

St. Luke Lutheran Church
3rd Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025
10:45 a.m. Contemporary



SERMON

Pastor Johnson

Tripping over Jesus

"Blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

—Matthew 11:6

Welcome to
St. Luke Lutheran Church
20 Candlewood Path
Dix Hills, NY 11746-5398
Church: 631-499-8656 - **Fax:** 631-462-6496
Pastor Johnson (708) 738-2512
Preschool: 631-462-5216
Our Website: www.stlukedixhills.org
Satellite for the Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

Welcome!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome both members and guests to His church. We are present this day to worship Him. In this service we thank and honor our Lord for His many blessings and seek His guidance and comfort for each day of life.

- ❖ Be **reverent** and **thoughtful** in this Holy place.
- ❖ **Before** the service, speak with God.
- ❖ **During** the service, let God speak to you.
- ❖ **After** the service, speak to one another.

As We Gather: We begin our worship today praising the lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world. For this saving work, Christ is truly worthy of praise, adoration, thanks and honor. He is truly worthy of our worship because of who He is and what He has done for us. Now we shall hear again the great story of salvation that was won for us by the Lamb of God. Rejoice! For the lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!

Holy Communion is celebrated at each Worship Service.

The Lord's Supper is a gift from our Savior in which He offers us Himself and His forgiveness. Those who partake witness of their love for Him and their faith and fellowship for each other. If you have confessed your sins and if you have been properly instructed regarding the Lord's Supper and believe in the presence of Christ in the form of bread and wine, which are the body and blood of Christ, please join us for the celebration of Holy Communion.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE **Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

8:15am & 10:45am w/ Sunday School

Contemporary Band plays Sundays two times/month (check online calendar)

Sundays at 10:45 AM

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Sunday morning between services at 9:30 AM

Wednesday Mornings online at 10:00 AM

The **C.A.R.E Team** encourages *anyone experiencing illness or a challenging situation in their life to reach out to us for support. Support can consist of emotional/spiritual support, meals, transportation, help with errands or chores, and other areas as they are identified. Contact via **Hotline: (631) 600-0271** Or email careteam@stlukedixhills.org Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty*

Mission Statement

To know Christ and make him known by Serving, Teaching, and Loving.

PRE-SERVICE
“O Come All Ye Faithful”

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM: Psalm 146:5-10
(Spoken Responsively)

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**
who keeps promises forever;

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.**
Hallelujah!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
(spoken in unison)

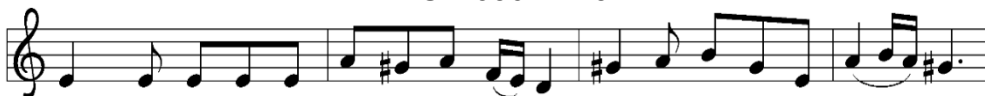
We praise you, O God, for this circle of light
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be light shining in the darkness.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.



Third Sunday of Advent

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

WOV 630 – V.3



3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

OPENING SONG

STRING ENSEMBLE:

Chloe Choeng, Esther Chleng, Nancy Baglio, Milliana Garcia, Austen Henry

The ensemble plays each carol once.

The ensemble repeats the carol and Congregation joins in singing v.1

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

Ensemble plays carol

Repeat with congregation

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

“Away in a Manger”

Ensemble plays carol

Repeat with congregation

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay;
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

“The First Noel”

Ensemble plays carol

Repeat with congregation

- 1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DISMISSAL

OPENING PRAYER

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹ "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Johnson

Tripping over Jesus

"Blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

—Matthew 11:6

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living 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.**

**Or, to the dead.
**meaning, universal*

SERMON SONG What Child is This?

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?**

CHORUS:

**This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.**

CHORUS

- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.**

CHORUS 2X

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with “God of grace,”
The response is “**Hear our prayer.**”

Pastor: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting
in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

People: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.
Please do so with a wave, handshake, or however you feel comfortable.
Hand sanitizer is available in the sanctuary.
Ask an usher if you don't see one.*

OFFERING SONG Go Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

People: **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.**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

Oh Holy Night

Verse 1

O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Chorus

Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night divine, oh night
O night divine

Verse 2

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name

Chorus

**Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night divine, oh night
O night divine**

Silent Night

Verse 1

**Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace**

Verse 2

**Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born**

Verse 3

**Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth
Jesus Lord at Thy birth**

Repeat Verse 1

**Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Deacon: Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

BLESSING

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

People: Amen.

MINISTRY NEWS

CLOSING SONG

Joy to the World

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come

Let earth receive her King

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room

And heav'n and nature sing

And heav'n and nature sing

And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns

Let men their songs employ

While fields and floods

Rocks hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy

Repeat the sounding joy

Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Verse 3

**He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love**

A SENDING WORD

Deacon: Go in peace. Keep awake.

People: Thanks be to God.