

Announcements

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

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.

Cocoa and Carols: Join us TODAY after worship on the front steps as we sing to our neighbors and welcome them to join the fun. After the caroling we will have cocoa, sandwiches, & cookies plus a gingerbread bounce house & snow globe photo op. Christmas fun & fellowship for all ages!

United Women in Faith will be meeting this Tuesday December 9 at 6 pm in the Lounge. We will be putting together snack and hygiene bags for residents of Golden Cross. You are invited to join us. For questions: Pat 901-489-3757.

Holiday Hope Night: Parents mark your calendars for the Holiday Hope Night on Friday, December 12th from 5:30-7:30 pm. Free admission, but RSVP with Mary Page to ensure enough food. Nursery available only by request! marypage.contreras@stlukesumc.org

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, and Sarah Jane Tice.

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

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 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

Sleepers Awake, A Voice is Calling
J.S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Family of faith, God is at work!

God is healing and creating,

Redeeming and dreaming,

Calling and sending,

Listening and loving.

Yes, indeed, God is at work!

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

May we worship our God who holds onto hope.

*OPENING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 peace. (4x)

**O come, Holy Spirit, and make our hearts ready
to welcome the Prince of Peace.**

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

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

On this day we light the candle of peace.

SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Blessed Be the God of Israel

NEW TESTAMENT READING

New Testament Pew Bible Page 10-11

Matthew 11:1-11

CONGREGATIONAL READING

Old Testament Pew Bible Page 632

Isaiah 43:19-21

ANTHEM

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
16th century tune, harm. by Michael Praetorius

Rev. Jim McKinney

Pew Card

MESSAGE

*ADVENT AFFIRMATION

UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of peace, bless these gifts and make them instruments of your love. Where fear divides, let peace unite. Where anxiety overwhelms, let calm prevail. Use our offerings to sow peace in every corner of your world. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Lo, How a Rose
Arr. Max Drischner

Pew Card

UMH 12

*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING (Response on screens)

*SENDING HYMN

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

UMH 218

*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

Trumpet Voluntary
Henry Purcell

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
Rev. Harry Colter, Liturgist
Susan Dacus, Advent Wreath Reader
St. Luke's Chancel Choir
Wes Kirkpatrick, Organist