



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church
Sunday, December 10, 2023**

The Second Sunday of Advent

**Our Vision:
To Know God and To Make Him Known**

*Visitors are not expected to participate in the offering.
We hope you enjoy visiting with us today. Please come again soon.*

www.stlukesakron.net

Processional

“Rising Sun”

Praise Him all you sinners
Sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God

We lift high His glory
Shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

Chorus: Our great Redeemer glorious Savior
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning You shine forever
Your Name is higher than the rising sun
Your Name is higher than the rising sun

Praise His Name forever
Speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God (Chorus)

Bridge: Oh oh oh oh
Oh oh oh oh
Hallelujah name above all
Simply to speak Your Name is praise
Hallelujah now and always
Forever we lift Your Name in praise
Hallelujah our God You reign
Simply to speak Your Name is praise oh

Ending: Hallelujah name above all
Hallelujah name above all
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

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Opening Sentence

Officiant: I was glad when they said to me, "We will go into the
house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of Hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us.

The Second Candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. The Candle of Peace reminds us of the place in which preparations were made to receive and cradle the Christ child.

Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him in faith. The prophet Isaiah calls Christ "the Prince of Peace." Through John the Baptist and all the other prophets, God asks us to prepare our hearts so that He may come in.

Our hope is in God, and in His Son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in Him. We light this candle today to remind us that He brings peace to all who trust in Him.

Lighting of the Second Candle: The Candle of Peace

**Sung: Israel's strength and consolation,
 Hope of all the earth Thou art;
 Dear desire of every nation,
 Joy of every longing heart.**

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Confession of Sin

Officiant: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

All sitting or kneeling as able.

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Officiant: Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon, and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Invitatory

All stand.

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips,

All: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us,

All: Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Officiant: Praise the Lord.

All: The Lord's Name be praised.

Seasonal Antiphon

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

All: O Come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

Venite

All: O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods. In his hand are all the depths of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness, when your fathers tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my works.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation and said, "It is a people that err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways," of whom I swore in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

All: O Come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

Praise and Worship

"Wounded One"

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
The One who broke down the great wall of enmity
And gave me His name
How gracious is my redeemer King Jesus
The Son of the Highest
What could I possibly give to You
But the fragrance of my

Pre-Chorus: Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Holy is the Man of Sorrows
Destroying the works of the evil one
All with Your own blood
And mercies before and behind You
Such beauty all around You
And how could I ever repay You
But with the fragrance of my (Pre-Chorus)

Chorus: Praise be to the Wounded One
All glory and honor to the Son
We ascribe worth and give love to You Lord
Let the fragrance of our love go forth

Bridge 1: We lift our gaze, we lift our gaze
We lift our gaze, we lift our gaze

Bridge 2: You are higher, You are higher
You are higher, You are higher
You are higher, You are higher
You are higher, we praise

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“Worthy Of It All”

All the saints and angels they bow before Your throne
All the elders cast their crowns
Before the Lamb of God and sing

Chorus: You are worthy of it all, You are worthy of it all
For from You are all things
And to You are all things, You deserve the glory

Bridge: Day and night night and day let incense arise
Day and night night and day let incense arise

David Brymer | Ryan Hall © 2012 Forerunner Worship CCLI # 73146

“Glory”

Glory, glory and honor to the King, Emmanuel.
Worship, worship and praises to the King, Emmanuel.
For God alone is worthy. His love flows from the throne.
We bow to You and exalt Your Name, today and evermore.

Righteous, righteous and holy is the King, Emmanuel.
Faithful, faithful and mighty is the King, Emmanuel.
For God alone is worthy. His love flows from the throne.
We bow to You and exalt Your Name, today and evermore.

Abba, Abba Father. You're my King, Emmanuel.
My Lord, my Lord God Almighty
You're my King, Emmanuel.
For God alone is worthy. His love flows from the throne.
We bow to You and exalt Your Name, today and evermore.

For You alone are worthy,
Your love flows from your throne.
I bow to You and exalt Your Name, today and evermore.

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“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

Chorus: Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship His holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

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Dismissal of Children to Sunday School

Announcements

The Reading of the Psalm

Psalm 85

At the end of the reading the following is said:

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lessons

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-18

At the end of each lesson the following is said:

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Luke 1:68-79

Gospel Lesson

Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 1:1-8.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the end of the lesson the following is said:

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Message

Congregational Prayer

“Gratitude”

All my words fall short, I got nothing new
How could I express all my gratitude

I could sing these songs as I often do
But every song must end and You never do

Chorus: So I throw up my hands
 And praise You again and again
 ‘Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah
 And I know it’s not much
 But I’ve nothing else fit for a king
 Except for a heart singing hallelujah
 Hallelujah

I’ve got one response, I’ve got just one move
With my arms stretched wide I will worship You

Bridge: Come on my soul
 Oh don’t you get shy on me
 Lift up your song
 ‘Cause you’ve got a lion inside of those lungs
 Get up and praise the Lord

“Hands of Kindness”

Oh your hands of kindness
Are here for me
And I have heard they are silken
And can carry me

Chorus: How I love you, all I am is you, King of love I bow

Oh your hands of mercy
Were scarred for me
And your body was broken
So that I go free

Oh your love that burns me
Deeper than the sea
And the treasure I find here
The savior’s love for me

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The Offertory

Officiant: Our offertory sentences are from scripture. “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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Doxology

All stand while the offerings are presented.

**Sung: Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken © Words & Music: Public Domain Music CCLI# 73146

Officiant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord

All: And of your own have we given you. 1 Chronicles 29:11. 14

Apostles Creed

All stand.

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

All kneel or stand.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Officiant: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

All: And grant us your salvation.

Officiant: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

All: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

All: And let your people sing with joy.

Officiant: O Lord, save your people;

All: And bless your inheritance.

Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

All: And defend us by your mighty power.

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

All: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the day

Officiant: Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

A Collect for Strength to Await Christ's Return

Officiant: O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life:

Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Prayer for Mission

Officiant: Almighty and everlasting God, who alone works great marvels: Send down upon our clergy and the congregations committed to their charge the life-giving Spirit of your grace, shower them with the continual dew of your blessing, and ignite in them a zealous love of your Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

All: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

Officiant: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.

All: Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional

“Shout To The Lord”

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You.
All of my days, I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Chorus:

Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

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Dismissal

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

This Week at St. Luke's Church, December 11th – December 17th

Monday

Creative Journaling Class, 6:00-9:00 PM (Tompkin's Glory Barn)
Boy Scout Troop 411, 7:00-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

Tuesday

Worship With the Word, 6:30-8:30 PM (Sanctuary)
Stage 4 Ministry, 6:30-8:30 PM (Lower Conference Room)
Women's Group, 7:00-8:30 PM (Common Room)

Wednesday

MOPS/MomsNEXT, 9:30-11:00 AM (Café)

Thursday

Stage 4 Ministry, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM (Lower Conference Room)

Friday

Saturday

Men's Group, 9:00-10:30 AM (Café)
Angel Tree Party, 1:00-3:00 PM (The Harbor)

Sunday

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)
Bethel Akron Worship, 5:00-7:00 PM (Sanctuary & Upper Level)
Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

Upcoming:

Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 PM

Dec. 25th – Christmas Day Service, 10:00 AM

**Readings for December 17: Isaiah 65:17-25, Psalm 126,
1 Thessalonians 5:12-28, John 1:19-28**