

# *St. Luke Lutheran Church*

**"Energized by God's Love"**

Dynamisé par l'amour de Dieu

1025 The Dalles Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (408) 736-9216  
The Rev. Daniel Tisdel

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Setting III**  
**December 21, 2025**

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**Dear Members & Guests - Welcome to Worship!**  
God has greatly blessed us with your presence today.  
Thank you for responding to his invitation.

If you have a prayer request, please send it by email or voicemail to Letty in the church office.



**Sunnyvale Community Services**  
Preventing Homelessness and Hunger in Our Local Community

## SERVING US THIS MORNING

**Ministers: All of the Members of this Congregation!**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Daniel Tisdel

**Youth Director:** Grant Hannon

**Office Phone Line:** 408-736-9216

**Office Manager:** Letty Lucero

**Sunday School:** Danae Moreno & Emily Bradshaw

**Website:** [stlukechurch.org](http://stlukechurch.org)

### Amazing Creations Preschool

**Preschool Director:** Juliana "Juli" Buccellato

**Phone Line:** 408-730-0365

**Email:** [AmazingCreationsPreschool@yahoo.com](mailto:AmazingCreationsPreschool@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.AmazingCreationsPreschool.net](http://www.AmazingCreationsPreschool.net)

**Assistant Minister:** Tim Tsang

**Lector(s):** Erin Peters (1<sup>st</sup> Reading & the Psalm) Ryan Peters (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)

**Children's Message:** Pastor Dan Tisdel

**Eucharist Assistant(s):** Sue Hutchins & Danae Moreno

**Altar Guild:** Wendy Callahan, Debbie Ryan, Wenchan Ma, Shirley Loo, Denise Tsang & Tim Tsang

**Greeters:** Sandi Wilkening (Front Door), Don & Loretta Merry (Side Door)

**Worship Team:** Andy Wadsworth, Beth Stauter, Wil & Deb Mandac

**Background Worship:** Beth Stauter

**Organist:** Beth Stauter

**Choir Director:** Chris Frye

**Bell Choir Director:** Wil Mandac

**Tech Team:** Andy Wadsworth, Alan Martinez, Scarlett Marquez, Ethan ElAmir, Jordan Mandac, Justine Skov, Madeleine Gan, Olivia Mitchell, Tim and Denise Tsang

**Prayer Chain Coordinator:** Marlene Custer

Hearing Assistance devices are available in the Library/AV Room.

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## *ORDER OF WORSHIP*

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**Beth Stauter**

**INTROIT**

**“O COME, O COME EMMANUEL”**

**Pastor Dan Tisdell**  
(a capella)

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Dan Tisdell**

**LIGHTING OF THE LOVE ADVENT CANDLE**

**BRANDIE & CLARK WILLIAMS**  
**(“LIGHT ONE CANDLE” – vs. 4 – ELW #240)**

**PRELUDE**

**“O COME, O COME EMMANUEL”**  
(Arr. By John Innes)  
**Organ and Piano Duet**

**Beth Stauter &**  
**William Polzin**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**“SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME”**

**ELW #263**

**INVOCATION**

*(music found on page 138)*

[P] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

**[C] And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE: “MAGNIFICAT”**

vs. 1:

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.  
You have looked with love on your servant here,  
And blessed me all my life through.  
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,  
Strong is your kindness evermore.  
How you favor the weak and lowly one,  
Humbling the proud of heart!

Vs. 2:

You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart.  
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.  
Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One,  
strong is your justice, strong your love,  
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.

Vs. 3:

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.  
You have looked with love on your servant here,  
And blessed me all my life through.

Credit: Marty Haugen, from Holden Evening Prayer

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE WITH PASTOR DAN TISDEL

### GOD ENCOUNTERS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 7:10-16**

**Read by Erin Peters**

*An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!*

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

**Psalm 80:1-7**

**Led by Erin Peters**

**OT => Old Testament windows (right) side of sanctuary**

**NT => New Testament windows (left) side of sanctuary**

[OT] Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

[NT] *In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.*

[OT] Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

[NT] *O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?*

[OT] You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

[NT] *You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*

[OT] Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

[NT] *Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.*

[OT] And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

[C] **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**“PEOPLE LOOK EAST”**  
(By Farjeon and Leavitt)

**St. Luke Choir**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Romans 1:1-7**

**Read by Ryan Peters**

*Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter’s opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God’s gospel. The gospel’s content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul’s mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.*

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God’s beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(music found on page 142)*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

[P] This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew ...

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.** (spoken)

**Gospel – Matthew 1:18-25**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tidel**

*Matthew’s story of Jesus’ birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means “God saves.”*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child

conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

**"GOD WITH US"**

**Pastor Dan Tisdell**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

***"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"***  
(vs. 1-2, 6-8)

**ELW #257**

## **GATHERING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Prayer requests collected in the offering plates will be brought forward for the Prayers of the People.

## **OFFERING SOLO**

***"O HOLY NIGHT"***

**Tim Tsang**

## **PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that God is real and present in all places and through all time. We share a vision of God: a God whose Spirit is love, accessible to all yet beyond our understanding. We search for the meaning of God and human experience revealed in the sacred stories which have been passed down to us. We tell our stories.**

**We believe in God the Creator, the Almighty, who made everything that is and saw that it was good.**

**We believe in Jesus of Nazareth, who lived among us, healed, taught, suffered, and died. He forgave those who crucified him. In the mystery of the resurrection, he continues to live more profoundly through the ages as the Incarnation of Love, the Christ, who shows us the Way which leads to the reconciliation of the earth and all people.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Breath and Wind of God, the giver of life, the Holy Wisdom who inspires and moves the people of God to love God with our whole being; to love our neighbors as ourselves; to strive for justice and peace; to act in respect for every person and the whole of creation; to forgive as we have been forgiven; to love as we have been loved; to build communities of hope.**

**We believe that life overcomes death and nothing can separate us from God's love. Amen**

(by Deacon Sarah Bjornebo)

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

[P & A] God of grace,

**[C] Hear our prayer.**

### **PEACE OF CHRIST**

### **TRANSITIONAL PRAYER**

[A] Let us pray...

**[C] Oh God, each time I worship and take communion, I want to recommit my life, my heart, my thoughts, my everything to You. Fill me today with Your powerful Spirit and help me grow closer to you and to my neighbor. Amen.**

### **MEAL**

Sung by Pastor Dan Tisdell

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

[P] The Lord be with you.

**[C] And also with you.**

[P] Lift up your hearts.

**[C] We lift them to the Lord.**

[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**[C] It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . .

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND BLESSING**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**[C] 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.**

**“LAMB OF GOD”**

*(music found on page 146)*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION - THE EUCHARIST** (be seated)

Our Lord Jesus is the host of his table. He invites all to come to him. Everyone is welcome to commune with communion fellowship cups or by intinction with bread and your choice of wine or grape juice. If you are not communing, please come up to receive a blessing of the day.

**COMMUNION MUSIC**      **“CHRISTMAS HALLELUJAH”**      **Andy Wadsworth**  
(Music By Leonard Cohen, Lyrics by Jill Lorentz )

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

[P]    God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

[C]    **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING HYMN**                      **“JOY TO THE WORLD”**                      **ELW #267**

**BENEDICTION**

[P]    May God who comes among us, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

[C]    **Amen.**

**THE DISMISSAL**

[A]    Our worship continues; our service is just begun. Go in peace to love and serve The Lord.

[C]    **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**POSTLUDE:**                      **“LET US ADORE HIM!”**                      **Beth Stauter**  
(By Rob Roy Peery)