



LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

**Welcome to St. Luke's Church
Sunday, February 25, 2024**

Second 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

Processional Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty”

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee,
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name,
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

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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, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

“Living Hope”

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus: Highest praises to the One who set me free
Highest praises death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending: Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

“Holy Forever”

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Pre-Chorus: (Jesus) Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Chorus 1: And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Chorus 2: Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

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“Worthy”

It was my cross You bore
So I could live in the freedom You died for
And now my life is Yours
And I will sing of Your goodness forevermore

Chorus: Worthy is Your name Jesus
You deserve the praise worthy is Your name
Worthy is Your name Jesus
You deserve the praise worthy is Your name

And now my shame is gone
I stand amazed in Your love undeniable
Your grace goes on and on
And I will sing of Your goodness forevermore

Bridge: Be exalted now in the heavens
As Your glory fills this place
You alone deserve our praise
You're the name above all names

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The Lessons

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 16

Romans 8:31-39

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 8:31-38.

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)

"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

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 Give You My Heart"

This is my desire to honour You
Lord with all my heart I worship You
All I have within me I give You praise
All that I adore is in You

Chorus:

Lord I give You my heart, I give You my soul
I live for You alone, ev'ry breath that I take
Ev'ry moment I'm awake, Lord have Your way in me

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"I Lift My Eyes"

I lift my eyes up to the mountains,
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from You,
Maker of heaven, Creator of the earth.

Chorus: O how I need You, Lord.
You are my only hope, You are my only prayer.
So I will wait for You to come and rescue me,
Come and give me life.

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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

“Living Hope”

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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 26th – March 3rd

Monday

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

Morning Intercessions, 9:30-11:30 AM (Sanctuary)
Stage 4 Ministry, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM (Lower Conference Room)

Friday

Church Offices, CLOSED

Saturday

Men's Group, 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. 8th-9th – Journey Into Wholeness Seminar, Part Two

Mar. 24th-31st – Holy Week

**Readings for March 3: Exodus 20:1-21, Psalm 19:7-14,
Romans 7:12-25, John 2:13-22**