



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church
Sunday, January 14, 2024**

First Sunday of Epiphany

**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

“Everlasting God”

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus: Our God You reign forever,
Our hope our strong Deliverer

Chorus: You are the everlasting God,
The everlasting God,
You do not faint; You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

Brenton Brown | Ken Riley © 2005 Thankyou Music CCLI # 73146

Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: I will make you as a light for the nations,

All: That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

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**

Steve Merkel © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Eternal Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son, and your Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove: Grant that we, who are born again by water and the Spirit, may be faithful as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

“Meet With Me”

I'm here to meet with You
Come and meet with me
I'm here to find You
Reveal Yourself to me

Chorus: As I wait You make me strong
As I long draw me to Your arms
As I stand and sing Your praise
You come, You come and You fill this place
Won't You come, won't You come
And fill this place

Lamont Heibert © 2000 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI #73146

“Holy Water”

God I'm on my knees again
God I'm begging please again
I need You, oh I need You
Walking down these desert roads
Water for my thirsty soul
I need You, oh I need You

Chorus: Your forgiveness
Is like sweet sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
Like holy water (on my skin)

Dead man walking slave to sin
I wanna know about being born again
I need You, oh God I need You
So take me to the riverside
Take me under baptize
I need You, oh God I need You oh

Bridge: I don't wanna abuse Your grace
God I need it ev'ry day
It's the only thing that ever really
Makes me wanna change

Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash © 2019
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“Grace Like Rain”

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 so clearly

Chorus: Hallelujah
Grace like rain falls down on me
Hallelujah
All my stains are washed away
They're washed away

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

When we've been there ten-thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing Your praise
Than when we'd first begun

Chris Collins, Edwin Othello Excell, John Newton, Todd Agnew © 2003
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The Lessons

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 89:20-29
Acts 10:34-38

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**

Ketih Getty, Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music CCLI# 73146

Lector: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Mark 1:7-11.

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.

Prayers of the People

Officiant: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

All: And grant us your salvation.

Officiant: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

All: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

All: And let your people sing with joy.

Officiant: O Lord, save your people;

All: And bless your inheritance.

Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

All: And defend us by your mighty power.

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

All: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

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)

Officiant: 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

"Land Of The Living"

One thing I ask of You, this is what I seek
That I may dwell in Your house
Feel Your pleasure wash over me
One thing I ask of You, this is what I need
That I may hide in Your hands
Feel Your presence fall over me

Chorus: And I am confident of this one thing
That my eyes will be blessed
When they gaze upon Your beauty
And my lips will be sweet
When they whisper words of praise
And my heart will be dancing
When it knows that You are with me
And I will see Your goodness
In the land of the living

Ben Pasley | Robin D. Pasley © 1999 Blue Renaissance Music
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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.**

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. 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal his glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

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:

**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!**

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

Celebrant or 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.

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:

“Unashamed Love”

You're callin' me to lay aside the worries of my day
To quiet down my busy mind find a hiding place
Worthy (You are) worthy

I open up my heart and let my spirit worship Yours
I open up my mouth and let a song of praise come forth
Worthy You are worthy

Chorus: Of a childlike faith and of my honest praise
And of my unashamed love of a holy life
And of my sacrifice and of my unashamed love

Ending: Worthy You are worthy (2x)
You are worthy (3x)

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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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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

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name
And blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
And when the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

Chorus: Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's "all as it should be"
Blessed be Your name
And blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
And when the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say

Bridge:
You give and take away. You give and take away
My heart will choose to say Lord, blessed be Your name

Beth Redman, Matt Redman©2002 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

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 15th – January 21st

Monday

Martin Luther King Jr Day (offices closed)
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

'Journey Into Wholeness', 6:00-10:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Saturday

'Journey Into Wholeness', 8:00 AM-4:00 PM (Sanctuary)
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)

**Readings for January 21: 1 Samuel 3:1-20, Psalm 63:1-12,
1 Corinthians 7:17-24, John 1:43-51**