



Welcome to St. Luke's Church

December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

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.com

Processional Hymn

"Joy To The World"

Joy to the World! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world! With truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

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Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born,

All: Unto us a son is given.

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.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

"Noel"

Love incarnate love divine
Star and angels gave the sign
Bow to babe on bended knee
The Savior of humanity
Unto us a Child is born
He shall reign forevermore

Chorus: Noel, Noel, come and see what God has done
Noel, Noel, the story of amazing love
The light of the world given for us, Noel

Son of God and Son of man
There before the world began
Born to suffer born to save
Born to raise us from the grave
Christ the everlasting Lord
He shall reign forevermore

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"O Holy Night"

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born,
O night O holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise His name forever,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.

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"O Come All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest. (Refrain)

Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger,
We would embrace Thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

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The Lessons

Isaiah 9:1-7

Psalms 96

Titus 2:11-14

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.

Lector: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 2:1-20.

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.

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

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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 worshipped 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 Prayers of the People

Deacon: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "Hear our prayer." For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God. Lord, in your mercy:
All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for Steve, our Archbishop, and Julian, our Provincial Dean during the Archbishop's leave of absence. Lord, in your mercy:
All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for Mark, our Bishop, for Allen, our Suffragan Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our diocese and congregation. Lord, in your mercy:
All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: Gracious Father, Look favorably on your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Lord, in your mercy:
All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for the diocesan Search Committee for our next bishop. Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop for this Diocese that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service, especially our Donald, our President, Mike, our Governor, and our senators and representatives. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: 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 Peace

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

All: And with your spirit.

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

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

Celebrant: Our offertory sentences are from scripture. “Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”
(Hebrews 13:16)

“Angels (Glory To God)”

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Doxology

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.

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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. We offer communion in the form of bread, wafer, or gluten-free wafer. Once received, step left to drink from the communal cup, or step to the right to intinct (dip) the wafer.]

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the working of the Holy Spirit, was made truly man, taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; and yet without the stain of sin, to make us clean from sin.

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, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest!**

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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

**Sung: We do not presume to come to Your table
Trusting in our own righteousness
For we are not worthy so much as to gather
The crumbs from under Your table**

**But trusting O Lord in Your great and manifold mercies
For You are the same Lord
Whose nature is always to have mercy**

**So cleanse us and feed us
With the body and blood of Your son
That we may live in Him and that He may live in us
Forever and ever Amen**

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The Agnus Dei

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world

All: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world

All: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world

All: Grant us your peace.

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.

Music During Communion

"Light Of The World (Sing Hallelujah)"

Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash © 2020
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"Mary, Did You Know?"

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

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

Christina Georgina Rossetti | Gustav Theodore Holst© Words & Music: Public Domain CCLI # 73146

Lighting of the Candles

"Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Silent night holy night, wondrous star lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

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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

"Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain: Hark the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as Man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings,
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

The Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.