

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

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

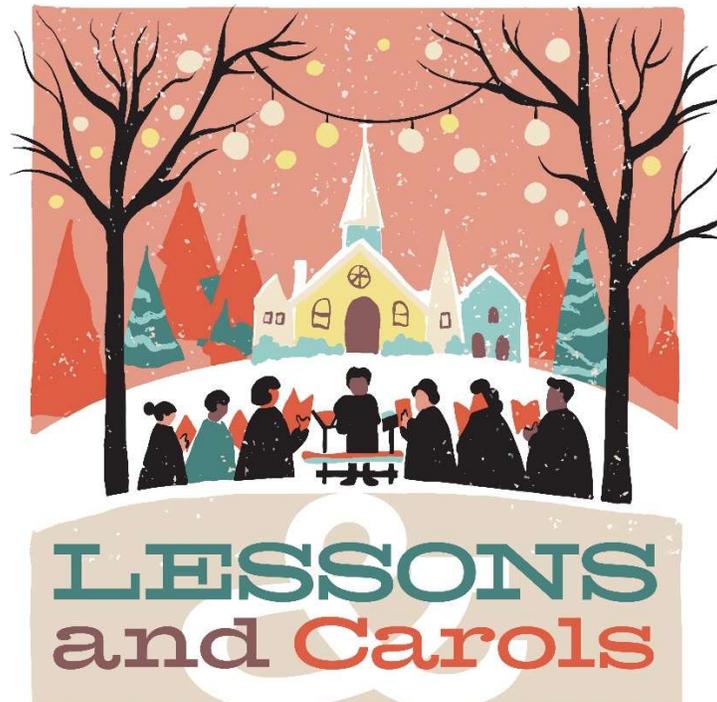
Dynamisé par l'amour de Dieu

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

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

**Setting III**  
**December 28, 2025**

---



**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:** Linda Baginski

**Lector(s):** TBD (1<sup>st</sup> Reading), TBD 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, TBD 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading & TBD 4<sup>th</sup> Reading)

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

**Eucharist Assistant(s):** Sue Hutchins & Kirk Autsen

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

**Greeters:** Doug & Doriann Shreve (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, 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.

---

## *ORDER OF WORSHIP*

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**Beth Stauter**

**WELCOME**

**Pastor Dan Tisdell**

**PRELUDE**

**“O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL”**  
(Arr. By Steven Scott )

**Beth Stauter**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**“FROM HEAVEN ABOVE”**  
(vs. 1-3)

**ELW #268**

**OPENING DIALOGUE**

[P] Come! Look upon the baby Jesus, cradled in the arms of his mother.

[C] **Seeing this wondrous sight, may our hearts be comforted and our spirits filled with peace.**

[P] Come! Listen to choirs of angels announcing good news to all people.

[C] **Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing: Glory to God in the highest!**

[P] Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart, not as history but as a gift.

[C] **Opening our hearts to this great mystery, may Christ be born in us today.**

**INVOCATION**

[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.***

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE WITH PASTOR DAN TISDELL**

**GOD ENCOUNTERS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Luke 2:1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped

him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Reflection of Martin Luther**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tisdel**

Behold Christ lying in the lap of his young mother. . . . What can be sweeter than the Babe, what more lovely than the mother! . . . Look at the Child, knowing nothing. Yet all that is belongs to him, that your conscience should not fear but take comfort in him. Doubt nothing. Watch him springing in the lap of the maiden. Laugh with him. Look upon this Lord of Peace and your spirit will be at peace. . . . You will see how great is the divine goodness, which seeks above all else that you should not despair. Trust him! Trust him! Here is the Child in whom is salvation. To me there is no greater consolation given to mankind than this, that Christ became man, a child, a babe, playing in the lap and at the breasts of his most gracious mother. Who is there whom this sight would not comfort? Now is overcome the power of sin, death, hell, conscience, and guilt, if you come to judge this gurgling Babe and believe that he is come, not to judge you, but to save. (*Martin Luther's Christmas Book*, p. 33)

**CAROL:**

***"INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY"***

**ELW #276**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Luke 2:8-16**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

**Reflection of Martin Luther**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tisdel**

Look at the shepherds. They were watching their flocks by night, and an angel came and made them apostles, prophets, and children of God. . . . This is a great miracle that the shepherds should have believed this message. They might easily have thought to themselves, "Are we two shepherds worthy that the whole host of heaven should be marshaled for us and all the kings on the earth and the dwellers in Jerusalem be passed by?" I know I would have appealed to common sense and I would have said: "Who am I compared to God and angels and kings? It is an apparition." But the Holy Spirit, who preached through the angels, caused the shepherds to believe. They were so strong in

the faith that they were worthy to be spoken to by angels and to hear every angel in heaven singing a cantata just for them. This is a pure wonder that enters not into the heart of man. Our God begins with angels and ends with shepherds. Why does he do such preposterous things? He puts a Babe in a crib. Our common sense revolts and says, "Could not God have saved the world some other way?" (*Martin Luther's Christmas Book*, pp. 36, 40)

**CAROL: "WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS" RWSB R118**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Reading – Matthew 2:1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### **Reflection of Martin Luther**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tisdell**

When the Wise Men received the divine revelation that the king of the Jews was born, they made straight for Jerusalem, for, of course, they expected to find him at the capital in a lordly castle and a golden chamber. Where else would common sense expect to find a king? But because they were so sure of themselves, the star left them. Then they were sorely tried, and had they relied solely on human wisdom, would surely have said: "Confound it! We have come all this way for nothing. The star has deceived us. The devil has led us by an apparition. If a king had been born, would he not be in the capital and in a palace? But when we come, the star disappears and we find no one who knows anything about him. Can it be that we foreigners should be the first to have news of him in the royal city? Everyone is so cold and unfriendly that no one offers to go with us and show us the child. They do not believe themselves that to them a king is born,

and shall we come and find him? How desolate for the birth of a king! If a puppy were born there would be some little stir, and here a king is supposed to be born and everything is so still. . . . Should not the people be singing, capering, lighting lamps and torches, bedecking the streets with roses and mayflowers? What a miserable king we are seeking! What fools we have been to let ourselves start on this quest!" Nature wants to feel and be certain before believing, but grace will believe before she feels. Faith steps gaily into the darkness, trusting simply in the Word.

But having come, they decided to inquire of the king before returning. At their report, Herod the king "was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him." Why was Herod terrified and all Jerusalem with him? *He* had good reason to be afraid because he had tyrannized over the Jews for thirty years. . . . Now Herod had a crafty plan. "The Jews," thought he, "will hide the truth from me, but I will find out the town where this king is to be born and also the time, and then if they hide him, I will catch him anyway. I will kill so many babies that he cannot escape." So he called the scribes to him and said, "Where is Christ to be born?" Then perhaps through fear, the scribes answered him that in the Prophet Micah it is written that He should be born in Bethlehem. (*Martin Luther's Christmas Book*, pp. 50-52)

**CAROL:**

**"THE FIRST NOEL"**

**ELW #300**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Reading – John 1:1-5, 14-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

#### **Reflection of Martin Luther**

**Read by Pastor Dan Tisdell**

Let us, then, meditate upon the Nativity just as we see it happening in our own babies. I would not have you contemplate the deity of Christ, the majesty of Christ, but rather his flesh. Look upon the baby Jesus. Divinity may terrify man. Inexpressible majesty will crush him. That is why Christ took on our humanity, save for sin, that he should not terrify us but rather that with love and favor he should console and confirm.

This is the word of the prophet: "*Unto us* a child is born, *unto us* a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6). This is for us the hardest point, not so much to believe that He is the son of the



**catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

[P & A] God of grace,

**[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 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**

**Beth Stauter**

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

[P] May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.  
May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.  
May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world. And  
the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon  
you and remain with you always.

[C] **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SENDING HYMN**

***“GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE”***

***ELW #288***

## **BENEDICTION**

[P] The God of love, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine  
your path, and increase your joy, today and always.

[C] **Amen.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

[A] Glory to God in the highest!

[C] **And peace to God’s people on earth!**

[A] Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

[C] **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

## **POSTLUDE:**

***“TELL THE GOOD NEWS”***

(By Lani Smith)

**Beth Stauter**