Welcome
We are so happy you’re with us this morning! If you’d like to learn more about getting involved at St. Luke’s, please fill out our online visitor card using the QR code below. You can also contact Director of Membership & Stewardship Mark Simmons—mark@stlukesatlanta.org.

Nursery
Children of all ages are invited to participate in our worship services at St. Luke’s. Nursery care is also available from 8:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Musicians
Matthew Michael Brown
Director of Music
Ben Weaver
Assistant Organist
St. Luke’s Schola
Lector
Mac Holladay
Intercessor
Kinley Roberts
Advent Wreath Lighting
Za’Quan Mahan & the Roberts Family
Crèche Procession
Vishwas Shah

The Altar Greenery is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of John Winter Mallernee, by Rollin Elliott Mallernee.

Permissions
* indicates an adaptation.

Stay Connected
Fill out a visitor card and sign up for our weekly email, The Shepherd’s Note.
Follow St. Luke’s Atlanta on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

We are delighted you are worshiping with us today. You are welcome here. Our congregation comes from near and far and represents a wide range of histories, traditions, ethnicities, and racial, social, and religious backgrounds. We practice our faith through worship and service to the community. It is our hope and prayer that at St. Luke’s you encounter a caring congregation committed to the ministry of Christ.
The Entrance Rite

Voluntary
Veni Emmanuel

Pamela Decker (b. 1955)

Welcome

A bell tolls. The people stand.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath originally emerged as a devotional tool used in the home but eventually migrated into the church. It is a visual symbol that marks the progression of time in Advent. The symbolism is especially powerful in the Northern Hemisphere as the wreath’s growing light contrasts with the increasing darkness of winter.

Celebrant

Light of the world, in grace and beauty,
Mirror of God’s eternal face,
Transparent flame of love’s free duty,
You bring salvation to our human race.

People
Sacred mystery, we light the fourth candle of Advent for love and truth.

Once the candles are lit, the Celebrant continues.

We kindle this flame with love and the hope for the truth that is the light you brought into the world.

People
Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved. Amen.

In Procession • Hymn 56 (stanzas 1-4)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni Emmanuel

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man-uel shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!
Advent Sentences

Celebrant  Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People  You come to your people and set them free.

Trisagion

Michael McCarthy (b. 1966)

The cantor sings first, then all repeat twice.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant  God is with you.

People  And also with you.

Celebrant  Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God

Isaiah 7:10-16

A Reading

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Lector  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People  Thanks be to God.
Gospel Acclamation

Conditor alme siderum

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

Deacon   The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People   Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon   The Gospel of our Savior.

People   Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

The Rev. Winnie Varghese

Following the reflection, a period of silence is kept.
All stand.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Hyfrydol

The Prayers of the People

*BCP 389, Form V

Intercessor For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For our friends and our family, for the CYF transformation process, for our friends in San Pablo Parish in Camaguey, Cuba; and for all who teach us what it is to love and to be loved, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For refugees, prisoners, for the poor, and all in danger; for those who have asked for our prayers, for Calvin, Jana, Marquez, Fred, Alan, Mary, Jennifer, George, and all who suffer, that they may be relieved in your healing love, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.
Intercessor  For all who have passed from this life in faith, for Antoinette Carr, David Shaw Swanson, John Middaugh, Karen Miller; and for those for whom the altar greenery is given: John Winter Mallernee, and those whose names are known to you alone, we commend to your eternal care in the peace of Christ, we pray to you, O Lord.

People  Lord, have mercy.

The People may add their own petitions silently or aloud.

Celebrant  And finally let us gather all our prayers into one:

Gracious God, accept the prayers of your people: the things we pray for out loud and the things we pray for in our hearts. Look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help, for you, O God, know us and love us in your son Jesus Christ our Savior.

People  Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant  The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People  And also with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All stand.

AT THE PRESENTATION • Hymn 438

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Woodlands

1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!

Un-num-bered bless-ings give my spi-rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do-min-ions lay their glo-ry by.
Firm is his prom-is-e, and his mer-cy sure.

ten-der to me the prom-i-se of his word;
his mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub-born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord

in God my Sa-vior shall my heart re-joice.
his ho-ly Name— the Lord, the Might-y One.
the hun-gry fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.
to chil-dren’s chil-dren and for ev-er-more!
Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant  God be with you.
People  And also with you.
Celebrant  Lift up your hearts.
People  We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant  Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People  It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Holy, holy, holy Lord • S-129

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

The Celebrant continues.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.
We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the New Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

_Celebrant and People_

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

_The Celebrant continues_

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Mary, Luke, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

_Celebrant and People_

_Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN._

**The Lord’s Prayer**

_Celebrant_ And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

_People_ **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,*

_for ever and ever. Amen._

BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are seated.

Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

Gluten-free wafers are available at the communion station by the pulpit.

Prayer ministers are available at the back of the church if you would like personal prayer.
Music At Communion • Hymn 268
Ye who claim the faith of Jesus

Ye who claim the faith of Jesus, sing the
bless-ed were the chosen people out of
there-fore let all faith-ful people sing the
“Mag-ni-fy, my soul, God’s great-ness; in my
an-im-a me-a
won-ders that were done when the love of God the
whom the Lord did come; bless-ed was the land of
hon-or of her name; let the Church, in her fore-
Sa-vior I re-joice; all the a-ges call me

Do-mi-num. Mag-
Fa-ther o-ver sin the vic-tory won, when he
prom-ise fa-shirted for his earth-ly home; but more
shad-owed, part in her thank-s-giv-ing claim; what Christ’s
bless-ed, in his praise I lift my voice; he has

ni-fi-cat, mag-ni-fi-cat.”

made the Vir-gin Ma-ry mo-ther of his on-ly Son.
bless-ed far the mo-ther, she who bore him in her womb.
mo-ther sang in glad-ness let Christ’s peo-ple sing the same:
cast down all the might-y, and the low-ly are his choice.”
All stand.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

People Loving God,
In this holy meal,
You have reminded us that we are all your children,
Members of your Great Family.
As we leave this place,
Keep us safe,
Grant us strength and courage,
And inspire us to share your love with the world. Amen.

Commissioning of Eucharistic Visitors

When communion is taken to home-bound parishioners, we send forth our Eucharistic Visitors with these words.

Celebrant On behalf of this congregation, I give you these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People We send you forth with the body and blood of Christ.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

O-So-So, Traditional Korean Melody

1. Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body.
2. Come now, O God of love; make us one body.
3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Saviour.
4. Come, hope of unity; make us one body.

Text: Kön-yong Yi; para. Marion Pope

Voluntary

Fugue in G Major, BWV 577 ‘Gigue’

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)