

The Children's Creche Service

December 24, 2020, 5:00 pm



Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Christmas 2020

Dear Friend in Christ,

We gather once again to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but oh how painfully aware we are of these different days. We cannot have any gatherings of family and friends, nor worship in person at church, and yes, we are called to stay isolated in our various pods. Unprecedented, unfamiliar, unusual, unexpected, are all words that come to mind as we think of this past year and now this holiday season.

We have watched the coronavirus spread around the world and in our country. The death toll is unbelievable. We give thanks for the beginnings of the distribution of vaccines, yet lives continue to be challenged, financial struggles abound, questions are many.

Right into it all though, we hear, *Do not be afraid. To you in born a savior, Christ the Lord.* This savior is Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. This same savior says to us, *I am with you always.* What hope we are given, our God will never, never abandon us. Our God is here with us, for us, loving us, guiding us.

Thank you for worshiping at Saint Luke. Thank you for sharing this Good News. Thank you for being part of this virtual community, united in this amazing love of God.

Please know we have a very special gift for all visitors. Kindly click here [Visitor Welcome](#) and complete the information. Again we look forward to sending you a gift.

May you find new hope as you hear the words of the Christmas gospel.

Christmas Blessings



Connie A. Miller

Senior Pastor

PRELUDE

Pastorale on "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Adeste Fideles, arr. David Schelat (b. 1955)

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

2 The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*

INVOCATION AND PRAYER

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light.

Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Christmas Story

MARY AND JOSEPH TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM

Saint Luke 2:1-5

Placing of the figures of Mary and Joseph

HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Saint Luke 2:6-7

Placing of the Holy Child

HYMN

Away in a Manger

1 Away in a manger,
no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask you to stay
close by me forever
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in your tender care
and fit us for heaven,
to live with you there.

2 The cattle are lowing;
the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus,
no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus;
look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle
till morning is nigh.

THE ANGELS ANNOUNCE JESUS' BIRTH

Saint Luke 2:8-14

Placing of the Angel

ANTHEM

Glory to God

Michael Bedford

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT THE CHRIST CHILD

Saint Luke 2:15-18

Placing of the Shepherds

HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!*

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

THE PROPHET TELLS US ABOUT THE MESSIAH

Isaiah 40:11

Placing of the Animals

HYMN

The Friendly Beasts

1. Jesus our brother, kind and good
Was humbly born in a stable rude
And the friendly beasts around Him stood,
Jesus our brother, kind and good.

2. "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
"I carried His mother up hill and down;
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town."
"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

3. "I," said the cow all white and red
"I gave Him my manger for His bed;
I gave him my hay to pillow his head."
"I," said the cow all white and red.

4. "I," said the sheep with curly horn,
"I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn."
"I," said the sheep with curly horn.

5. "I," said the dove from the rafters high,
"I cooed Him to sleep so He would not cry;
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I."
"I," said the dove from the rafters high.

6. Thus every beast by some good spell,
In the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel,
The gift he gave Emmanuel.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Miller

Offering

We invite you to give your Christmas offering online at saintlukegive.us
You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

ANTHEM

Shepherds, Run Along

Traditional Polish Carol, arr. Stephen Mager

OFFERING HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old

As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

THE PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray. God of all, this holy night you have given us the greatest gift of all, the sign of your love, your Son, our light and hope, lying in a manger. You gave to us, now we commend these gifts gathered for your use. Fill us with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the determination of the wise ones from the east. May we always know the sure and confident hope we have in Jesus.

Hear us now as we pray the prayer he taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

**Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos
Santificado sea tu Nombre
Venga a nosotros tu Reino
Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia
Perdona nuestras ofensas
Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden
Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**

HYMN

Silent Night

- 1 Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

- 3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

Let us carry the Good News this night to all the world.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor ✠ and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joy To The World

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing. | 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found. |
| 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy. | 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love. |

DISMISSAL

Filled with the joy of Christ's birth, go in peace!
Love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Gigue on "Go, tell it on the mountain"

Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Sandra Eisenbarth, *Director of Children's Choirs*

Members from the Schola Cantorum

Choristers

Anne-Marie Tait, Maggie Gordon, Liam Gordon, Hannah Montgomery

READERS

Navek Leonard

Shane Swartzendruber

Maya Garnett

Vivienne Dees

Ry Cobbs

CRECHE FIGURE CARRIERS

Karla Lopez

Sayra Lopez

Kylie Royster

Tegan Royster

Kenneth Thornton

Jonathan Thornton

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to all the earth.**

Christmas Poinsettia Food Bag Dedications

Robert Barnes in honor of Lynne Perri, in honor of Abby Barnes, in honor of Grace Barnes, in honor of Scott Kaczmarek

Denyse Baker in honor of Up For Discussion adult Sunday school class, in honor of vaccine researchers and scientists, in remembrance of Jane Dohler

Bassein-Roy family in remembrance of Rhoda Mahler, in remembrance of Ken Mahler, in honor of clergy/staff/volunteers who are keeping Saint Luke going in the time of covid, in honor of all frontline/essential workers who attend Saint Luke

Martin and Martha Bell in remembrance of Grason & Loretta Bell, in remembrance of Adrian & Lucile Propst, in remembrance of Bessie Basham, in remembrance of Asa Basham

Carol Bennet in remembrance of Margarea Bennett, in remembrance of H.H. Bennett, in remembrance of Bessie Basham, in remembrance of Asa Basham

James and Lorraine Bentley in honor of Kim Bentley and Kyle Van Horn, in honor of Eloise and Maya Van Horn, in honor of Andrew Bentley, in honor of Pastor Miller and Saint Luke Staff

Kathleen Bergeron in remembrance of Carol Chambers, in honor of Robert Chambers

Clinton Britt in remembrance of our grandparents

Diane and Nichols Castle in remembrance of Anita Ward, in honor of Gordon Ward, in honor of Lucy Lindgren, in remembrance of Virginia Regas

Chris Cedar in remembrance of her husband Robert Ceder, in remembrance of her parents Isabelle and Samuel Mohr, and in honor of all nurses, medical, and ancillary staff

Carol Crawford in remembrance of Charles and Lillian Crawford, in honor of Chris Crawford-Franklin

Jane Curtin in honor of all of our front line workers

Carol and Tom Darnell in remembrance of their parents and families

Susan DeHart in honor of Eleanor McIntyre and Thelma Fricks, in remembrance of Ken, Dorothy and Tom DeHart and Ball and Chain Members

Alma Edgerly in honor of Thoma Petersen, in honor of Ruth Manchester, in remembrance of Marie Edgerly, and in remembrance of Rod Petersen

Ron and Jan Eisenbarth in remembrance of members of the Kitchener and Eisenbarth families,

Karen L. Evans in remembrance of James Evans, in honor of her children and their families

Carol Farrar in honor of Amy Farrar, in honor of Jennifer Farrar, in honor of Andrew Farrar, in honor of Abigail Farrar, in honor of Matthew Farrar

Jenny Farrar in remembrance of Lois McCabe and Winnie Mercer

Ed Fenstermacher in honor of Erica, Thomas, and Alex Fenstermacher, in remembrance of Cassel and Marion Jacobson, in remembrance of Harvey and Margaret Fenstermacher, in remembrance of Michael and Cathy Pine

Bev and Amos Gardiner in remembrance of James and Margaret Shaffer

Kate Glenn in honor of Daniel Thomas, in honor of Charles Bond, in remembrance of Robert and Patricia Thomas, in remembrance of John & Janet Gilson, in remembrance of Suzanne Bond

Benjamin Gray in remembrance of George Gray, in remembrance of Viola and E.J. Gallus, in remembrance of Andrew Letcher, in remembrance of Mark and Jesse Hatcher, in remembrance of Anna Marie and Bonnie Gallus

Melissa Groen in honor of medical staff and other frontline workers, in honor of educators and school administrators, in honor of the Sunday School teachers who touch lives every Sunday morning sharing God's love with the children of Saint Luke, in honor of all those who are part of leading Saint Luke's worship services each Sunday

Matthew Grussing in remembrance of Wayne and Fern Anderson, in remembrance of James and Lorraine Grussing

The Gurganus family in remembrance of David and Alma Hudgel and Bonnie Bowles Hudgel

Claudette Hamerski in remembrance of Emily & Claude Myers, and in remembrance of Cleo and Hugh Hamerski

Sarah Hanson in remembrance of Lawrence Larson and in remembrance of Mary Ann Larson

Emily and Brian Horick in remembrance of Luther and Phyllis Horick, in remembrance of Philip and Jacqueline Brunschwyler, and in remembrance of Conrad Brunschwyler

Carol Howell in remembrance of Karen Howell, in remembrance of Robert and Ann Custer, in remembrance of Dana Osterndorf, in remembrance of Mary Jane Lusby, and in honor of the dedicated staff of Saint Luke Lutheran Church

Joni Jacobs in remembrance of Jerry Packard, in remembrance of Steve Spencer, in remembrance of Betina Adams, in remembrance of Jason Rush, and in remembrance of Mark Willard

Charles Kirk in remembrance of Dorothy and Charles Agee, in remembrance of Edward and Ann Kirk, in honor of Edward and Mary Kirk, and in honor of James, Maria, and Diana Kirk

Mary Kirk in honor of Charles and Elisabeth, in honor of Kathleen and David, and in honor of Jennifer and George

Charles LaDuca in remembrance of Brenda Joyce Martin, in remembrance of Marie Louise LaDuca, in honor of Julia LaDuca, and in honor of Alexandra

Jennifer MacLaughlin in remembrance of Grace Pancallo, and in remembrance of Suellen MacLaughlin

Martha, Betsy, and Jonathan McIntyre in honor of Eleanor McIntyre, in remembrance of Albert McIntyre, in remembrance of Ken and Dorothy DeHart, and in remembrance of Eleanor Emch

Lauri and Scott McKay in remembrance of Paul Karpiscak, in honor and thanksgiving of Paul and Ann's 65 years of marriage

Ruth Manchester in honor of the Saint Luke Staff, in remembrance of Helen Gertrude and Gilbert F. Garbisch, and in remembrance of Eleanor Elizabeth and Elbert Grant Manchester

Mary Ellen Meagher in remembrance of Mary and Michael Wanchick

Elinita Mhando in remembrance of Baby Jesus, in honor of all who need help

Ellen and Gary Miller in remembrance of Edythe and Robert Miller and Virginia and Harry Griggs, in honor of James, Katie, Robert, Alexander, and Ellamaija Miller

Pastor Miller in honor of all who worship virtually at Saint Luke and in remembrance of all who have died from covid-19.

Shirley Moore in remembrance of her mother, Mary Sylvia

Ruth Moorman in remembrance of Arthur Moorman, in honor of The Gilbertsons, and Abby Moorman, in honor of all of my wonderful Tellers throughout my tenure

Kerry Moose in honor of the hungry

Tia Nelis in remembrance of Maryjo Talsma

Laura and Bradley Nichols in honor of Confirmation Ministry Leaders for their persistence, patience and kindness

Jack and Sally Niermann in remembrance of Renata Niermann-Meier

Gary and Ann Nuss in honor of Pastor Miller, Pastor Morales, Deacon Warfield and Dr.Truche.

Kay Paide in remembrance of Tonis Paide, and in honor of Ruth Manchester

Connie Peters in remembrance of Don and Virginia Baker, and in remembrance of Carol Widen

Gary Pettit in honor of all essential workers

Sarah Province in remembrance of Philip Province, beloved husband, father and grandfather, in honor of daughters, Bonnie Nay, Rose Azalde and Susan Phillips, in honor of grandchildren, , Nick, Kennedy, Cecelia Phillips, Philip, Mark, Naman Nay, Claudia and Antonio Azalde, in honor of the ministry of Saint Luke in serving our Silver Spring community.

Alysha Rajnarine in remembrance of Mary Inez Ishmael

Saint Luke Women of the ELCA in honor of Pastor Platz for her leadership and guidance with WELCA, and in celebration of the 50th anniversary of her ordination

Barbara Sanders in remembrance of my husband, Harry Lee, and all the dearly departed of the Sanders and Vaught families, in remembrance of her parents, Edwin and Roberta Marsh, and all the dearly departed of the Marsh, Pearson, Giessman and Spiker families, in honor of the dedicated Pastors, Deacon and staff of Saint Luke, who sustain this congregation and our community through their exemplary service in these extraordinary times

Carolyn Schick in remembrance of Irvin and Marjorie Schick

Ed and Jane Schrantz in remembrance of Joe and Jean Schrantz , and Tom & Clare Finlayson

Bill and Joyce Schultz in remembrance of her father, Richard Braithwaite, in remembrance of her mother, Eleanore Braithwaite, and in remembrance of her grandmother, Sigrid Braithwaite

Wilson and Nancy Shaffer in remembrance of W. Earl and Dorothy D. Bricker, in remembrance of Albert W. and Natalie Shaffer, and in honor of Michael, Katie, Brigid, Thomas, Thaddeus, and Brendan Shaffer

Mary Ann Shepherd in remembrance of William Shepherd and in honor of Saint Luke IT team

Linda Sherwood in honor of our frontline workers, and in honor of our educators and students

Traude Smith in remembrance of Rudolf and Minnie Stamm

Carin Sprick in remembrance of Lisa Elg, in honor of Ingrid and Patrick David, in honor of Christina and John Romiza, and in honor of grandchildren Jack, Isabella and Finlay Romiza

George Stecklein in remembrance of Sharon Louise Stecklein, in remembrance of John Lawrence and Nettie Catherine Stecklein, in remembrance of Reuel and Arlys Thompson, and in remembrance of Eugene Franklin Alder

Frances Troxler in honor of Roney Shawe

Willard and Becky Unkenholz in remembrance of Clarence and Elizabeth Keiper and Willard L. and Marlys Unkenholz, and in honor of Tim, Chris, and Luda Unkenholz and Rachael Maddox

Debbie Van Buskirk in remembrance of the Rev. Engebret Olaf Midboe, in remembrance of Helen Midboe, in honor of James Van Buskirk and family, in honor of Thomas Van Buskirk and family, and in honor of the Midboe sisters and families

Diane Van Lonkhuyzen in remembrance of John Van Lonkhuyzen, and in remembrance of Robert and Doris Cross

Gordon Ward in remembrance of beloved wife Anita Ward

Deacon Warfield in remembrance of Robert Warfield and in remembrance of Justin Warfield.

Edward Wetzlar In remembrance of Robert Buchler

Christmas Blessings!