

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION MEDLEY

*Please join the choir in singing.*

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:  
Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heaven's all gracious King:  
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say; Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay; in fields, where they lay a-keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born King.

VOLUNTARY

Still, Still, Still

Austrian Christmas carol, arr. Marvin Gaspard

◆ THE LIGHT BROUGHT INTO THE WORLD

Silent Night, Holy Night

See insert

STILLE NACHT

*As the introduction to the hymn is played, the Pastor will light his candle from the Christ candle of the Advent wreath, then light the Elders' candles. The Elders will light the candles of the people at the end of each pew. Please pass the light down your pew. Bend the unlighted candle to the lighted one to prevent the dripping of hot wax.*

◆ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

◆ CLOSING HYMN NO. 40

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

◆ POSTLUDE

Postlude on ANTIOCH

George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

Arr. Antony Baldwin

*Merry Christmas!*

**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. If you would like more information, please speak to Rev. Harbison after worship.

**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 am for children through age 5. Sunday School classes are available for ages 3 and older during the Sunday School hour.

**Joy Gift Offering Today:** This annual offering of the PCUSA supports medical needs of clergy, active and retired, and their families, and the denominations racial ethnic schools and colleges. Please make a note on your check for "Joy Gift" or use the envelopes in your bulletin.

**The Wednesday Word:** If you would like to receive our weekly e-mail newsletter, *The Wednesday Word*, please add your name and email to the Welcome Folder.

**The church office** will be closed tomorrow for Christmas Day.

**Our annual Carol-Sing** on December 30 will be a casual worship service for the whole family, giving us the opportunity to sing everyone's favorite carols one more time. Our special musical guests will be Betsy Uschkrat and Tyler Smith.

ST. LUKE'S STAFF

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



The mission of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church is to proclaim the Word of God in Jesus Christ, nurture and support one another, and serve the community.

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church  
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CHRISTMAS EVE

ST. LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 24, 2018

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# CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

DECEMBER 24, 2018

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

## PREPARING FOR THE WORD

TOLLING OF THE HOUR  
Olivia Harbison

\*PRELUDE  
Sarah Bunk  
Nathan Abbott  
In the Bleak Midwinter  
Gustav Holst (1874-1934), arr. Marvin Gaspard  
Cantique de Noël  
Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

## \*WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE St. Luke's Youth

Choir: O Come, O Come Emmanuel...  
and ransom captive Israel!  
Congregation: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

✠CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. W. Scott Harbison

Leader: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.  
People: **O come, let us adore Him!**  
Leader: The government shall be on His shoulder.  
People: **O come, let us adore Him!**  
Leader: His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God.  
People: **O come, let us adore Him!**  
Leader: The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.  
Unison: **O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!**

\*✠PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 41 O Come, All Ye Faithful  
ADESTE FIDELES

### PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (people in unison)

Glory to you, Almighty God, for you sent your only-begotten Son that we might have new life. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and dwelt among us that we might become your people. Glory to you, Holy Spirit, for you direct and rule our lives. Glory to you, Almighty God, and to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

ANTHEM  
Sleeps Judea Fair  
Hugh A. MacKinnon (1881-1991)

## THE SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

LESSON ONE Isaiah 40:1-2  
Catherine Jacoby

Leader: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.  
People: **Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that the penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.**

READING Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

HYMN NO. 9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1, 2 & 3)  
VENI EMMANUEL

LESSON TWO Psalm 62:1-2  
Annemieke Luckey

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence;  
from God comes my salvation.  
People: **God alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress;  
I shall never be shaken.**

READING Isaiah 7:14-16

VOLUNTARY Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
ES IST EIN' ROS' Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

LESSON THREE Ezekiel 34:30-31  
John Simmons

Leader: They shall know that I, the Lord their God,  
am with them and that they, the house of Israel,  
are my people, says the Lord God.  
People: **You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture  
and I am your God, says the Lord God.**

READING Micah 5:2-5a

HYMN NO. 44 O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1 & 2)  
ST. LOUIS

LESSON FOUR Isaiah 12:2  
Katelyn Harbison

Leader: Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
People: **For the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
and has become my salvation.**

READING Luke 1:26-38

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY Carol of the Bells  
Ukrainian Carol Mykola Leontovych (1877-1921)  
Arr. Peter Wilhousky (1902-1978)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LESSON FIVE Rev. Dr. Bill Wade

Leader: All my heart today rejoices,  
As I hear, far and near, sweetest angel voices.

People: **Christ is born, their choirs are singing,  
till the air, everywhere, now with joy is ringing.**  
Johann Georg Ebeling

READING Luke 2:1-7

HYMN NO. 25 Away in a Manger (verses 1 & 3)  
MUELLER

LESSON SIX Rev. W. Scott Harbison

Leader: This, this, is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

People: **Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary** William Chatterton Dix

READING Luke 2:8-20

RESPONSE Gloria in excelsis Deo; (please join the choir in singing)  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

HOMILY Rev. W. Scott Harbison

✠APOSTLE'S CREED (Traditional) Hymnal, page 14

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest.