

God With Us
By Leslie Jordan

You've come to bring peace	Our Deliverer
To be love, to be nearer to us	You are Savior
You've come to breathe life	In Your presence
To be light, to shine brighter in us	We find our strength
Oh Emmanuel God with us	Over everything
	Our redemption
Our Deliverer	God with us
You are Savior	You are God with us
In Your presence	
We find our strength	You are here
Over everything	You are holy
Our redemption	We are standing
God with us	In Your glory (Repeat)
You are God with us	
	Our Deliverer
You've come to be hope	You are Savior
To this world	In Your presence
For Your honor and name	We find our strength
You've come to take sin	Over everything
To bear shame	Our redemption
And to conquer the grave	God with us (Repeat)
Oh Emmanuel, oh God with us	
	You are God with us
	You are God with us
	You are God with us

In Response to God

Activities for the Week of December 9, 2018

Today's Lectionary: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Sunday	December 9	9:00 am – 10:00 am –	Church School Worship Service Congregational Meeting
		11:00 am –	Refreshments and Fellowship Choir Sectional Rehearsal
Monday	December 10	3-7 pm – 7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy Re-Mind support group
Tuesday	December 11	3-7 pm – 10:30 am –	Houston Dragon Academy Pastor's Bible Study
Wednesday	December 12	3-7 pm – 6-8 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy Live Nativity
Thursday	December 13	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Friday	December 14	3-7 pm – 3:00 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy "Pray Where You Are"
Saturday	December 15	9 am-6 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	December 16	9:00 am – 10:00 am – 11:00 am – 12:30 pm –	Church School Worship Service Refreshments & Fellowship Volunteers to Star of Hope
Save the date:	December 12	6 & 7 pm	Live Nativity
	December 19	7:15 pm	Montrose Street Reach
	December 23	10:00 am	"The Seven Joys of Christmas"

Advent and Christmas 2018

We will feature special music on each Sunday of Advent.
Come and enjoy these meaningful services as part of your Advent & Christmas journey.

December 9

Worship with "Joyfully We Ring" at 10 a.m.
With our youth bell choir, Campane Belle, and St. Luke's Ringers

December 16

Worship with "Yuletide Classical Strings" at 10 a.m.
With violinists, Quan, Chizu, and Mitsuki Jiang

December 23

Worship with "The Seven Joys of Christmas" at 10 a.m.
Musical presentation by Chancel Choir & harpist, Laura Smith

December 24

Worship with "Candlelight Lessons and Carols" at 6 p.m.
The Christmas Story unfolds through scripture and song
as we celebrate the eve of Jesus' birth.

December 30

Worship with "Carol Sing" at 10 a.m.
With guest vocalists, Betsy Uschkrat & Tyler Smith



ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. W. Scott Harbison
Parish Associate Rev. Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Music-Organist/Choirmaster Marvin Gaspard
Music Worship Leader Ryan Klasen
Handbell Director Jayne Manry
Administrative Assistant Mary Ann White
Nursery Caregiver Andrea Nitsch
Pastor's Aide Jean Kopp



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St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
December 9, 2018

The Order of Worship

December 9, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We joyfully greet each other and share the gifts of friendship and love.
Please begin quiet preparation for worship as the Prelude begins.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE Ding Dong Merrily on High
Campane Belle & St. Luke's Bell Quartet 16th century French melody, arr. Marvin Gaspard

WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE (see insert) *God With Us
Ryan Klasen & Ruth Heidelberger Leslie Jordan

PRAYER OF INVOCATION Linda Wiley

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE O Come, O Come Emmanuel
St. Luke's Youth 12th c. Latin melody

Choir: *"O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer...
Our spirits by thine advent here."*

**Congregation: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!"**

OPENING HYMN NO. 2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
HYFRYDOL

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.

**People: Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the
Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are
forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE NO. 23 The Gloria Patri (Please join the choir in singing)
Refrain: *"Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo!"*

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (OT p. 889) Malachi 3:1-4

(*Song of the Month)

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Rev. W. Scott Harbison

ANTHEM Long Time Ago
Ensemble English folk melody, arr. Joseph M. Martin

GOSPEL READING (NT p. 60) Luke 3:1-6

A REFLECTION ON THE WORD Rev. W. Scott Harbison
"Johnny B. Goode"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 20 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night
ABERYSWYTH

SHARING OUR JOYS AND LIFTING OUR CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

GIVING OUR GIFTS BACK TO GOD Now the Heavens Start to Whisper
Based on SUO GAN Welsh melody, arr. Nicholas Palmer

DOXOLOGY NO. 592

CHORAL RESPONSE Rejoice!
12th c. Latin melody/arr. Marvin Gaspard

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Postlude on *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*
Based on TRURO Thomas Williams, arr. Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)



Welcome to St. Luke's Presbyterian Church! If you are looking for a church home in Houston, we invite you to unite with St. Luke's. New members are welcomed by the Session following worship each Sunday. You may join by profession of faith and reception of baptism, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of church letter. Speak to Rev. Harbison if you have any questions.

St. Luke's Nursery is available for child care during Sunday worship services and special services during the year. Care is available on Sunday's beginning at 9:00 a.m. for children through age 5. Sunday School classes are available for ages 3 and older during the Sunday School hour.

Joys and Concerns are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving or intercession with the congregation. You will have opportunity to mention your joys and concerns verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer or you can fill out one of the small slips found in the pew racks and pass them to the usher during the Welcome and Announcements. To share confidential prayer requests, please hand them to Rev. Harbison following the benediction.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Ann Jones by her family.

Ensemble: Janet Bardin, Randall Bardin, Ann Guercio, Ryan Klasen, Dick Lawson, and Carol Wilson.

Campane Belle and St. Luke's Bell Quartet are playing for today's service. This is the first time our youth bell choir will be playing handbells for us. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments and thank their families for their commitment and support.

Sign up for Montrose Street Reach on December 19: St. Luke's partners with Montrose Street Reach every other month to serve a meal to the homeless. On December 19th Street Reach will serve a meal and distribute sleeping bags, pillows, and backpacks with hygiene items and our Grace Bags. You are welcome to attend the worship service at 6:30 p.m. or come at 7:15 p.m. to help with distribution. If you would like to bake cookies or volunteer to help, use the sign up sheet in the narthex to let us know. Street Reach is held in the parking lot of the Presbytery of New Covenant, 1110 Lovett Blvd. Call Jeanne Leach (713.409.0997) for more information.

Live Nativity December 12: Nativity re-enactments will take place Wednesday at 6 & 7 p.m. Each re-enactment will include narration, choral music, and members and friends of St. Luke's playing the nativity roles. Our nativity animals are back again this year! Refreshments will be provided.

Next Sunday we will enjoy "Yuletide Classical Strings" with our friends Quan, Chizu, and Mitsuki Jiang during worship. Please join us!

Our Christmas musical presentation, *The Seven Joys of Christmas*, will be part of our worship service December 23. Thanks to our Chancel Choir, and harpist, Laura Smith, who will be sharing their gifts with us.

Third Sunday Morning Mission is next Sunday: On the third Sunday of every month volunteers travel to the Star of Hope to help with lunch service. If you would like to volunteer, a sign up sheet is in the Narthex. If this is your first time to volunteer, please pick up a leaflet from the literature rack in the narthex with SOH guidelines and pre-register on their website as a new volunteer.