



## **Welcome to St. Luke's Church Sunday, December 5, 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.*

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Or visit our website: [www.stlukesakron.net](http://www.stlukesakron.net)

## Processional Hymn

### “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 (Chorus)

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 (Chorus)

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 (Chorus)

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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 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:           O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer  
                  Our spirits by Thine advent here  
                  Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
                  And death's dark shadows put to flight  
                  Rejoice! Rejoice!  
                  Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore © Words: Public Domain  
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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: 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.**

## **Praise and Worship**

### **"I've Got a River of Life / Doxology"**

I've got a river of life flowing out of me;  
Makes the lame to walk and the blind to see,  
Opens prison doors, sets the captives free.  
I've got a river of life flowing out of me.

Spring up, O well, within my soul;  
Spring up, O well, and make me whole;  
Spring up, O well, and give to me,  
That life abundantly.

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

Unknown arr. by Lyndell Leatherman CCLI #73146

Thomas Ken, Jimmy Owens ©1972 by Lexicon Music (UK) CCLI #73146

### **"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.

O sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all that hear in heaven God's holy word  
Give to the Father, glory in the highest. (Refrain)

All hail! Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning  
O Jesus, for evermore be thy name adored  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. (Refrain)

C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade © Words: Public Domain  
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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

Brian Johnson | Joel Case | Jonathan David Helser © 2014 Bethel Music  
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## **Announcements**

### **The Lessons**

Malachi 3:1-5

Psalm 126

1 Corinthians 4:1-21

*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 3:1-6.

**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)

### **“His Eye is On the Sparrow”**

Why should I feel discouraged  
Why should the shadows come  
Why should my heart be lonely  
And long for heaven and home  
When Jesus is my portion, my constant friend is He  
His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me  
His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me

Chorus: I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free  
For His eye is on the sparrow  
And I know He watches me

Charles Hutchison Gabriel, Civilla Durfee Martin, Crystal Lewis  
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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.**

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

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**

### **“O Come To The Altar”**

Are you hurting and broken within  
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin  
Jesus is calling  
Have you come to the end of yourself  
Do you thirst for a drink from the well  
Jesus is calling

Chorus:     O come to the altar  
                  The Father's arms are open wide  
                  Forgiveness was bought with  
                  The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes  
Come today there's no reason to wait  
Jesus is calling  
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy  
From the ashes a new life is born  
Jesus is calling

Bridge: Oh what a Savior isn't he wonderful  
Sing alleluia Christ is risen  
Bow down before him for he is Lord of all  
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown  
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye© 2015 Music by  
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### **“Jesus We Love You”**

Old things have passed away  
Your love has stayed the same  
Your constant grace remains the cornerstone  
Things that we thought were dead  
Are breathing in life again  
You cause your Son to shine on darkest nights

Pre-Chorus: For all that You've done we will pour out our love  
This will be our anthem song

Chorus: Jesus we love You, oh how we love You  
You are the one our hearts adore

The hopeless have found their hope  
The orphans now have a home  
All that was lost has found its place in You  
You lift our weary head  
You make us strong instead  
You took these rags and made us beautiful

Bridge: Our affection our devotion poured out on the feet of Jesus

Hannah McClure | Kalley Heiligenthal | Paul McClure© 2014 Bethel Music Publishing  
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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 heaven 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 heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen 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.

Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy © Words: Public Domain Music:  
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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 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **Monday**

### **Tuesday**

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

'The Chosen' w/ dessert & discussion, 7:00-9:00 PM  
(Café & Sanctuary)

### **Saturday**

Men's Group, 9:00-10:30 AM (Café)  
Food Kitchen Ministry, 4:00 PM-6:00 PM (Teen Center)

### **Sunday**

Morning Worship, 9:30 AM (Sanctuary)  
Food Kitchen Ministry, 11:00am-1:00pm (Peter Maurin Center)  
Angel Tree Christmas Party, 2:00-5:00pm (Café & Sanctuary)  
Youth Group, 6:30 -8:30 PM (Teen Center)

### **Coming Up:**

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 PM  
Dec 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day Service, 10:00 AM

**Readings for December 12: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm 85,  
Philippians 4:4-9, Luke 3:7-20**