



Welcome to St. Luke's Church

Sunday, December 28, 2025

1st Sunday of Christmas

**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

O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful
Grace revealing Christmastide!
Jesus came to win us
From all sin within us
Glorify the holy Child!

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful
Love revealing Christmastide!
Loud hosannas singing
And all praises bringing
May Thy love with us abide!

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful
Peace revealing Christmastide!
Darkness disappeareth
God's own light now neareth
Peace and joy to all betide!

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Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born.
All: To 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.

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)

The Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.
All: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

“What A Beautiful Name”

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is the Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is the Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is the Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is the Name of Jesus

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“King Of Kings”

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus: Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory, majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died (Chorus)

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me (Chorus)

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“We Exalt Thee”

We exalt Thee, we exalt Thee, we exalt Thee, O Lord.
We exalt Thee, we exalt Thee, we exalt Thee, O Lord.

For Thou, O Lord, art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods.
For Thou, O Lord, art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods.

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Children Released for Sunday School / Announcements

The Lessons

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 61:10-62:5

Psalm – Psalm 147:12-20 (*read responsively*)

New Testament Reading – Galatians 3:23-4:7

The Gospel

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

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1:1-18.

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. (I 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. (I 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)

“Glory (Let There Be Peace)”

One star burns in the darkness
Shines with the promise Emmanuel
One child born in the stillness
Living within us Emmanuel

Chorus: We're singing Glory Glory
Let there be peace let there be peace
Singing Glory Glory
Let there be peace let it start in me

One voice speaks for the voiceless
Hope for the hopeless Emmanuel
One love brings us together
Now and forever Emmanuel

Bridge: Do not be afraid
His love is strong enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way
His love is strong enough to lead us

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Doxology [*All rise*]

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, gluten-free wafer, or individually packaged juice and 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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The Prayer of Consecration

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."

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 it is 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:

“Adore”

Graham Kendrick | Martin Chalk© 2015 Common Hymnal Publishing, sixsteps Music, Vamos Publishing, worshiptogether.com songs CCLI# 73146

“Adore Him”

Samuel Lane © 2010 Vineyard Songs CCLI License # 73146

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 our hopes
All: We set on the risen Christ

The Blessing

The Recessional

“Glory (Let There Be Peace)”

Chorus: We're singing Glory Glory
 Let there be peace let there be peace
 Singing Glory Glory
 Let there be peace let it start in me

Bridge: Do not be afraid
 His love is strong enough to save us
 Nothing stands in the way
 His love is strong enough to lead us

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The Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God.

This Week at St. Luke's Church, December 29th – January 4th

Monday

Church Offices CLOSED

Boy Scout Troop 411, 6:30 PM (The Harbor)

Tuesday

Church Offices CLOSED

Worship With the Word, 6:30 PM (Sanctuary)

Stage 4 Ministry, 6:30 PM (Conference Room)

Women's Group, 7:00 PM (Common Room)

Wednesday

Church Offices CLOSED

Thursday

New Year's Day, *Church Offices CLOSED*

Friday

Church Offices CLOSED

'Meeting w/ God' prayer service, 7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Saturday

Men's Group, 9:30 AM (Lower Kitchenette)

Sunday

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Youth Group, 6:30 PM (The Harbor)

Readings for January 4: Jeremiah 31:7-14 ◯ Psalm 84
Ephesians 1:3-14 ◯ Matthew 2:1-12