



St. Luke  
Lutheran Church



# Announcements

**December 10,  
2025**

**Welcome to our weekly  
Announcements email!**

Enjoy reading the important  
news and events at St. Luke  
Lutheran Church & Campus  
Ministry. And remember, God  
loves you!

**In this week's Announcements  
you can read about:**

- Feeding the Hungry
- Got Containers?
- Changing from Givelify to Tithely
- Help with Christmas Eve Service
- Ordering Poinsettias
- Advent Book Club
- Amahl & The Visitors
- Study Hours
- and More!

## PARTICIPATE IN THE GOOD WORK

### Feed the Hungry

Winter is upon us and freezing weather means cans and glass containers could explode in our blue cabinet! For the next few months please bring packaged soups, tuna, and boxed dinners, instead of canned. Pasta sauce, peanut butter and jam should be in plastic jars. Cereal, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, pasta, protein bars and toiletpaper are always welcome. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

**DECEMBER items for the Red Wagon:**

Pasta and Pasta sauce-- with or without meat. **NO CANS OR GLASS.**



**Blue Wagon for the Blue Cabinet:** This cabinet is re-filled 3-4 times a week as food insecurity has been growing even here in our Collegetown Neighborhood. All non perishable food items are welcome but the most popular items are soup, peanut butter, mac n' cheese, protein bars, and personal care items. **DURING WINTER NO CANS OR GLASS.**



## GIVE WARMTH: Mittens 'N More

**We are off to a great start for Mittens 'N More!**

Our Mittens 'N More tree will be up in St. Luke's narthex starting on Sunday November 16th, and will be up through Advent, Christmas, and the first part of Epiphany. All donations will go to children in need in the Ithaca City School District. Place your store bought or handmade mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and scarves sized for school-aged children on the tree or in the donation box next to the tree. And yes, you can mail order items and have them sent directly to St. Luke: Mittens'N More, 109 Oak Avenue, Ithaca. NY 14850. Thank you for helping to keep heads, hands, and feet of children warm this winter.



## Got Containers?

Campus Ministry needs take-out containers for future Spaghetti Suppers: Tompkins County no longer accepts the black-bottomed takeout containers for recycling. But Campus Ministry will take them for students to take home leftovers from our Spaghetti Suppers and other events. Please place clean containers with their lids in the pass-through in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. Thank you!

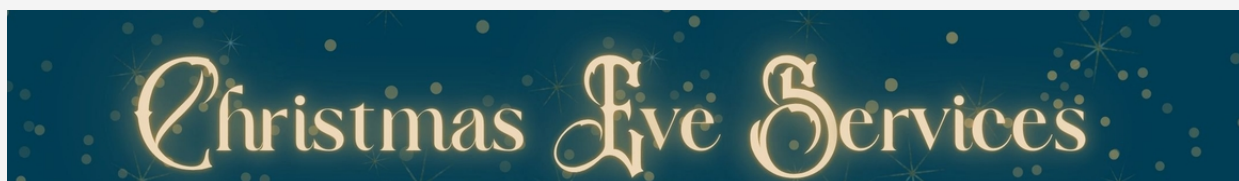
# Attention: REGULAR GIVERS who use Givelify...

We are moving our giving platform to Tithely, which will help us save hundreds of dollars in fees each year.

As soon as possible, please [log in to your Givelify account](#) and stop your regular giving there. Then create or log into your Tithely account at the link below and set up your regular giving: [Create or log into your Tithely account here.](#)

If you have already done this, then Thank You! If you need help with this, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or [John Vakiner \(our Treasurer\)](#).

We are so grateful for your faithful partnership!



Help us bring the light back into the seasons. We are looking for a cross bearer and two torch bearers for each of the Christmas Eve services. This is a great opportunity to serve together as a family or group. While there is a pew in the chancel where we invite those who are serving to sit, you are also invited to sit in a front pew with your family.

On Christmas Eve, the cross and candles will lead the procession at the beginning of service and place their item in the respective holder in the chancel. When it is time for the Gospel, the cross and candles will be collected and lead Pastor Jason down the aisle for the reading and then return at the conclusion. At the start of the sending hymn they would again be collected and lead the procession back down the aisle to their stations at the back of the pews.

If you would like to help with either Christmas Eve service, please reach out to [Pastor Jason](#) or [Erik in the office](#) and they will get you on the list. If you would like to help with any other service in the coming months, please also reach out and we will add you to the list to get notices and put you on the calendar.

Thanks,  
Nicole Nelson

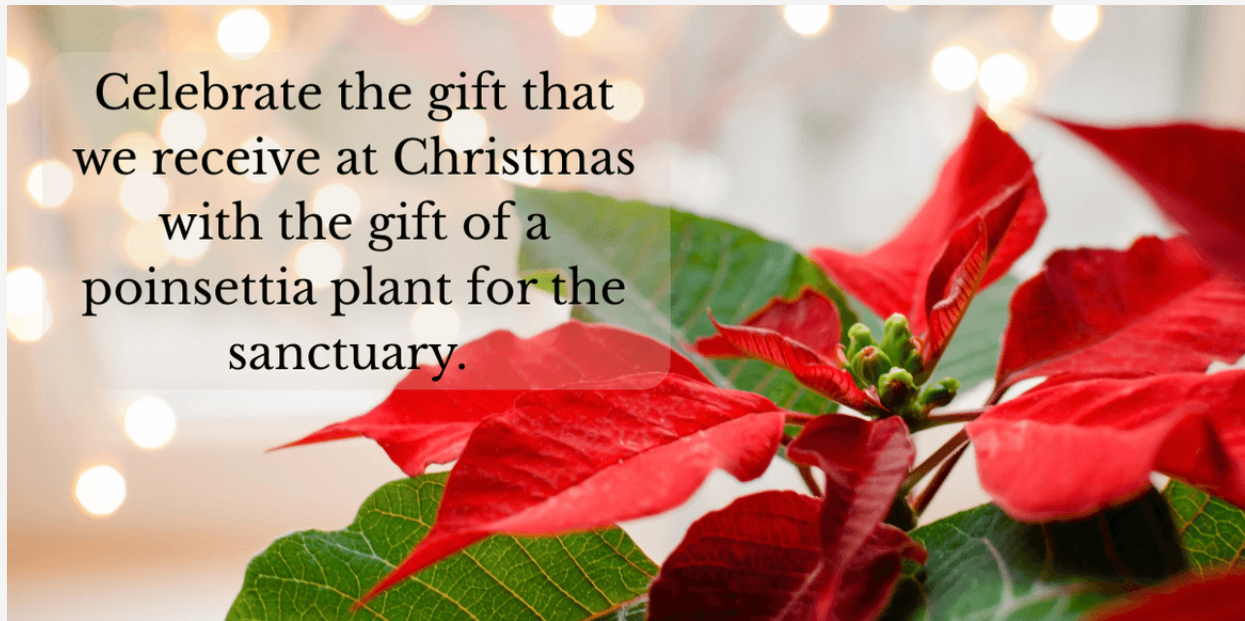
---

## Your Gifts Change Lives!

Personal Care Items for Homeless: St. Luke's  
final 2025 contribution of personal care



A cardboard box filled with various personal care items. In the foreground, there are three tubes of Crest toothpaste: one blue and white, one red and white, and one blue and white. Behind them are several boxes of Colgate toothbrushes, including a box of 'Extra Clean Extra power' toothbrushes. To the right, there are several boxes of ChapStick lip balm in various flavors. In the background, there are several boxes of Conair hairbrushes, including a 'CONAIR' brand hairbrush. In the bottom right corner, there is a large package of Wet Ones disinfecting wipes, labeled 'Wet Ones Sensitive Skin' and 'Wet-Lock Seal'. The box is open, showing the items inside.



# Godly Play

Godly Play this week is the story of St. Nicholas and next week is The Nativity Story. This is designed to connect with the 5pm Christmas Eve service where the story is retold almost the same way but in the context of our broader worship community.

---

# Lessons & Carols - December 28th

Our Lessons and Carols this year on December 28th will focus on the Gospel according to Matthew and include a video sermon from Rev. Imani Olear, the ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop. Music from Jeff Snedeker will be based on the Christmas carol, "From Heaven Above"

---

## CONNECT AND ENJOY...

---

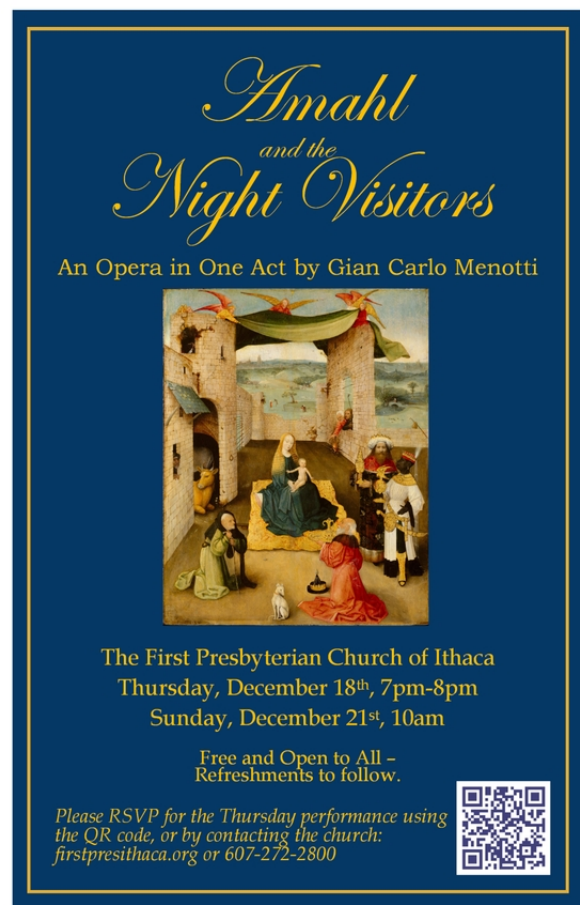


### Advent Book Club

Come ready to explore the story of the first Christmas in a whole new light!

Reading Schedule:

□ Week of Nov 23: Chapters 1–3



### Amahl & the Night Visitors

For those who don't know the piece, "Amahl and the Night Visitors" was first commissioned by NBC as a live television extravaganza for Christmas. It's the story of a young boy and his poor mother, who are

- ☐ Week of Nov 30: Chapters 4–5
- ☐ Week of Dec 7: Chapters 6–7
- ☐ Week of Dec 14: Chapters 8–9

visited by the three kings on their way to see the newborn king. This performance will be in full theater with a 15-piece orchestra!

[Zoom Link for Book Club](#)

[RSVP Here](#)

---

# STUDY SPACE **AT**

 St. Luke  
Lutheran Church  
109 Oak Ave

**DEC. 4-6 & 8-13 FROM 2PM - 11PM**  
*FREE & OPEN TO ALL*



- ✓ **FREE WIFI**
- ✓ **FREE SNACKS**
- ✓ **FREE COFFEE/TEA**
- ✓ **QUIET AREAS**
- ✓ **SOCIAL SPACES**
- ✓ **OPEN TO ALL!**





# Free CHRISTMAS Movie Matinee



**3:00 pm Saturday - December 13**

St. Luke Lutheran Church - Upstairs  
109 Oak Ave, Ithaca

*The Sunday school children would like to invite the congregation and anyone that needs a study break during finals to watch Klaus with them. A hot chocolate bar and popcorn along with other treats will be provided.*

*All are welcome!*



---

**Christmas Eve Services**

December 24

5:00 pm - The Christmas Story for Children and Adults  
9:00 pm - Holy Communion and Candlelight

St. Luke Lutheran Church  
109 Oak Ave, Ithaca, NY  
*All are welcome without exception.*

 St. Luke  
Lutheran Church  
Remember, God loves YOU!

---

## **We pray together...**

... for Patrice, Heather, Ernie, Kathy, Marjorie, Sharon, Anne, and for all those traveling this holiday season.

Upcoming commemorations of saints, renewers of society, and other festivals can be [found here.](#)



Prayers are added weekly to our list and will remain for three weeks. If you wish to extend the name of the person for whom we are praying please inform the office. To add someone to the prayer list please email [the Communications Manager](#).

## Calendar

### **Thursday, December 11**

2-11pm Study Hours

6:00 pm [Advent Book Group \(Zoom\)](#)

*No Compline due to illness.*

### **Friday, December 12**

10:00 am Tea & Tarot

2-11pm Study Hours

### **Saturday, December 13**

2-11pm Study Hours

3:00 pm Free Movie Matinee

### **Sunday, December 14**

10:00 am Holy Communion

11:30 am Godly Play Sunday School

### **Tuesday, December 16**

*No Bible Study*

### **Wednesday, December 17**

1:00 pm. Collegetown Community Collective

### **Thursday, December 18**

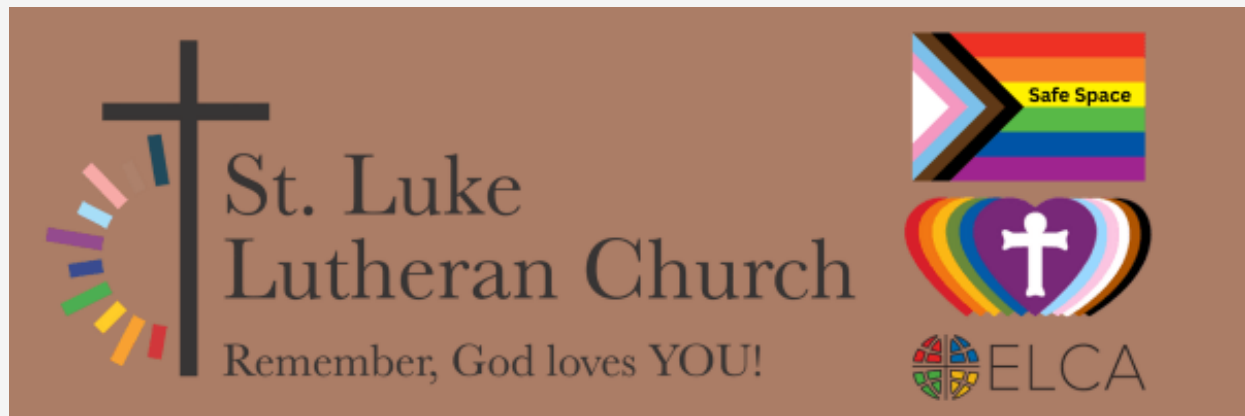
9:00 am. Peace by Piece Quilters

1:00 pm. CCC Events Committee

6:00 pm [Advent Book Group \(Zoom\)](#)

*St. Luke Office is open: Mon. 1 pm-5 pm, Tues. 9:30 am-1 pm,  
Wed. 8am-4pm, Thur. 9:30 am-5pm, Fri. 9:30 am-1pm*

***If you would like to be removed from this list, please reply or [send us an email](#) with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. We will be sad to see you go.  
Remember, God loves you!***

[Website](#)[Give](#)[Calendar](#)

### **Service of Holy Communion ~ Sundays at 10:00 am**

St. Luke is a **Reconciling in Christ Congregation** of the **ELCA**. As a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, the people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community of Christians, a part of the body of Christ. Because we believe we are one in God's eyes, we welcome the mix of ages, races, gender identities, physical and mental capabilities, and sexual orientations with which God's children are blessed. Everyone is invited to share in God's grace. We rejoice in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus--not our wealth, nor our poverty, nor our nationality, nor our political convictions, nor whom we love, nor anything else in all creation. We are called to follow God's mission of reconciliation and justice with all humanity, and we celebrate our journey of discipleship with a special appreciation for the privileged responsibility of our campus related ministry.

*Copyright (C) 2025 St. Luke Lutheran Church. All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:  
St. Luke Lutheran Church 109 Oak Ave Ithaca, NY 14850-4729 USA