

IN THE NAME OF GOD, WELCOME to worship on this edge between Advent promise and Christmas fulfillment. May the excitement of the children among us model for all of us the childlike trust and hope God invites us to have as we prepare for the Child's presence in our world and lives.

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

PREPARATION

Prelude "Es ist ein Ros"

settings by David Johnson and Gerald Near

Moment of Silence

*Invocation

*Order for Confession and Forgiveness Page 94

*An Act of Reconciliation: Sharing the Peace Page 106

***Hymn 248** "People, Look East" BESANÇON

*The Greeting Page 138

*Kyrie Page 138

*Prayer of The Day

Pastor: Stir up your power, Lord Christ,

ALL: **and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

GOD'S WORD THROUGH WORDS

Word of Welcome

George Conneman

First Lesson – Micah 5: 2-5a

Psalms 80: 1-7 (*sung responsively*)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh, stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.**

³Restore ¹ us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD ¹ God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears; you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

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 – Hebrews 10: 5-10

*Gospel Acclamation Page 102

*The Holy Gospel – Luke 1: 39-45

Sunday Church School Proclamation of the Christmas Story

As the story is presented, the congregation is invited to share in the singing of carols at various times.

Hymn 257 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (*vss 1, 2*)

Hymn 269 "Once in Royal David's City" (*vss 1, 2*) IRBY

Hymn 289 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (*vss 1, 2*) GLORIA

Hymn "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (*vs 1*) THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star of royal beauty bright; west-ward leading, still proceeding, guide us to the perfect light.

Children's Sermon "Lift and Fill "

Pastor Bair

*The Nicene Creed (*note revised translation*) Page 104

*Prayers of Intercession Page 143

GOD'S WORD THROUGH ACTION - MEAL

Offering

Offertory "Pastoral Symphony from the "Messiah"

G. F. Handel

*Prayer Page 144

*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

*Prayer Page 146

*The Blessing Page 146

***Hymn 263** "Savior of the Nations, Come"

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

*The Dismissal Page 146

Postlude "Noel Suisse" Louis-Claude Daquin

**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.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from an usher.

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

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Nader and Judy Mehravari.

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.

NAME TAGS. Thanks for helping us all remember by wearing one. Your help in returning your magnetic tag to the rack in alphabetical order is appreciated. Magnetic nametags are not recommended for those who have a pacemaker. We will be happy to accommodate you with a paper nametag.

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

ST. LUKE NEWS

ADVENT 4

20 DECEMBER 09

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve Services

- 6:00 p.m. – A Family Service with candle lighting and special music by Liisa & Ruthie Grigorov and Hansi Hoskins.
- No Communion or nursery care provided. 9:00 p.m. – A Service of Holy Communion, including candle lighting and special music by the Choir and Deborah Montgomery.


Sunday, December 27 – St. John, Evangelist

- A relaxed service of lessons, hymns, carols and communion.

FAREWELL AND GOD SPEED to Allison Danner and Cornell and Ithaca College students graduating in December.

CATECHETICS CLASS will meet on Sunday, January 10 at 1:00 p.m.

CHURCH SCHOOL AND FORUM will be on break December 27 and January 3.

FAITH AND CARE COORDINATORS provide an  opportunity for us all to serve. The Faith and Care Coordinators have a list for January volunteer opportunities on the table in the narthex.

CHRISTMAS EQUAL EXCHANGE GIFTS will be available. Again this year, the Social Ministry committee will make Lutheran World Relief Coffee Project Items available for your Christmas gift giving. This will consist of Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, and Chocolate Bars. These products make great gifts - not only are they useful and appreciated by the recipients, but your purchase is a great way to support economic justice at the same time. There will be a table in the narthex today and December 20. You can also pick up an order form in the narthex any time, and send your order to Judy Mehravari. Call if you have any questions! 257-8653.

2010 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is posted in the narthex. Sign up for the Sunday of your choice, noting both donor and occasion.

PHOTOS NEEDED - We are looking for photos from our St. Luke community for use on our website. If you have nice digital photos of our church, our events and especially our people, please email them to saint.luke.ithaca@gmail.com. Please include names of people in photos if you know them. If you or your children are in the photos, please include permission for use.

ORDER YOUR COPY of the Moravian Daily Text, sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

LAST DAY to place your poinsettia order. Order forms are in the narthex, please leave your form on Michelle Gray's desk.

COMMUNICATIONS: Team Members (Scott Adams, Janelle Alvstad-Mattson, Mary Margaret Carmichael, and Diane Conneman) will be around with clipboards before and after church to gather your ideas. They want to know about the newsletter, web site and email updates on events. Please take a few minutes to talk with them. Another option is to use an online survey which you can access from the St. Luke website (www.stlukeithaca.org) or the December email update.

SANTA'S SALARIES FOR THE ELCZ. Between now and Christmas, we will be taking a special collection for our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe. Look for a small Christmas tree in the Narthex with donation envelopes underneath it. Please take an envelope and return it to the collection plate by Christmas with a donation for the ELCZ (make checks out to St. Luke with "ELCZ" in the memo line). Feel free to take an angel ornament from the tree. Just \$5 can pay a pastor's salary for a month, but any amount will help!

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 am on every 1st & 3rd Thurs. in our Adult Ed room.

MONDAY MIDDAY BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY (MMBBBS) will NOT be meeting until January 4. Contact Susan Hoskins, sbh1@cornell.edu, Day 255-4864, Eve 564-3483 for information.

BUFFALO STREET BOOKS and Autumn Leaves Used Books, two locally-owned bookstores, voluntarily pay their employees a living wage, as do 66 other Tompkins County employers, including St. Luke Lutheran Church. During this Christmas season the Tompkins County Religious Taskforce for a Living Wage, is asking that after you shop at Barnes & Noble or Borders you sign a post card encouraging these two large retailers to start paying a living wage. This gives you an opportunity to promote living wages in a store you patronize. Post cards for this purpose and stamps will be available on the Social Ministry table in the narthex each Sunday until Christmas. Information on the living wage is also available at the table.

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: *USHERS:* Nader & Judy Mehravari; *GREETERS:* Ronald Shewchuk & Judy Jensvold; *ASSISTING MINISTER:* Everett Nelson; *ACOLYTES:* Jaana Grigorov & Dan Snedeker; *READERS:* Brittany Clark; *COMMUNION SET UP:* Marnie Johnson; *COFFEE SERVERS: SET-UP & CLEAN-UP:* Bill and Grais Brown; *BAKERS (after church):* Jean Robinson & Judy & Nader Mehravari.

THURSDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE, 6:00 p.m. Family Service; 9:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion. **NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, St. John Evangelist,** relaxed service of lessons and carols, Hymns: 288, 292, 290.

**LAST DAY TO ORDER!
FLOWERS OF CHRISTMAS to
Make the Holy Night Radiant**

Celebrate the Gift that we receive at Christmas with the gift of a poinsettia plant for the sanctuary. Gifts can be presented in memory or in honor of special individuals.



The cost of each plant this year is \$10.00. You will be able to take your plant home after the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, if you wish. Remaining plants will continue to brighten our worship on the Sundays after Christmas and can be distributed to the shut-ins in our parish after the first of the year.

I/we would like to donate _____(number) of poinsettias.

In memory of:

In honor of:

Given by:

TOTAL: \$ _____

Enclosed: _____

Please indicate "Poinsettias" on the memo of your check so that the treasurer can properly record your donation. Place in the collection plate or mail to the church.

ST. LUKE MINISTERS: The People of this Community

ST. LUKE STAFF:

Rick L. Bair	[rlb8@cornell.edu] (h) 387-3479	Pastor
Erik Kibelsbeck	[ekibelsbeck@ithaca.edu]	Music Director
Michelle Gray	[lluthera@twcny.rr.com]	Admin. Asst.
Stephen Devlen	[srd4@cornell.edu]	Sexton
Tammy Devlen		Sexton

ST. LUKE OFFICE 607 273-6811

ST. LUKE WEBSITE www.stlukeithaca.org

ST. LUKE MISSION CENTER: 109 Oak Avenue, Ithaca, NY