CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano

Glenda Dickinson, Alana Glover, Ann Guercio*

Alto

Janet Bardin*, Sharon Cooper, Patti Ernst, Amanda Thorp*, Carol Wilson

Tenor

Randall Bardin*, Nathan Thorp*, Trudy Timian

Bass

Chris Bias*, Ugo Obudulu, Quinton Parmenter*

*St. Luke's Ringers

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Sara Bunk, flute Lauren Sanders, flute Micah Sanders, cello David Klingensmith, bass Cindy Qin, harp Michael Metz, percussion

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Director of Music

Marvin Gaspard

Friends of Music helps provide special instrumental and vocal guests throughout the year and supplements funding for our choir staff singers. For more information, please speak to Marvin Gaspard.



Advent and Christmas 2024

December 18

Live Nativity

With scripture narration, choral music, and carols Re-enactments at 6 & 7 p.m.

December 24

Christmas Concert at 5:30 p.m.
St. Luke's musicians will provide music of the Christmas season

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols at 6 p.m.

The Christmas Story unfolds through scripture and song as we celebrate the eve of Jesus' birth.

December 29

Carol Sing at 10:00 a.m.

An opportunity to sing your favorite Christmas carols one more time.

In Response to God Activities for the week of December 15, 2024

Today's Lectionary: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Isaiah 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

Sunday	December 15	9:00 am – 10:00 am –	Church School Worship - Joyful Noel Chancel Choir & Instrumentalists
		11:00 am –	Fellowship and Refreshments Prepare Grace Bags for Street Reach
Monday	December 16	3-7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Tuesday	December 17	10 am-2 pm – 3 -7 pm –	CCSC food collection Houston Dragon Academy
Wednesday	December 18	3 -7 pm – 6-8 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy Live Nativity
Thursday	December 19	3 -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Friday	December 20	3 -7 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Saturday	December 21	9 am-6 pm –	Houston Dragon Academy
Sunday	December 22	9:00 am – 10:00 am –	Church School Worship Congregational Meeting
Save the Date:		5:30 pm – 6:00 pm –	Music of the Christmas season Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols
	December 29	10:00 am –	Carol Sing Service

ST. LUKE'S STAFF

Pastor The Rev. W. Scott Harbison
Parish Associate The Rev. Dr. Bill Wade
Director of Music-Organist/Choirmaster Marvin Gaspard
Business Manager Patti Ernst
Assistant to Head of Staff Sandra Wang

Sarah Bunk, Ann Guercio, Don Mims, and Laura Smith



Artists in Residence

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church 8915 Timberside Drive Houston, Texas 77025 713.667.6531 www.stlukespres.org

Lyrics and Music by Permission CCLI No. 3460677



St. Luke's Presbyterian Church December 15, 2024

The Order of Worship

December 15, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE St. Luke's Ringers Gloria Fanfare

19th c. French carol, arr. Michael E. Akers

WELCOME/PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE ADVENT WREATH

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

The Dees Family 12th c. Latin melody

Choir:

"O come, Thou Wisdom from on high...

And order all things, far and nigh..."

Congregation: '

"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!"

OPENING HYMN 31
MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Congregation: Thanks be to God

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (OT p. 667) Reading today, Annemieke Luckey Isaiah 40:1-11

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SCRIPTURE READING (OT p. 57) Luke 1:46-55

Joyful Noel

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Il est Ne French carol, arr. Marvin Gaspard (b. 1953)

Sing We Now of Christmas French carol, arr. Salli Terri (1922-1996)

African Noel African melody, arr. André J. Thomas (b. 1952)

The First Noel English carol, arr. Dan Forrest (b. 1973)

Go Tell It on the Mountain African-American spiritual, arr. Marvin Gaspard Ugo Obudulu, bass

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RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

OFFERTORY

Calypso Noel Gordon Krunnfusz (1931-2011)

†OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Please join the choir in singing

"Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo!"

†HYMN 38

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

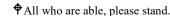
Minister: The Lord be with you. **People**: And also with you.

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.

The prayer continues...
The congregation sings...





THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

Hymnal p.16

COMMUNION

Meditation on GREENSLEEVES 16th c. English ballad, arr. Sylvia Woods

†CHORAL RESPONSE

Rejoice! 12th c. Latin melody, arr. Marvin Gaspard

†BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I Saw Three Ships English carol, arr. Marvin Gaspard

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.

Joy and Concerns are an opportunity to share a need for prayers of thanksgiving and intercession with the congregation. You will have an opportunity to mention them verbally at the time for Pastoral Prayer.

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mary Ann White's faithful service to our congregation for the past 20 years.

Sunday School: Children's Sunday School meets at 9 a.m. in Room 115 with Don Mims teaching the class. **Adult Sunday School** meets at 9 a.m. in the Library. **Our Youth Group** meets every other Sunday at 9 a.m.

Assemble Christmas Grace Bags today. We will be assembling Grace Bags for the Montrose Street Reach Christmas Backpack project after worship. Drop by the session room after worship and help us complete the bags. Thank you!

We are adopting several families for Christmas to help them celebrate the holidays. Please consider giving to this and to the Minister's Discretionary Fund, as this will be a tough holiday season for some of our neighbors. Please note "holiday families" in your donation.

Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired workers, and supports developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. The joy offering will be on Christmas Eve.