

Welcome! We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

- Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Large Print Hymnal Binders are available on the tract desk for those with vision difficulties.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255-258 in the hymnal.

Please note: this service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube.

www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar

Glory to God!

Hymn: 354, “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Please rise

Invitation to Worship

O Lord, open my lips;

And my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

To us the Savior is born!

Come, let us worship him!

Psalm 96

Sing to the LORD a new song. Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD. Praise his name.
Proclaim the good news of his
salvation from day to day.**

Tell about his glory among the nations, about his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and worthy of great praise. He is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are “nothings,” but the LORD made the heavens.

Splendor and majesty are before him. Power and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, families of peoples, Ascribe to the LORD glory and power.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name. Bring a gift and come into his courtyards.

Bow down to the LORD in the splendor of his holiness. Look away from his face, all the earth.

Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns.”

The world is firmly established. It will not be moved.

He will judge the peoples with fairness.

Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth celebrate. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

Let the fields be overjoyed, and everything that is in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the LORD,
for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

Young Women's Choir: "On a Silent Night Long, Long Ago"

First Lesson: Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 11:1-2

Hymn: 349, "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

Second Lesson: Luke 1:26-33

Hymn: 315, “Let the Earth Now
Praise the Lord”

Third Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn: 319, “Jesus Came, the
Heavens Adoring”

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Solo: “O Holy Night”

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-14

Hymn: 350, “Hark! The Herald
Angels Sing”

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:15-20

Hymn: 346, “Angels We Have Heard
on High”

Offering

Please rise

Prayer of the Church for Christmas Eve

Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise you that you kept your ancient promises by sending your everlasting Son in human flesh.

On this holy night, receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.

You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by your ever-seeking eyes. No one is excluded from your upholding arms. No one is denied the comfort and help of your outstretched hand.

Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that you love and care for us always.

You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver all from the curse of sin, the power of death, and the torment of hell. He took our place. He was born under the law to set us free. He became the innocent lamb of sacrifice. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts, and fill us with an eager desire to spread the Word concerning what we have heard tonight.

May all who hear the message, in every nation under heaven, be amazed and believe what is told them about the child.

You sent Jesus as the Light of the world to drive out all darkness that would rob us of the full life that you intend for us. May the “joy that will be for all people” be our joy. May the “peace on earth to all on whom his favor rests” be our peace. May the treasure that Mary pondered in her heart be our treasure.

For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen.

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 and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord (+) make his face shine on
you and be gracious to you. The Lord
look on you with favor and give your
peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn: 337, “Silent Night, Holy
Night”