

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bob Abbott, Lyndell Becker, Linda Drayton (recent fall), David Fletcher (recent fall), Betty Roos (recent automobile accident), Carolina Elementary School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to become a Member of St. Luke? Contact Pastor Todd Davis at 843-383-5169 or pastor@stlukehartsville.com.

Hearing Devices Available: See Sound Booth.

Special Services of Worship for the Season of Advent: Services have been planned for Sunday evenings! Join us for inspiring worship planned and led by the laity of each of our hosting churches. All services will be from 6:00 - 6:45pm.

12/14 @ Prospect Methodist (740 Prospect Road, Hartsville)

12/21 @ St Luke Methodist (302 Dunlap Drive, Hartsville)

Be a Light in Worship...Acolytes Wanted: If you have a youth or child, 1st through 12th grade, who would like to serve as an acolyte next year, please contact Judy Pigg or the church office. Give the name of the youth or child, the parents' name and a contact number. There will be a training session the first of the new year. Thank you for your help!

Christmas Eve Service: Come celebrate Christ's birth with us in a special service of worship on Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary at 5:30 pm. This inspiring service will include beautiful music, Holy Communion, and Candlelight. Invite a friend to join you!

Holiday Church Office Closings: The church office will be closed December 25 and 26 for the Christmas holiday. The church office will also be closed on Thursday, January 1, 2026, for the New Year's holiday.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 14

8:00 AM Methodist Men's Breakfast
with speaker John Weiss
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Worship Service, Children's Church
2:00 PM Children's Christmas Party
(3K - 2nd Grade)
5:30 PM Youth Ministry Power Hour
6:00 PM Advent Service -
Prospect Church

Monday, December 15

10:00 AM Ladies Fellowship

Tuesday, December 16

2:00 PM Prayer in Chapel
6:00 PM Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, December 17

2:00 PM Ladies Game Day
4:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry
5:30 PM Youth Ministry Power Hour
6:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 18

8:30 AM Disciple Bible Study
10:30 AM Staff Meeting and
Christmas Party

St. Luke Methodist Church

"Spirit Led, Christ Centered, Loving Others, Sharing the Gospel"



Third Sunday of Advent

Rev. Todd Davis

E-Mail: pastor@stlukehartsville.com

Website: StLukeHartsville.com

Liturgical Color: Blue

December 14, 2025

This worship service is live streamed weekly on Facebook/YouTube



Scan QR Code to give
generously.



Making disciples of Jesus Christ who worship
passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

*****The Communion Rail is open for prayer and intimate communion with God any time during the worship service*****

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Words of Welcome

Prelude

† **The Call to Worship**

Pastor: The advent of Christ brings the love of God's presence into our midst!

People: We sing praises to God for the salvation Christ brings to us!

Pastor: Because of Christ, the weak are strengthened, the fearful are encouraged, and the unrighteous are redeemed!

People: Love came down when God came down to us. God has come to us in Christ to walk with us in the paths of righteousness!

All: As we celebrate the coming of Christ, may our celebrations renew our faith and fill us with God's love. Amen.

† **The Processional Hymn** UMH 234 (vs. 1,3,4)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

† **Opening Prayer**

† **Gloria Patri**

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Melinda and Al Sansbury

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Michael Camak

Faithful God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living.

Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 New Living Translation (NLT)

The Second Reading

James 5:7-10 NLT

Hymn of Preparation UMH 218

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

† **The Scripture Lesson**

Romans 15:4-13 NLT

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God;

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

"A 1,700 Year Old Invitation"

Pastor Todd

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A Litany of Faith for Advent

Pastor: God of life, in love, you created the world out of nothing -- providing us with everything we need -- most important, a relationship with you, our Creator. And yet, we have not always honored that relationship, sometimes turning away from your love. But your love remains steadfast.

People: Restore us, O God.

Pastor: God of mercy, you heard the cries of your people, and in an act of love and grace, freed them from the bondage of slavery under pharaoh. And yet, your people complained about what they did not have, failing to rejoice in you, and the gift of freedom. But your love remained steadfast.

People: Restore us, O God.

Pastor: God of compassion, you sent prophets to remind your people of your love for them, beseeching them to return to you. We yearn for the time when your word is inscribed on our hearts. And yet, we continue to turn away from you. We are grateful you still remind us that you are our God, and we are your people. Your love remains steadfast.

People: Restore us, O God.

Pastor: God of grace, in your greatest act of love, you came to Earth in the form of a baby to be with us, teach us, and, ultimately, to redeem us. Awaken our souls to your presence. Fill our hearts with the desire to turn our hearts to you. Inspire us to share the good news that your love remains, and is always, steadfast.

All: Restore us, O God. We bless your holy name!

Offertory Anthem

O Come, O Come, Immanuel

† **The Doxology** UMH 95

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

† **Hymn of Dedication** UMH 224

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

† **Responsive Benediction and Response**

Pastor: As we draw near to the eve of Christ's birth,

People: May the stars be extra bright.

Pastor: May the song of the angels be clear,

People: May the love of God surround us,

Pastor: And may God bring joy to us through the baby born in Bethlehem. Amen.

† **Chiming of the Holy Trinity**

† **Postlude**

† **Please stand as you are able.**