



Welcome to St. Luke's Church **Sunday, January 1, 2023**

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.net

Processional Hymn

"Joy To the World"

Joy to the World! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world! With truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

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Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born,

All: Unto 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

**Sung: Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy
Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy
Wash away my sin and pardon my transgressions
Make me clean again. Have mercy on me
Christe eleison, Christ have mercy
Christe eleison, Christ have mercy**

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Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: 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

"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 heav'n 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 heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n 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.

Come Desire of nations come!
Fix us in thy humble home
Rise the woman's conquering seed
Bruise in us the serpent's head
Adam's likeness now efface
Stamp Thine image in its place
Second Adam from a....bove
Reinstate us in thy love

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“We Exalt Thee”

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.

I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord.
I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, I exalt Thee, O Lord.

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The Lessons

Isaiah 61:10-62:5

Psalm 147:13-21

Galatians 3:23-4:7

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

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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.

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

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

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

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

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

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

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

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

All: We entreat you, O Lord.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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

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: Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

(Acts 20:35)

"O Holy Night"

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born,
O night O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts, by His cradle we stand;
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger;
Behold your King! before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise His name forever,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.

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.**

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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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right to become your children.

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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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 Agnus Dei

**Sung: Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

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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

"Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Allelu, Alleluia.

Chorus: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find;
Knock and it shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, Alleluia.

Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, Alleluia.

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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

“Go Tell It On The Mountain”

Chorus: Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born
And sent us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn

I was a lonely seeker I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me and He showed me the way
He made me a watchman upon the city wall
And if I am a Christian I am the least of all

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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, January 2nd – January 8th

Monday

Church Offices Closed

Boy Scout Troop 411, 7:00-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

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

MOPS/MOMSnexT, 9:30-11:00am (Café)

Thursday

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

Friday

Saturday

Men's Group, 9:00-10:30 AM (Café)

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:

Jan. 2023 – Small Groups Begin

Jan. 26th – Red Cross Blood Drive

Feb. 12th – Souper Bowl & Chili Cook-Off, 4:00 PM

Feb. 22nd – Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 PM

Feb. 26th – Annual Meeting, 12:30 PM

**Readings for January 8: Isaiah 60:1-9, Psalm 72,
Ephesians 3:1-13, Matthew 2:1-12**