



LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

**Welcome to St. Luke's Church  
Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**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](http://www.stlukesakron.com)

## Processional Hymn

### “In Christ Alone”

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:

‘Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life’s first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny

No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I’ll stand

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## Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**All: His mercy endures forever.**

## 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 for Lent

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission, and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations, and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## Praise and Worship

### “Mighty to Save”

Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior  
The hope of nations

Chorus: Savior, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow, everything I believe in  
Now I surrender

Bridge: Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus  
Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King

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### “Yes I Will”

I count on one thing the same God that never fails  
Will not fail me now, You won't fail me now  
In the waiting the same God who's never late  
Is working all things out, You're working all things out

Chorus: Yes I will lift You high in the lowest valley  
Yes I will bless Your name  
Yes I will sing for joy when my heart is heavy  
All my days yes I will

Bridge: I choose to praise to glorify glorify  
The name of all names that nothing can stand  
against

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### **“Goodness Of God”**

I love You, Lord, for Your mercy never fails me  
All my days I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus: And all my life You have been faithful  
And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire  
In the darkest night You are close like no other  
I've known You as a Father, I've known You as a Friend  
And I have lived in the goodness of God (Chorus)

Bridge: 'Cause Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
With my life laid down I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything  
'Cause Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me

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### **The Lessons**

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25

1 Peter 3:18-22

*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: Speak, O Lord, as we come to You,  
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.  
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness**

Lector: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 1:9-13.

**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: Teach us, Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of Your purity.**

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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 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.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Deacon: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith. Strengthen Mark, our bishop, and all your Church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Bless and guide Joe, our president, and Mike, our governor; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honor one another and seek the common good. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Give grace to us, our families, and friends, and to all our neighbors, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit...

*(pause and speak their names aloud)*

Give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ...

*(pause and speak their names aloud)*

According to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love. Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

### **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

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

**All: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: 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. "Offer unto God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and pay your vows unto the Most High." (Psalm 50:14)

## "Grace So Glorious"

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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.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest!**

## **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."

### **Mystery of Faith**

Deacon: Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

**All: We remember his death.  
We proclaim his resurrection.  
We await his coming in glory.**

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: Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup

**All: We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### **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. Apart from your grace, 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.**

### **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:**

**“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 O 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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**“Holy Is The Lord”**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, our God.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

And He is worthy to receive our praise,  
And to be proclaimed as the Lord over all.

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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

### “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Chorus: My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed (Chorus)

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures (Chorus)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

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### **The Dismissal**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

## **This Week at St. Luke's Church, February 19<sup>th</sup> – February 25<sup>th</sup>**

### **Monday**

Boy Scout Troop 411, 6:30-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

### **Tuesday**

Worship With the Word, 6:30-8:30 PM (Sanctuary)

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

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

### **Wednesday**

### **Thursday**

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

### **Friday**

*Church Offices, CLOSED*

### **Saturday**

Men's Group Breakfast, 9:30-11:00 AM (Lower Kitchenette)

### **Sunday**

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

*Bethel Akron Worship, 5:00-7:00 PM (Sanctuary & Upper Level)*

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

### **Upcoming**

Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> – Journey Into Wholeness Seminar, Part Two

Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> – Holy Week

**Readings for February 25: Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 16,  
Romans 8:31-39, Mark 8:31-38**