



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church
Sunday, December 8, 2024**

2nd 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.com

Processional Hymn

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

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

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone:
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard © Words & Music: Public Domain
CCLI License # 73146

Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

All: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

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 for Advent (Lighting of the Advent Wreath)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you pour on us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled 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 for ever.

All: Amen

Collect of the Day

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

“Adore Him”

Love incarnate wrapped in flesh
Heaven bent to dwell with us
O what a mystery O what a mystery

The sacred gift to break the curse
The Father’s heart revealed to us
O what a joyous thing O what a joyous thing

Chorus 1: O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord
For He alone is worthy
For He alone is worthy

Behold the Lamb of Righteousness
Let every heart and tongue confess
Let all the Earth rejoice let all the Earth rejoice

Remaining no accusing voice
His resurrection power in us
Triumphant in Jesus' name, triumphant in Jesus' name

Bridge: O sing sing of the good news
The Heavens have opened
Let all creation praise You
(Oh) sing sing of His goodness oh God of Salvation
Let all creation praise You

Tag: O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him Christ the Lord

We give You all the glory, we give You all the glory
We give You all the glory Christ the Lord

For He alone is worthy, for He alone is worthy
For He alone is worthy Christ the Lord

Daniel Bashta | Hannah McClure | Paul McClure | Sean Curran © 2019 Capitol
CMG Paragon; sixsteps Songs; Sounds Of Jericho; Bethel Music Publishing
CCLI License # 73146

“Every Day”

Chorus: And every day, every day
I will sing Your praises
And every day, every day
I will bless Your name
And every day, yes, every day
We will raise our voices
'Cause every day, You are the same
And we glorify Your name
Lord we glorify Your name

You are God of wonders, You are God of mercy
You are God, the great I AM.
You are our defender, Your kingdom is forever
And You're coming back again (Chorus)

You alone are faithful, You alone are righteous
You alone are gracious, God
You alone are worthy, You alone are holy
You alone are Lord of all (Chorus)

“When The Stars Burn Down”

When the stars burn down and the earth wears out
And we stand before the throne
With the witnesses who have gone before
We will rise and all applaud

Chorus: Singing blessing and honor and glory and power
Forever to our God
Singing blessing and honor and glory and power
Forever to our God

When the hands of time wind fully down
And the earth is rolled up like a scroll
The trumpets will call and the world will fall
To its knees as we all go home

Bridge: Star of the morning, Light of salvation, Majesty
God of all mysteries Lord of the universe
Righteous King

There will come a day standing face to face
In a moment we will be like Him
He will wipe our eyes dry take us up to His side
And forever we will be His

Jennie Lee Riddle | Jonathan Lee© 2010 JLee Publishing, Universal Music -
Brentwood Benson Tunes, Integrity's Praise! Music CCLI # 73146

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: O come, thou rod of Jesse's stem
From every foe deliver them
That trust Thy mighty power to save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

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.

**Sung: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore © Words & Music: Public Domain
CCLI License # 73146

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 Prayers of the People

Deacon: That this Advent Season may be holy, good, and peaceful,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Deacon: That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Deacon: That there may be peace in your Church and in the whole world,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

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 forever.

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. 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)

“Adore”

You stepped down from heaven humbly You came
God of all creation here with us
In a starlit manger Emmanuel
Light of the world here to save

Chorus: Adore, come let us adore
O come let us adore Him
The Lord, worship Christ the Lord
Let all that is within us adore

Wise men bring their treasures, shepherds bow low
Angel voices sing of peace on earth
What have I to offer to heaven's King
I will bring my life my love my all

Bridge: Angels sing praises ring to the newborn King
Peace on earth here with us, joy awakening
At Your feet we fall

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

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

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, 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!**

Peter Scholtes © 1966, 1970 F.E.L. Publications CCLI License # 73146

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 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 that He may live in us
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Andy Piercy © 1996 IQ Words & Music by permission of the C of ECBF

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

"I Hear a Sound"

I hear a sound coming from the mountain,
I hear it louder each day.
I hear a sound coming from the mountain
And it says, "Prepare ye the way."

Chorus: Prepare ye the way, Prepare ye the way,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

I see the King standing on the mountain,
I see Him clearer each day.
I see the King standing on the mountain,
And He says, "Prepare ye the way." (Chorus)

I feel God's love streaming from the mountain,
I feel it stronger each day.
I feel God's love streaming from the mountain,
And it says, "Prepare ye the way." (Chorus)

Himmie Gustafson © 1976 CCLI # 73146

"Refiner's Fire"

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver
Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold

Chorus: Refiner's fire, my hearts one desire is to be holy
Set apart for You Lord
I choose to be holy, set apart for You, my Master
Ready to do Your will

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within
And make me holy
Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin
Deep within (Chorus)

Brian Doerksen © 1990 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing, Vineyard Songs Canada
CCLI # 73146

"Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called, Emmanuel.
God with us. Revealed in us.
His name is called, Emmanuel.

Bob McGee© 1976 C.A. Music CCLI # 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 hopes

All: We set on the risen Christ

The Blessing

The Recessional

"Angels From The Realms Of Glory / Emmanuel"

Angels, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye, who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with man is now residing
Yonder shines the infant Light (Refrain)

Chorus:

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Sages, leave your contemplations
Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations
Ye have seen his natal star (Refrain)

Saints before the altar bending
Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord, descending
In his temple shall appear (Refrain)

Public Domain | Brenton Brown | Paul Baloche © 2005, 2006 Thankyou Music,
Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI License # 73146

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 9th – December 15th

Monday

Creative Journaling, 6:00-9:00 PM (Tompkin's Glory Barn)

Tuesday

Worship With the Word, 6:00-8:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Stage 4 Ministry, 6:30-8:30 PM (Lower Conference Room)

Women's Group, 7:00-8:30 PM (Common Room)

Wednesday

Advent Prayer, 12:00-2:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Advent Prayer, 5:00-7:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Safety Committee, 6:30-8:00 PM (Café)

Thursday

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

Friday

Saturday

Angel Tree Drive-Thru Party, 11:00 AM-6:00 PM (T.R.Y. Akron)

Men's Group, 9:00-10:30 AM (Café)

Sunday

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

60th Anniversary Celebration, 12:00 PM (Café)

Youth Group, 6:30-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

Upcoming:

December 21st – Men's Breakfast, 8:30-11:00 AM

December 22nd – Bell Choir Rehearsal, 12:30-3:00 PM

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 PM

December 25th – Christmas Day Service, 10:00 AM

January 3rd – 'Meeting w God' Service, 7:00 PM

January 10th & 11th – "Create" Worship Arts Retreat

January 19th – Annual Meeting, 12:30 PM

February 9th – Souper Bowl Party & Chili Cook-Off, 5:30 PM

**Readings for December 15: Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm 85,
Philippians 4:4-9, Luke 3:7-20**