

ST. LUKE'S FIVE HABITS

WE PRAY AND WORSHIP

to build a closer relationship of love with Jesus Christ.

WE STUDY THE BIBLE

to dig deeper and learn everything we can about God's love.

WE MAKE FRIENDS

because we are changed in community.

WE TELL OUR STORIES

to share with others how God is still at work in the world.

WE GIVE OURSELVES AWAY IN GENEROSITY AND SERVICE

as apostles, sent by Jesus to be the good news in the world.

When Are We? Navigating the Church Calendar

In the context of the church calendar, we are in what's simply called "The First Sunday After Christmas." We're transitioning from the season of anticipation to the season of celebration! Christ is come! The sunrise has crested, breaking the long, dark night, blazing the truth that our hope has not been in vain. So we go, blinking into the sun, to be the incarnation for which much of the world is still waiting and hoping. The vestments and paraments are white to continue the celebration of the arrival of our Lord.

Leading in Worship today: Rev. David Horton; Rev. Bill Denham; Rev. Thomas Harper; Rev. Michelle Manuel; Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears; Madison Garcia.

Musicians: Randy Murrow, Associate Director of Music & Fine Arts; Rob Landes, Artist-in-Residence; Staff Quartet; Chancel Choir.

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and are given in celebration of the baptism of Katherine Elizabeth Rivers by Elizabeth and Brian Rivers; and in loving memory of Roe and Edna Clyde Brewer, Jim and Annie Eldridge, and Buster and Eunice Ackerman by Karen and Don Eldridge; and in honor of David Andrew Eldridge, Robb and Audrey Moses, Sue Dezenolet, Joe and Barbara Eason, Jerry and Sherry Ritcheson, and Marsha's Lift Group by Karen and Don Eldridge; and in loving memory of W. Carter Grinstead, Jr. by his loving wife Linda Grinstead; and in loving memory of Cynthia Sarver by the Laughlin Family.

12:05 p.m. Communion in the Chapel: Rev. Bill Denham

Welcome to St. Luke's!

We're so glad you're here. Worship is at the heart of everything we do and we hope that you and your family find this service to be uplifting and transformational. Whether you are a first-time guest or a regular attendee, please join us in the Gathering Room near the Main Entrance for refreshments and fellowship after the service.



Want to learn more about St. Luke's? Drop by the Connection Desk near the Gathering Room and ask about *Coffee with the Pastor* with Dr. Tom Pace or contact Kelly Grimes at kgrimes@stlukesmethodist.org.

For Families with Children

A Family Room with Livestream is open all morning in the Chapel Parlor located out the left front door of the Sanctuary.

We offer loving and safe Nursery care for children ages 2 months – Pre-K while parents attend any of our morning worship services and Sunday School classes.



At 9:45 a.m., we offer Children's Sunday School for 2-year olds through 5th grade. For children in 6th through 12th grades, Student Ministries offers a unique worship experience in their own building.

During most 11:00 a.m. services, we offer Children's Church for children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade in room ES213 on the second floor of the Johnson Building, Main Entrance.

Sunday Morning and Beyond Resources

Download the St. Luke's App to watch online when you can't be with us, view sermons, listen to podcasts, find a small group, check in your children and more. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search St. Lukes UMC Houston.

To watch the livestream on your computer, go to StLukesMethodist.org/livestream

To watch sermons and listen to podcasts on your computer go to: StLukesMethodist.org/sermons

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals are available from the ushers.



L I V E
A N D
L O V E
L I K E
J E S U S

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
December 29, 2019 | 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor

713-622-5710 | StLukesMethodist.org

PRELUDE *The Holly and the Ivy* Robert Powell

***HYMN OF PRAISE**
245 *The First Noel* THE FIRST NOEL

***THE APOSTLES' CREED UMH #881** Madison Garcia

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI UMH #70** MEINEKE
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

9:45
Katherine Elizabeth Rivers
Daughter of Brian Michael Rivers and Elizabeth Holman Rivers

Minister: Beloved of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care this child whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she may grow in the knowledge and love of God the Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ?
People: With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness that she may grow in her service to others. We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life eternal.

WELCOME

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:22-32 **Rev. Bill Denham**

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER Rev. Thomas Harper

THE LORD'S PRAYER
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. Amen.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION 11:00**
249 *There's a Song in the Air* CHRISTMAS SONG

OFFERTORY *Christmas Dance* arr. Hopson
9:45 Jennifer Johnson, Lauren Ruhl, James Chamberlain, Jeff Van Hal
11:00 Chancel Choir

When God Almighty came to be one of us
Masking the glory of His golden train,
Dozens of plain things kindled by accident,
And they will never be the same again.
Sing, all you milkmaids! Dance, all the carpenters!
Sing, all the publicans and shepherds too;
God, in His mercy, uses the commonplace;
God, on His birthday, has a need for you.

Splendor of Rome and local authority,
Working on policy with furrowed head;
Joined to locate Messiah's nativity,
Just where the prophets had already said.

Sing, all you taxmen! Dance, the Commissioners!
Sing, civil servants and policemen too!
God, to His purpose, uses the governments;
God, on His birthday, has a need for you.

Wise men they called them, earnest astrologers
Watching their meaning in the moving stars.
Science or fancy, learned or laughable,
Theirs was a vision that was brought to pass.

Sing, all you wise men! Dance, all the scientists!
Whether the theories are false or true,
God uses knowledge, God uses ignorance;
God, on His birthday, had a need for you.

Sing, all creation, made for His purposes,
Called by His providence to live and move;
None is unwanted, none insignificant,
Love needs a universe of folk to love.

Old men and maidens, young men and children,
Folk of all races and all colors too;
God, on His birthday, and to eternity,
God took upon Himself the need of you.

Dance, all creation, sing your loud and joyful song.

***DOXOLOGY UMH #95** OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SERMON *My Eyes Have Seen Salvation* Rev. David Horton

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

If you would like to become a follower of Jesus Christ, or if you are interested in joining St. Luke's United Methodist Church, we would love to talk to you about what that means. Please come forward after the service to meet with our Christian Friends.

If you would like someone to pray with you, you are invited to come forward after the service and meet with one of our prayer volunteers.

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**
251 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION 11:00
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS

POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* David Cherwien

At places marked * those who are able may stand.