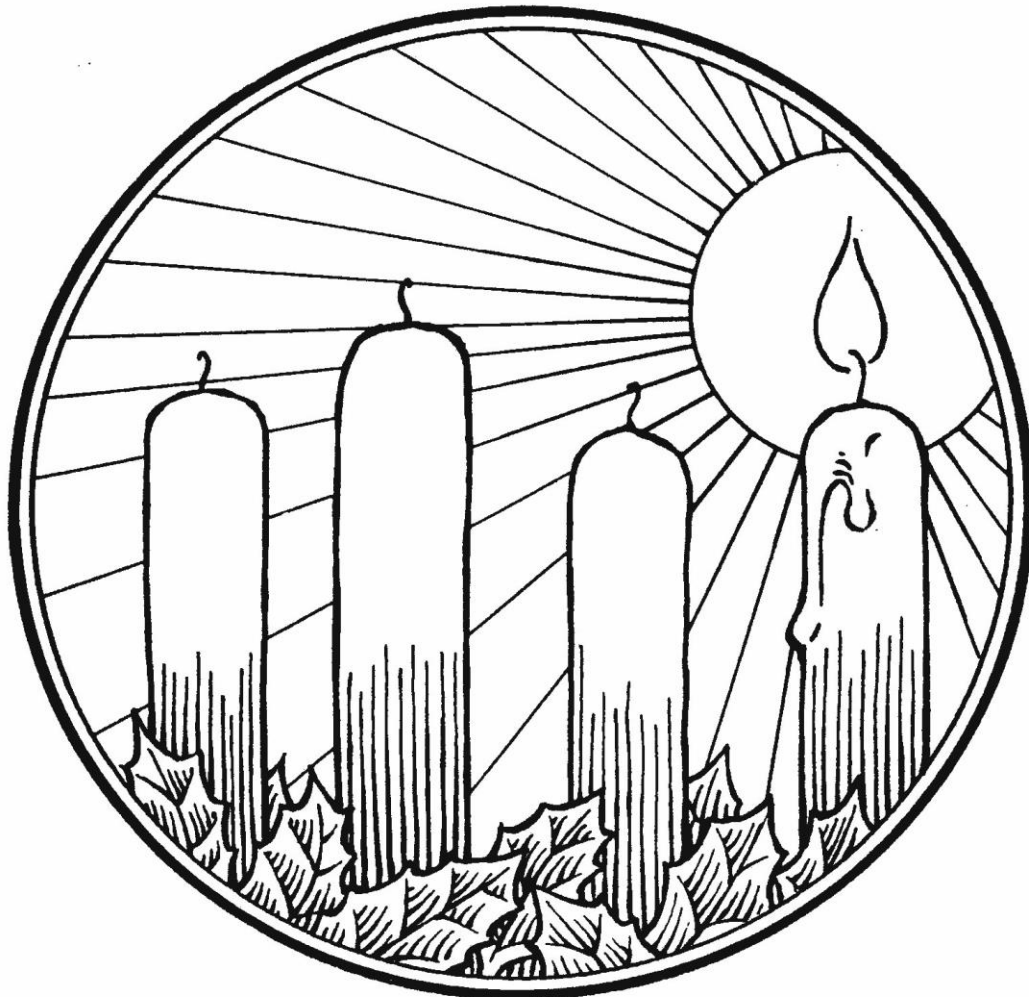


# St. Luke Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2024

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent



**We prepare ourselves for the coming of The Light**

First Sunday of Advent \* December 01, 2024

This service can be viewed via Facebook streaming.

[www.facebook.com/stlukeamarillo](http://www.facebook.com/stlukeamarillo)

Prelude

Our Life Together at St. Luke

Please pass the friendship books to mark your participation and to greet others in your row.

Time of Centering and Stillness

Choral Introit

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

The Meaning of the Service

†Opening Hymn # 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

†Responsive Call to Worship (based on John 1:5 and Ephesians 3:21)

one: The grace of our Lord and Savior, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

all: **This is the faith of the Church of Jesus Christ!**

one: All around us, we can see darkness, greed, and brokenness.

all: **We long for Christ to come again and bring light to our world.**

one: The Good News is that our Messiah lives among us, bringing truth and light to our present reality.

all: **We worship, longing for that reality, and hoping for the light of Christ. All glory to God forever.**

Prayer for Guidance and Illumination

ending with: And all God's children say... **Amen**

Reading One Advent Colors Exodus 35:5-6, Isaiah 9:2, and John 18:12 & 19:4-5

Lighting of the Advent Candle Bob and Mary McCracken

†Hymn # 88

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1-4)

Unison Prayer of Confession

**We long for your coming, Lord; but we are unprepared, because we have not always done what we should have done; and sometimes we have done what we should not have done. We pray for your forgiveness, and we seek the power of your Holy Spirit to restore our faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Choral Request for Pardon

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

Assurance of Forgiveness

one: Friends, believe the Good News.

all: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

†Gloria Patri "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

# 582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

† Passing the Peace of Christ

Reading Two Nativity Crèche

Word with The Wise (a time for the young and the young at heart)

**God loves you, and all the people of St. Luke love you too.**

Choir Anthem

"Prepare the Way"

Reading Three Sanctuary Evergreens Isaiah 41:17-20 and Isaiah 60:13

†Hymn # 113

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Please, place your tithe/offering in the plate as it is passed, text GIVE to 806-631-6253, or use this link to give online. <https://www.stlukeamarillo.com/tithe/>

†Doxology

**Praise God whose breath fills all the earth; whose love reveals our secret worth; whose Spirit forms one family; whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.**

†Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Holy God, we are focused on your gift of Christ. You give so much; and we offer our gifts in faithful gratitude, as we pray in the name of Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.**

Reading Four Poinsettias Matthew 2:1-10

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (using "Debts")

†Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

The Lord's Supper

one: The Lord be with you.

all: **And also with you.**

one: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

one: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give thanks and praise to you, Lord God, Creator and ruler . . .

. . . all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

all: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

one: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord. Your Word became flesh . . .

...we offer our very selves to you, to be a living and holy sacrifice. Great is the mystery of faith:

all: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

one: Holy things for holy people.

all: **One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Prayer after Communion

Reading Five Chrismons and Chrismon Tree Isaiah 40:3-5, 28-31

†Closing Hymn # 136

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

†Charge and Benediction

†Choral Response

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo"

†Our Motivational and Missional Statement

**As the people of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, we offer to God our "hands of service, hands of faith, and open hands of love." Holy Spirit, unite us in this calling and send us forth to serve.**

†Postlude

Want to know more about St. Luke? See Priscilla Sheets by the announcement screen in the narthex after worship or contact an Elder during the week.

Welcome to St. Luke! As you silence your cell phone before the service begins, please take a moment to sign our digital attendance book using this QR code.



**SUNDAY, December 1 (Christmas Joy Offering Begins)**

9:30 am Coffee and Fellowship | Thank you to Priscilla Sheets for providing donuts.

**NO Adult Sunday School**

10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11 am Worship Service (communion will be served)

**MONDAY, December 2**

10 & 11 am Adult Piano classes

4 pm Congregational Care Committee

**TUESDAY, December 3**

10 am Exercise Group

**WEDNESDAY, December 4**

**No Yoga Group**

**THURSDAY, December 5**

10 am Exercise Group

2-4 pm Threads of Love

**SUNDAY, December 8**

9:30 am Coffee and Fellowship

9:45 am Adult Sunday School

10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11 am Worship Service

5 pm Meditation Service

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▶ **No piano lessons** on Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> or Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. Will meet again Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>.

▶ **SIGN-UPS NEEDED!** Please sign up to bring donuts for December. If you have questions, please contact **Mary Holmlund**.

▶ There will be **NO Adult Sunday School** December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will continue December 8<sup>th</sup>.

▶ Join us for our annual **Christmas Pageant** on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Following the pageant, there will be a festive Fellowship Hour. All are encouraged to bring a sweet treat to share. We hope to see you all there!

**JOYS AND CONCERNS:**

Continue to pray for: Joyce Baughn; Krista Berry; Judy Conner; Alice Cooke; Dr. Bernard (Bo) Fitzner; Margaret and Tom Heyde; Mindy Hayden; Steven Hofmann; Sarah Kangerga; Donald Phelps; Donna Phipps; Marilyn Shillings; Henry and Ruth Suthard; Rev. Karl Travis; Alvin Wingo; St. Luke Session; staff and residents of Amarillo Children's Home; our sister church Johnson Chapel A.M.E.; Glenda Moore and Kind House Ukraine Bakery; all participants and helpers at Laundry Love; and the students, teachers, and staff of Mesa Verde Elementary School.

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Ministers: **The Congregation**

Pastor: **Rev. Bill Cotman**

Organist: **Mila Abbasova**

Treasurer: **Doug Tanner**

Greeters: **Gary and Janet Stone**

Readers: **Jennifer Denham, Paige Hadley, Camille Hoy, Bob & Mary McCracken**

Director of Music: **Dr. Robert Hansen**

Nursery Coordinator: **Mary McCracken**

Office Administrator: **Brittany Forney**

Clerk of Session: **Barbara Taylor**

**Session**

Class of 2024 Jennifer Denham, Kendra Jones, Cruse Messer

Class of 2025 Ross Clopton, Robert Hansen, Barbara Taylor, Kary Wingo

Class of 2026 Paige Hadley, Priscilla Sheets, Tim Sougstad, Helen Thorsheim

Class of 2027 Sam Burnett, Julie Johnson, Kaci Jones, Mary McCracken



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