

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

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

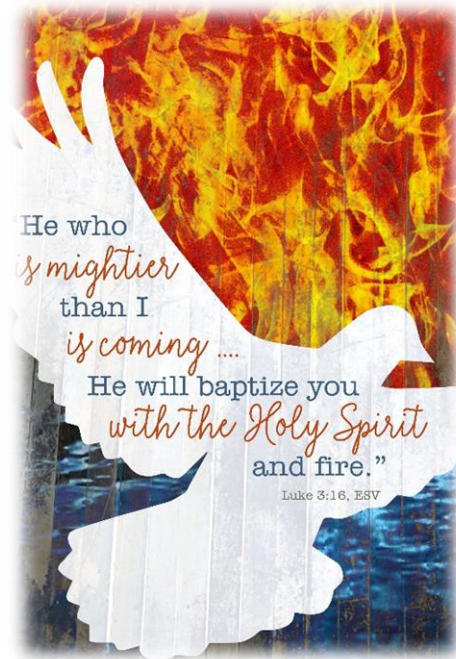
Dynamisé par l'amour de Dieu

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

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Setting IV**  
**December 15, 2024**

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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.

# 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:** Julianna “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:** Kirk Autsen

**Lector(s):** Mark Kent (1<sup>st</sup> Reading & the Psalm) TBD (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)

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

**Eucharist Assistant(s):** Laura Rubio & Danae Moreno Rubio

**Altar Guild:** Shirley Loo & Denise Tsang

**Greeters:** Joyce Masterson (Front Door), TBD (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, Ethan ElAmir, Justine Skov, Madeleine Gan, Olivia Mitchell, Ryan Peters, 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 Tisdel**  
(acapella)

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Dan Tisdel**

**PRELUDE "AWAKE, AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN"**

**Beth Stauter**

(By Marty Haugen, Arr. By Mark Sedio)

**GATHERING HYMN "AWAKE, AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN" ELW #242**

**INVOCATION**

*(music found on page 147)*

[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.**

**ANNUNCIATION**

**Sung By Dan Tisdal**

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth  
To a woman whose name was Mary.  
The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored,  
For God is with you. You shall bear a child,  
And his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High."  
And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

**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 the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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 – Zephaniah 3:14-20

*The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

#### Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

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

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

[OT] Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

[NT] *With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

[OT] And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

[NT] *Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.*

**[C] Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

**Choir Anthem: “Oh Come Lord Jesus, Come”** by David Angerman & J. Paul Williams

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Philippians 4:4-7**

*Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God’s joy and peace.*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(music found on page 151)*

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

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

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

**Gospel – Luke 3:7-18**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tisdell**

*John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God’s reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.*

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am

not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE**

**“CASTING RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION  
AT THE MAN IN THE MIRROR”**

**Pastor Dan Tisdell**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

***“REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS”***

**ELW #244**

**GATHERING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

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

**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] Lord, in your mercy.

**[C] receive 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**

### **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 154)*

**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 in the basket or bread and your choice of wine or grape juice by intinction. If you are not communing, please receive a blessing of the day.

## **COMMUNION SONG “As The Dark Awaits The Dawn” sung by Monica Nissen**

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

[P] Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

[C] **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SENDING HYMN**

**“JOY TO THE WORLD”**

**ELW #267**

### **BENEDICTION**

[P] God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever.

[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**

**“Joyful Tidings”**  
(Arr. By James Moffatt)

**Beth Stauter**