



Welcome to St. Luke's Church Sunday, December 19, 2021

**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.*

Phone: 330-665-2227 Email: office@stlukesakron.com
Or visit our website: www.stlukesakron.net

Processional Hymn

“O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing”

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My Great Redeemer's praise
The glories of my God and King
The triumphs of His grace

My gracious Master and my God
Assist me to proclaim
And spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy Name

Jesus! the name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrows cease
'Tis music in the sinners' ears
'Tis life and health and peace

He breaks the power of cancelled sin
He sets the prisoner free
His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me

He speaks, and listening to His voice
New life the dead receive
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice
The humble poor believe

His love my heart has captive made
His captive would I be
He was bound and scourged and died
My captive soul to free

Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

All: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

Celebrant: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Joy. We light it and the candles of Hope and Peace again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring us everlasting peace and joy. Its light is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form.

The scripture states that "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense; it keeps no record of troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true.

There is nothing that love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends. We light this candle today to remind us of how God's perfect love is found in Jesus.

Lighting of the Fourth Candle: The Candle of Love

**Sung: Oh, come, Thou Key of David, come
 And open wide our heavenly home:
 Make safe the way that leads on high
 And close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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Collect for Purity

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Summary of the Law

Celebrant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

“Behold The Lord”

Behold the Lord upon His throne
His face is shining like the sun
With eyes blazing fire
And feet glowing bronze
His voice like mighty waters roars
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we stand in awe of You

The First the Last the living One
Laid down His life for all the world
Behold He now lives forevermore
And holds the keys of death and hell
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we bow before Your throne

So let our praises ever ring
To Jesus Christ our glorious King
All heaven and earth resound as we cry
Worthy is the Son of God
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we fall down at Your feet

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“King of My Heart”

Let the King of my heart be the mountain where I run
The fountain I drink from, oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart be the shadow where I hide
The ransom for my life, oh He is my song

Chorus: You are good, good oh You are good, good oh
You are good, good oh You are good, good oh

Let the King of my heart be the wind inside my sails
The anchor in the waves, oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart be the fire inside my veins
The echo of my days, oh He is my song (Chorus)

Bridge: You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down
You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down

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“No Longer Slaves”

You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone

Chorus: I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God

From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins

Bridge: You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God

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Announcements

The Lessons

Micah 5:2-5a
Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:1-10

At the end of each reading the lector says:

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Sung: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

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Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke 1:39-56.

All: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

At the end of the reading:

Deacon: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Message

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy 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.

The Confession and Absolution of Sin

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins to the Lord.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Comfortable Words

Celebrant: Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15)

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:1-2)

The Offertory (*Tithes and offerings are collected at this time*)

Celebrant: 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)

“Mary's Song (Our King Of Peace)”

My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God
My Savior has seen his servant in need
And behold the great things He has done

He scatters the proud and rich
He lifts up the humble and weak
The kings of the earth He casts from their thrones
And the hungry He welcomes to feast

Chorus: Oh behold my Savior has come
And my soul will tell of His praise
For He Who is strong has come to the weak
And at last He will reign as our King of Peace

From now to the end of time
The nations will know me as blest
For God has made new His promise of love
And mercy through Abraham's seed

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Celebrant: All things come of you, O Lord.

All: And of Your own have we given You.

The Great Thanksgiving

(We invite all baptized Christians to join us at the Lord's table.)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

**Sung: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Most
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Most High
All glory power and praise
And blessing now we raise
For You alone can save**

Dan Morgan ©

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation.

By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved.

By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory; that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Mystery of Faith

Deacon: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, so that he may dwell in us and we in him. And bring us with all your saints into the fullness of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord:

All: Face to Face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

**All: Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
On earth as 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 the power and the glory
Forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God, for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Celebrant: The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.
The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.

Music During Communion

“Mary, Did You Know?”

Mark Lowly/Buddy Green ©1991 Word Music CCLI ## 73146

“Lord I Need You”

Lord I come, I confess, bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus: Lord I need You, oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Christy Nockels | Daniel Carson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt
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Post Communion Prayer

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out into the world to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: All our problems

All: We send to the cross of Christ

Celebrant: All our difficulties

All: We send to the cross of Christ

Celebrant: All the devil's works

All: We send to the cross of Christ

Celebrant: And all of hopes

All: We set on the risen Christ

The Blessing

The Recessional

"Behold The Lord"

Behold the Lord upon His throne
His face is shining like the sun
With eyes blazing fire
And feet glowing bronze
His voice like mighty waters roars
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we stand in awe of You

The First the Last the living One
Laid down His life for all the world
Behold He now lives forevermore
And holds the keys of death and hell
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we bow before Your throne

So let our praises ever ring
To Jesus Christ our glorious King
All heaven and earth resound as we cry
Worthy is the Son of God
Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
Holy, Holy we fall down at Your feet

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The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Peace

Deacon: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Exchange with one another the Lord's Peace.

This Week at St. Luke's Church, December 20th – 26th

Monday

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Thursday

Stage 4 Card Creation Ministry, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM
(Lower-Level Conference Room)
Morning Intercession Group, 9:30 AM-11:30 PM (Sanctuary)
Christmas Eve Choir Rehearsal, 6:00-7:0 PM (Sanctuary)

Friday

Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Saturday

Sunday

Morning Worship, 9:30 AM (Sanctuary)

Coming Up:

St. Luke's Offices will be CLOSED, Dec. 27th-Dec. 31st

Confirmations & Visit from Bishop Engle, Jan. 30th

Chili Cook-Off and Souper Bowl Party, Feb. 13th

Annual Meeting, Feb. 27th

**Readings for December 26: Isaiah 61:10-62:5,
Psalm 147:13-21, Galatians 3:23-4:7, John 1:1-18**