



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church
Sunday, January 5, 2025**

2nd Sunday of Christmas

**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

“As With Gladness”

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading on-ward, beaming bright
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger-bed;
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek the mercy seat.

As they offer'd gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ! to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus! every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright,
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down:
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born.

All: To 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: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy
 Lord have mercy on us.
 Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy
 Lord have mercy on us.**

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Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Praise and Worship

“The Way”

Through every battle, through every heartbreak
Through every circumstance
I believe that You are my fortress, oh You are my portion
You are my hiding place, I believe You are

Chorus: The Way the Truth the Life, I believe You are
The Way the Truth the Life, I believe (You are)

Through every blessing, through every promise
Through every breath I take
I believe that You are provider, You are protector
You are the One I love, I believe You are

Bridge:

It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts they can all come too
Because they can't stay long
(When I'm here with You) (When I believe You are)

Ben Smith | Daniel Bashta | Pat Barrett © Heritage Worship Publishing, Capitol
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“Better Is One Day”

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty
My soul longs and even faints for you
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of your wings

Chorus: Better is one day in your courts
Better is one day in your house
Better is one day in your courts
Than thousands elsewhere

One thing I ask and I would seek to see your beauty
To find you in the place your glory dwells
One thing I ask and I would seek to see your beauty
To find you in the place your glory dwells (Chorus)

Bridge:

My heart and flesh cry out for you the living God
Your Spirit's water for my soul
I've tasted and I've seen, come once again to me
I will draw near to you, I will draw near to you

Tag: Better is one day, better is one day
 Better is one day than thousands elsewhere

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“Glory in the Highest”

You are the first, You go before, You are the last
Lord You're the encore, Your name's in lights for all to see
The starry host declare Your glory

Chorus: Glory in the highest, Glory in the highest,
 Glory in the highest

Apart from You, there is no God
Light of the world, the bright and morning star
Your name will shine for all to see
You are the one, You are my glory

And no one else could ever compare to You, Lord
All the earth together declares
Glory in the highest, Glory in the highest
Glory in the highest to You, Lord. To You, Lord

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The Lessons

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 84

Ephesians 1:3-14

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: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 2:1-12.

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: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

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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.**

The Prayers of the People

Deacon: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

All: And grant us your salvation.

Deacon: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

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

Deacon: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

All: And let your people sing with joy.

Deacon: O Lord, save your people;

All: And bless your inheritance.

Deacon: 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.

Deacon: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

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)

“Peace Has Come”

Behold the star of Bethlehem
The Word of God has become flesh
Unto us a child is born
The Savior of this broken world

Chorus 1: O hear the angel voices sing
Come let us adore Him
Peace has come for our King is with us

Fully God and fully man
He comes for all with open hands
He rules with love on David's throne
All praise belongs to Christ alone

Chorus 2: Holy holy holy, Jesus we adore Thee
Peace has come for our King is with us

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

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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

[We invite all baptized Christians to join us at the Lord's table. We offer communion in the form of bread, wafer, or gluten-free 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.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the working of the Holy Spirit, was made truly man, taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; and yet without the stain of sin, to make us clean from sin.

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 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.**

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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

"Emmanuel"

Bob McGee © 1976 C.A. Music CCLI # 73146

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Edmund Hamilton Sears | Richard Storrs Willis © Words & Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 73146

"There is a Redeemer"

Melody Green © 1982 Birdwing Music, BMG Songs, Inc, To Hear 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

"Shine Jesus Shine"

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood
The nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Chorus)

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,
So our faces display Your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me. (Chorus)

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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 6th – January 12th

Monday

Creative Journaling Class, 6:00-9:00 PM (Tompkin 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

Safety Committee Meeting, 6:00-8:30 PM (Café)

Thursday

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

Friday

"CREATE" Worship Retreat, 6:00-9:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Saturday

"CREATE" Worship Retreat, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Sanctuary)

Men's Group, 9:00-10:30 AM (Lower Kitchenette)

Sunday

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

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

Upcoming:

January 19th – Annual Meeting, 12:30 PM

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

**Readings for January 12: Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 89:1-29,
Acts 10:34-38, Luke 3:15-22**