

Announcements

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

Mitten Tree: The Sherwood Elementary Mitten Tree is up in the Hospitality Hall to be adorned with donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, and coats! Helping to keep the students warm and cozy is such a great way to share Christ's Love throughout the winter season. For questions: mtkaler1111@gmail.com

Advent Love in Action Calendar: Celebrate Advent by collecting and filling a gift bag with much needed supply items for ministries St. Luke's supports during this season of giving. The calendar starts November 30th. Pick up your family's gift bag and calendar in Hospitality Hall. Everyone is welcome to join the fun. Please bring your filled gift bag on Christmas Eve or Dec. 28.

Cocoa and Carols: Join us on Sunday, December 7, 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! Invite your friends! Contact Lynne McAlexander at 550-3091 to help.

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, 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 Corrected

October 2025

Actual Giving: \$58,966.14

Budgeted: \$53,383.50

YTD 2025

Actual Giving: \$505,163.17

Budgeted: \$533,835.00



What Do You Fear?



INSISTING ON HOPE THIS ADVENT

First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On Sundays and Mondays,
On good days and bad days,
Early in the morning and very late at night,
Here in this room, and out in the world,
God, we long for you to break in.
Meet us in this space.
Surprise us with your presence.
Fill this room with your good news.
With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

UMH 196

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 hope. (4x)
The light in the darkness has shined upon us,
Giving us reason to hope.
On this day we light the candle of hope (2x)
On this day . . . on this day . . .
On this day we light the candle of hope.*

SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1-3)

UMH 211

NEW TESTAMENT READING

New Testament Pew Bible Page 52

Luke 1:5-13

CONGREGATIONAL READING

Old Testament Pew Bible Page 721

Lamentations 3:55-57

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Immanuel
Natalie Sleeth

Rev. Jim McKinney

Pew Card

MESSAGE

*ADVENT AFFIRMATION

UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER

Ever-Watchful God, you call us to live not in fear, but in faithful anticipation. As we offer these gifts, we do so as people preparing our hearts, our hands, and our world for your coming reign. Let these offerings be signs of readiness, trust, and joy as we wait—and work—for your future to break into our present. In the name of the one who comes, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Arr. John Leavitt

*CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

Pew Card

*SENDING HYMN

UMH 230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*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

Allegro

G.F. Handel

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
Mina Lim, Advent Wreath Reader
St. Luke's Chancel Choir
Wes Kirkpatrick, Organist