!
- P: We receive God's grace.
- C: It is time to be loved!
- P: We leave in peace.
- C: It is time to serve others!
- P: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

PRELUDE

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" St. Luke's Handbell Choir Wesley, arr. Arnold B. Sherman

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- *P:* With God, there is always time for forgiveness. We trust God as we confess our sins together (Brief pause)
- P: Holy One,
- C: We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done.
- P: People of God, God's judgment is certain and God's forgiveness is lightning fast. Hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders.
- C: Amen.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Isaiah 40:1-8

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the

wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall

I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Candle Liturgy Lighting of the Second Candle Hymn "He Came Down" He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; hallelujah for ever more.

HOMILY		Pastor Monte
HYMN	"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	#279
	ROGRAM The Animal Nativit	ту
HYMN	"Go Tell it On the Mountain"	#290 verses 2 & 3

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: God of mercy, C: hear our prayer

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always C: And also with you. Please greet one another with the words, "Peace be with you."

OFFERING Pew Pads are located at the far end of each pew. Please fill them out and pass them, noting those seated around you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *"While by my Sheep"* German Carol, arr. Douglas E. Wagner St. Luke's Handbell Choir

Children are invited to gather at the back during the anthem and help bring forward the offering.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Open your hearts.
- C: We open them to God and to one another.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION - Continuous

If you wish to have the Pastor bring communion to your pew, please notify an Usher. All are Welcome!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"	arr. Frances L. Callahan
St. Luke's Handbell Choir	
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"	#282, verses 1 & 2

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- *P:* The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "Angels From the Realms of Glory" #275, verses 1 & 2

DISMISSAL

- P: Go in peace. Keep awake.
- C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Angels From the Realms of Glory"*

+ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED DURING WORSHIP TODAY! +

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Barb Willis

ETERNAL FLAME for the month of December is given by **Pat Erdmann** in loving memory of her husband, Roger Erdmann.

You can now GIVE ONLINE, by scanning the QR code:



Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the life and ministry of the church!

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Monday, December 11	9:00 am Quilters 2:30 pm Caregivers Support Group	
Wednesday, December 13	 1:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Youth Tubing Party (If Rock is closed we will meet at Church. Watch for email.) 7:00 pm Choir 8:15 pm Bible on Tap @ On the Edge)
Thursday, December 14	7:00 pm WINGS	
Friday, December 15	Church Office Closed Newsletter Article Deadline	
Saturday, December 16	9:30 am Choir Practice	

Church ______

TODAY:

- **ANXIETY CLASS** Continues in Upper Fellowship Hall. Join us even if you haven't come before.
- <u>BLUE CHRISTMAS</u> Christmas can be a difficult season, whether it is due to the recent death of a loved one, illness, or just the weight of memories that accumulate like snowflakes. If you need a break from the "merry merry," join us **tonight at** 5 pm as we gather for a reflective service of hope and healing. Service will also be streamed.
- **THE GIVING TREE**. Gifts should be returned to St. Luke's wrapped with the card securely taped to the package **today!**

THE GIVING TREE. You're now invited to fill the tree with hats, scarves, mittens, and underwear for our (adult and children) friends at Hephatha.

<u>3rd QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS</u> are available to pick up at the Welcome Center, for those who chose to receive them in paper form.

YOUTH TUBING OUTING

Middle & High Schoolers are invited to come to the ROCK for tubing on Wednesday, December 13th 6pm-8:30pm. This is in place of Confirmation & Synergy. Sign up at <u>www.slchurch.org/sign-ups</u>

PAJAMA VESPERS!

Gather around the Christmas tree for evening Vespers Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 6:30pm. Children (and adults) are invited to attend in their pajamas and snuggle on the lap of a loved adult. Together we will hear the Christmas story, do an activity, sing carols and celebrate Jesus' birth. Sign up at the welcome center today or at <u>www.slchurch.org/sign-ups</u>

NURSERY

The nursery is now open for children ages 0-3! Adeline *(Addie)* Klockenkemper is eager to care for your little ones as you worship. Rest assured; babies are still welcome in the sanctuary; this just provides another option.

Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 24th Sunday, December 24th Sunday, December 24th Monday, December 25th 9:00 am 4:00 pm 10:00 pm 10:00 am

4th Sunday of Advent Interactive Family Worship Traditional Christmas Eve Christmas Day