

IN THE NAME OF GOD, WELCOME to the continuing celebrations of the Christmas Season. The church's Christmas season only begins on December 25. It continues until January 6 [The Epiphany]. Thus, we are in the midst of these "twelve days of Christmas". In the business world, after-Christmas sales have already been held. In the church world, we are still in Christmas. As in the birth of human children, the birth of This Child is not the end but just the beginning of a new and wondrous relationship. God invites us to take the baby home.

The SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION at 10:45 a.m.

PREPARATION

Prelude

Moment of Silence

*Invocation

*Order for Confession and Forgiveness Page 94

*An Act of Reconciliation: Sharing the Peace Page 106

***Hymn 296** "What Child Is This" GREENSLEEVES

*The Greeting Page 138

*Kyrie Page 138

*Prayer of the Day

Pastor: We remember today, O God,

All: the slaughter of the innocent children of Bethlehem by order of King Herod. Receive into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims. By your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD'S WORD THROUGH LESSONS AND CAROLS

Word of Welcome

First Lesson – Jeremiah 31: 15-17

Psalms 124 (sung responsively)

¹If the LORD had not been ¹ on our side,
let Isra- ¹ el now say;

²**if the LORD had not been ¹ on our side,
when enemies rose ¹ up against us,**

³then would they have swallowed us ¹ up alive
in their fierce ¹ anger toward us;

⁴**then would the waters have ¹ overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone ¹ over us;**

⁵then would the ¹ raging waters
have gone right ¹ over us.

⁶**Blessed ¹ be the LORD who has not given
us over to be a prey ¹ for their teeth.**

⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare ¹ of
the fowler; the snare is broken, and we ¹ have escaped.

⁸**Our help is in the name ¹ of the LORD,
the maker of heav- ¹ en and earth.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and ¹ to the Son
and to the ¹ Holy Spirit. As it was
in ¹ the beginning, is now, and
will be for ¹ ever. Amen.**

Second Lesson – 1 Peter 4: 12-19

*Gospel Acclamation Page 102

*The Holy Gospel – Matthew 2: 13-18

Children's Sermon "Disgrace" Pastor Bair

Christmas Hymns and History

***Hymn 275** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" REGENT SQUARE

***Hymn 268** "From Heaven Above" VOM HIMMEL HOCH

***Hymn 276** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" W ZLOBIE LEZY

*The Nicene Creed (note revised translation) Page 104

*Prayers of Intercession Page 143

GOD'S WORD THROUGH ACTION - MEAL

Offering

Offertory

*Prayer

*The Great Thanksgiving (a cappella) Page 144

*Holy, Holy, Holy Page 144

*Eucharistic Prayer – In the night..."

*The Lord's Prayer Page 145

*"Lamb of God" Page 146

*The Communion

The Communion

The bread (host) will be served into your hand. Two cups will be presented: one contains wine (dark liquid); one contains grape juice (light liquid). Dip your bread into the cup of your choosing. One blessing is offered after all have communed.

*Prayer Page 146

*The Blessing Page 146

***Hymn 288** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" IN' DULCI JUBILO

*The Dismissal

Postlude "Vom Himmel Hoch" Johann Walther

**Please stand for this part of the liturgy or remain seated as you need.*

† † † † † † †

WORSHIPPING with this faith community for the first time? Sign the book in the narthex so that we may greet you more personally, and please share in the relaxed after-church time over goodies.

HEARING ASSIST devices are available from the table in the narthex. Each device has an earpiece and volume control.

2009 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is posted in the narthex. Sign up for the Sunday of your choice, noting both donor and occasion.

FAITH AND CARE COORDINATORS will be at their table in the narthex, **Sunday, January 4 & 18**, for sign-ups for the February and March volunteer opportunities. How can you help?

FAITH AND CARE LUNCHEON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, after the Worship Service. The lunch will be hosted by the January Faith and Care Team for the February volunteers. If you can't stay for lunch, coffee is also available. Everyone is invited to share!



NAME TAGS. Thanks for helping us all remember by wearing one. Your help in returning your tag to the rack in alphabetical order with the string tucked in is also appreciated.

**ST. LUKE NEWS
HOLY INNOCENTS
28 DECEMBER 2008**

VISITOR INFORMATION PACKAGE: The Church Council is planning to develop a "Visitor Information package" to be made available to first time visitors. It is intended to include the type of information that would be beneficial to visitors who might not be as familiar with our Church and its surroundings (e.g., directions, parking information, service hours). Suggestions for the type of material to be included in such a packet is solicited. Please send your ideas to Nader Mehravari, 607-257-8653, nmehrava@twcny.rr.com.

OUTREACH AND MISSION SEMINAR, January 10, 2009. "Equipping the Congregation for Outreach and Mission" will be held Saturday, January 10, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Fayetteville United Methodist Church, 601 E. Genesee St., Fayetteville, NY. Sponsored by the Center for Lifelong Learning at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, the course will be taught by Rev. Dr. Dana Horrell, Executive Director of the Center for the Congregation in Public Life at CRCDS.

This program will look inward (at congregational renewal) and outward (at social renewal) with a focus developing program ideas, recruitment and team building skills, neighborhood analysis, tools for measuring effectiveness, and ideas for integrating charity and justice. Through an assessment tool, discussion and multi-media presentations, participants are provided examples of "best practices" in social ministry.

Seminar cost is \$65, (\$75 after January 7) and includes lunch and handouts. Groups of two or more from the same church are encouraged, with additional registrations (after the first) at \$35. For more information or to register, call 315-439-9154, send an email to dhorrell@crcds.edu or visit www.congregationinpubliclife.org and look for "What's New."

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS – The Sunday bulletin for January 4 will be completed early. The deadline for announcements will be **Tuesday, (10:00 a.m.)**. If you have any questions please call Michelle Gray at the church office 273-6811 or email lluthera@twcny.rr.com.

NURSERY CARE is provided for young children during worship in two nurseries, which are on the same level as the sanctuary. Please feel free to use the facilities for your children.

MID-WEEK FELLOWSHIP EVENT. Interested in getting together with folks from church beyond the Sunday service? Several members of the congregation have expressed an interest in starting an evening fellowship event during the week. The council would like to know how much interest there is in having some sort of event—whether it be a discussion group, a movie night, a kids' night—so if you would be interested in coming to a regular fellowship event, email Tom McSweeney at tjm37@cornell.edu to get on the email list.

CAMPUS MINISTRY LIST SERVE. To join, send an e-mail: stluke-campusministry-subscribe@yahoo.com.

HANDICAP PARKING. There is a 'Handicap Parking' space on Oak Avenue across from the entrance to St. Luke. There are also four parking spaces behind the Church, and on Sunday mornings these are for the use of our members who have difficulty walking.

QUILTING FOR THOSE IN NEED: If you sew, have extra fabric to share or can tie knots, check out how you can help make quilted blankets for distribution by Lutheran World Relief. Details are on flyers in the narthex. Meet with us at 9:30 a.m. on every 1st & 3rd Thurs. in our Adult Ed room.

ARE YOU ACCESSING THE ST. LUKE WEBSITE? [<http://www.stlukeithaca.org>] It now includes photos, a calendar of events, documents (from weekly bulletins to the Constitution and By-laws), and improved audio of our morning worship services. Please contact Scott Adams with your ideas.

FAITH IN ACTION: DIRECT PRAYER REQUESTS to Louise McGee at 844-4303. A prayer chain of St. Luke folks prays regularly, privately, and confidentially for the parishioners' concerns.

FAITH AND CARE: USHER: Susan Hoskins; **GREETER:** Helen Swank, **ASSISTING MINISTER:** Jeff Snedeker; **READER:** Susan Hoskins; **COMMUNION SET-UP: & CLEAN-UP:** Andy & Deb Novakovic. **There will not be coffee hour today.**

NEXT SUNDAY: Christmas 2, Service of Holy Communion at 10:45 am. Lessons: Jeremiah 31: 7-14; Ephesians 1: 3-14; John 1: 10-18; Sermons: "Adopt" and "According to God's Good Pleasure" Hymns: 270, 295, 487, 300.

ST. LUKE MINISTERS: The People of this Community
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