



*Experience the First Christmas*

# **WELCOME**

## *to St. Lucas UCC*

*Transforming lives as the hands and feet of Christ since 1880*

**9:30 AM Worship**

**December 14, 2025**

You are welcome and invited to join our active faith community. No matter where you are on your journey; no matter where your journey began; we want to replenish your spirit, refresh your faith and support you along the way.

The Third Sunday of  
**ADVENT**



**JOY**



314-843-2100



[stlucasucc.org](http://stlucasucc.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP/3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

\* All who are able, please stand. *Hymns from the Family of God*

Welcome & Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Light of Christ Brought Into the Sanctuary

**Lighting the Advent Candles (Joy)**

Leader: God's love colors everything.

**People: With our hearts open to love, we see hope shining through.**

(Hope candle is lit)

Leader: God's love dwells in everything.

**People: When we love, we bring peace to neighbors and those we meet.**

(Peace candle is lit)

Leader: From the most difficult of struggles to the most wonderous of delight, God's love flows through everything.

**People: When we use our hands and feet for love, joy shines through us.**

(Joy candle is lit)

**\*Hymn**

*The First Noel, vs. 1,3,5*

#179

**\*Call To Worship (Inspired by Psalm 23 & Isaiah 55)**

Pastor: The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.

**People: God cares for those who are hungry and those who thirst.**

Pastor: Listen and be blessed—new possibilities are ready to unfold.

**People: We are a witness to the ways of Christ who calls the nations.**

Pastor: Let us move forward with joy, hope, and peace.

**All: We continue our journey back to Bethlehem, rediscovering the purity of our hearts. Amen.**

**\*Words of Confession**

**All: With mistakes and missteps, we bring our broken spirits back to Bethlehem. Christ meets us with mercy and the promise of new beginnings. We place our sins before the One in the manger, who leads us on the road of righteousness and renewal. Amen.**

**\*Words of Assurance**

Pastor: The Lord listens to our hearts, forgives our sins, and shines upon us. We are surrounded by grace and not forgotten. Amen.

**\*Musical Response**

*Cleanse Me, vs. 2*

#425

**\*Sign of Grace & Welcome**

<b>Anthem</b>	<i>Carol for Advent</i>	St. Lucas UCC Choir
<b>Time with Young Disciples</b>		Michele Ottinger
<b>Scripture</b>		see screens
<b>Sermon</b>		Rev. Janet Pillman
<b>Hymn</b>	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	#184

**Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

*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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever! Amen.*

**Invitation to the Offering**

*All: O Lord, we know that you are full of mercy. As your words water the earth and bring forth blessings, may our offering to you accomplish great and wonderful things. Amen.*

**\*The Doxology**

*All: 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.*

**\*The Unison Prayer of Dedication**

*All: Receive our gifts, O God of Bethlehem. Let them build hope, cradle love, and awaken new beginnings. Amen.*

<b>*Hymn</b>	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	#190
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**\*Light of Christ Brought Out Into the World**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK, DECEMBER 14—21, 2025

## Sunday, Dec. 14

11:00 a.m. Adult Ed Room 18/20

## Monday, Dec. 15

## Tuesday, Dec. 16

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Zoom  
4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Room 19

## Wednesday, Dec. 17

10:30 a.m. Memorial Committee South Narthex  
6:30 p.m. Cemetery Board Room 19  
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice Choir Room

## Thursday, Dec. 18

9:00 a.m. Backpack Packing Fireside Room  
9:30 a.m. Preschool Christmas Program Sanctuary/Social Hall  
12:00 p.m. Monthly Staff Meeting Fireside Room  
4:00 p.m. Physical Facilities Ministry Room 19

## Friday, Dec. 19

9:30 p.m. Preschool Christmas Program Sanctuary/Social Hall

## Saturday, Dec. 20

8:00 a.m. Decorating for Zach & Lizzy Sanctuary/Social Hall

## Sunday, Dec. 21

9:30 a.m. Worship/Zach & Lizzy Returns! Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Adult Ed Room 18/20



## From My Heart



For thoughts, prayers or just because...

Tear off & put it into the offering plate.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Jason, Shirley Bild, Bill Brown,  
Mike, Rosie, Tim Miller,  
Scott Schmidt, Evelyn Stolz,  
Dale Tempinson, Britt Whitaker

## MILITARY

Cornelius Douse  
Noah Ottinger  
Julian Scherer  
Jeremi Williamson  
Brandon Williamson

## ST. LUCAS UCC STAFF

**Rev. George Miller** ~ Senior Minister, ext. 6118  
**Rev. Janet Pillman** ~ Assoc. Minister of Pastoral Care, ext. 6119  
**Michele Ottinger** ~ Dir. of Children's Ministries & All Church Programming, ext. 6114  
**Amy Bush** ~ Coordinator of Youth Ministries, ext. 6125  
**Lynn Fey** ~ Co-Coordinator of Youth Ministries, ext. 6125  
**Linda Radick** ~ Pianist  
**Linda Taylor** ~ Music Director  
**Jeff Wagener** ~ Church Administrator, ext. 6116  
**Debbie Heagle** ~ Administrative Assistant, ext. 6120  
**Denee Bowers** ~ Communications Coordinator, ext. 6121  
**Andrew Richardson** ~ AV Tech  
**Kelly Blessing** ~ Preschool Director, ext. 6126  
**Charlie Singler** ~ Maintenance Manager, ext. 6113

Name \_\_\_\_\_