

Announcements

The Food Pantry is in need of canned beef stew, chili, and chicken and dumplings.

Concert of Lessons and Carols: Everyone is invited to attend TODAY at 3pm in the Sanctuary. Hear the story of God's saving work from creation, through the Prophets and the birth of Jesus Christ celebrated in scripture and song.

YTD Contribution Statements: As of November 30th will be available by Dec.

5. If you would like to have a copy of your statement for 2025, please email Mary Lou Cushing at marylou.cushing@stlukesumc.org or call the church office (M-TH 9am – 3pm). Thanks for your faithful giving to the ministries of St Luke's! Since the church office will be closed from Dec 24, 2025 – Jan 2, 2026, any contributions postmarked on or before Dec 31 will be posted to accounts with a Dec 31, 2025 date and will be reflected on your 2025 Year-end statement, which will be available mid- January.

Breaking Bread Together Again: Celebration of Epiphany & Service: On Sunday, January 4, celebrate Epiphany with a simple lunch & time of service to others & our church. Contact Lynne McAlexander to help at 550-3091.

Prayer Requests

Jordan Northcross, David Hensley, Dr. Jimmy Padgett, Steve Milinkovich, Buddy Ellis (Ann Al-Chokhachi's brother), Marty Cobb, Lewis Valdes, Coach David Day, Deborah Sanders, Kirk Smith, Bright Oware, Sarah Jane Tice, and Helen Wofford.

If you would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact Pat Anderson at pata9276@gmail.com or call the church office at 452-6262

Monthly Stewardship Report

Pledged and Non-Pledged Contributions

November 2025

Actual Giving: \$25,009.00
Budgeted: \$53,383.50

YTD 2025

Actual Giving: \$538,601.12
Budgeted: \$587,218.50

What Do You Fear?



INSISTING ON HOPE THIS ADVENT

Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025



St. Luke's United Methodist Church
480 S. Highland St. Memphis, TN 38111
901.452.6262 | stlukesumc.org

Order of Worship

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

To Us A Child is Given
J.S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeremiah said, "I am only a boy."

Moses said, "Who am I to do this work?"

Mary said, "How can this be?"

We often say, "But God, I am afraid."

Even when we are afraid, God invites us closer.

So may we trust the Inviter.

May we heed God's invitation.

May we summon our courage and sing God's praise.

Let us worship our courageous, inviting, calling God.

*OPENING HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH 238

Children ages 4 through 3rd grade are invited to come forward during the hymn and gather near the Advent wreath. After the lighting, they will go directly to Children's Worship in the Lighthouse, room 215.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Response on screens)

Sung Response:

On this day we light the candle of joy (4x)

**The hope of salvation, God's promise of gladness
fills up our lives with joy.**

On this day we light the candle of joy (2x)

On this day . . . on this day . . .

On this day we light the candle of joy.

WORD AND WONDER -A time for children

SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Emmanuel

UMH 204

NEW TESTAMENT READING

New Testament Pew Bible Page 53

Luke 1:26-39

CONGREGATIONAL READING

Old Testament Pew Bible Page 656

Jeremiah 1:4-10

ANTHEM

No Night There
Dan Forrest

Rev. Dennis Neenan

Pew Card

MESSAGE

*ADVENT AFFIRMATION

UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of joy, receive these gifts and bless them to bring laughter where there is sorrow, music where there is silence, and courage where fear holds sway. May our giving be a song of praise to you, the source of all joy. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Arr. John Leavitt

Pew Card

(On the Screens)

*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

*SENDING HYMN

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

*BENEDICTION

In a fearful world, may you look for God's spirit.

May you reach for each other's hands.

May you choose courage whenever you can.

And in all things, may you remember that good news is louder than fear.

**We go in the name of the one who calls,
the one who sends, and the one who journeys with—**

Go in peace and do not be afraid.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Alleluia
J.S. Bach

Call to Worship, Advent Wreath text, Advent Affirmation, and Benediction (adapted)
by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

*Congregation stand as able.

CCLI #1111630

If you are interested in uniting in membership, please contact Pastor Jim.

Leading in Worship

Rev. Jim McKinney, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dennis Neenan, Congregational Care Pastor
Rev. Amy Martin, Minister of Music and Worship
Katie Shepherd, Liturgist
Ziggy Goodman, Advent Wreath Reader
St. Luke's Chancel Choir
Wes Kirkpatrick, Organist