

## Announcements

**Longest Night Service:** Join us TONIGHT at 5pm in the Chapel for our beautiful Longest Night Service led by Pastor Harry. All are welcome!

**Christmas Eve Service** will be in Fellowship Hall at 5pm.

**Church Offices Closed:** The Church offices will be closed Wednesday, December 24th through Friday, January 2nd for the holidays. Normal business hours will resume Monday, January 5, 2026.

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

**NO Children's Activities 12/28:** Parents, there will be NO Sunday School OR Lighthouse during Worship on Sunday, December 28th to give our volunteers a break. There will still be a nursery available during Worship. Regular classes will resume on Sunday, January 4th.

**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, Helen Wofford, Andee Williamson (Phyllis Gay's friend), and Dot Dickey.

*If you would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact Pat Anderson at [pata9276@gmail.com](mailto: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

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 21st, 2025

St. Luke's United Methodist Church  
480 S. Highland St. Memphis, TN 38111  
901.452.6262 | [stlukesumc.org](http://stlukesumc.org)

## Order of Worship

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Sussex Carol*

Arr. Tom Fettke

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in worship—  
we pray together,  
we stand together,  
we sing together,  
we listen together.

Here in worship—  
we are not alone.

So when life gives you reason to grieve, to fear, or to worry,  
remember this moment.

We are not alone.

We worship our with-us God.

### CHILDREN'S ANTHEMS

*Get Ready!*  
*Mary Had A Baby*

Mark Burrows  
Spiritual

UMH 203

### \*OPENING HYMN

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

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 love. (4x)*  
*The light of the Savior is shining among us*  
*Casting out fear with love.*  
*On this day we light the candle of love (2x)*  
*On this day . . . on this day . . .*  
*On this day we light the candle of love.*

### WORD AND WONDER -A time for children

### SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

### CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

### PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

### \*HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

UMH 242

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 1:18-25

### CONGREGATIONAL READING

Isaiah 41:5-10

### ANTHEM

*I Saw Three Ships*

Arr. Craig Curry

### MESSAGE

Rev. Jim McKinney

### \*ADVENT AFFIRMATION

*Pew Card*

### UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of love, bless these gifts and make them signs of your presence in the world. May they bring comfort to the hurting, strength to the weary, and light to those who walk in fear. Teach us to love as you love—freely, fully, and forever. Amen.

### OFFERTORY

*Silent Night*

Arr. Carol Tornquist

### \*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

*Pew Card*

### \*SENDING HYMN

*Love Has Come*

(On the Screens)

### \*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

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Arr. Bill Wolaver

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. Amy Martin, Minister of Music and Worship  
Ann Al-Chokhachi, Liturgist  
Ziggy Goodman, Advent Wreath Reader  
Children's Choir, accompanied by Ophelia and Lewis Valdes  
St. Luke's Chancel Choir  
Wes Kirkpatrick, Organist