



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church  
Sunday, March 23, 2025**

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### “Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

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CCLI # 73146

## 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 of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you: Look with compassion upon the heartfelt desires of your servants, and purify our disordered affections, that we may behold your eternal glory in the face of Christ Jesus; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

## Praise and Worship

### “Reckless Love”

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me  
You have been so so good to me  
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me  
You have been so so kind to me

Chorus: O the overwhelming never-ending  
Reckless love of God  
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found  
Leaves the ninety-nine

I couldn't earn it I don't deserve  
Still You give Yourself away  
O the overwhelming never-ending  
Reckless love of God

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me  
You have been so so good to me  
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me  
You have been so so kind to me

Bridge: There's no shadow You won't light up  
Mountain You won't climb up coming after me  
There's no wall You won't kick down  
Lie You won't tear down coming after me

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### “Oceans “

You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

Chorus: And I will call upon Your name  
And keep my eyes above the waves  
When oceans rise my soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sovereign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and You won't start now

Bridge:  
Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of my Savior

Ending: I will call upon Your name  
Keep my eyes above the waves  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
I am Yours and You are mine

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### **“Good, Good Father”**

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like  
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night  
You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

Chorus: You're a Good, Good Father  
It's who You are, it's who You are  
It's who You are  
And I'm loved by You, it's who I am  
It's who I am, It's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers far and wide  
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide  
Because You know just what we need before we say a word

Bridge: You are perfect in all of Your ways  
You are perfect in all of Your ways  
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak  
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think  
As You call me deeper still, as You call me deeper still  
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love

Anthony Brown | Pat Barrett©2014 Capitol CMG Paragon, Common Hymnal  
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## **Children Released for Sunday School / Announcements**

### **The Lessons**

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalms 103

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

*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: Word of God speak  
Would You pour down like rain  
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty  
To be still and know that You're in this place  
Please let me stay and rest  
In Your holiness, Word of God speak**

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:1-17.

**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: Word of God speak  
Would You pour down like rain  
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty  
To be still and know that You're in this place  
Please let me stay and rest  
In Your holiness, Word of God speak**

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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: 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 and Allen, our bishops, 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 Donald, 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**

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: The Lord be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Our offertory sentences are from scripture. "I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1)

### **"Speak Jesus"**

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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.

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:

## **The Sanctus**

**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!**

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."

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**

#### **“Breathe”**

This is the air I breathe  
This is the air I breathe  
Your Holy Presence living in me

This is my daily bread  
This is my daily bread  
Your very Word spoken to me

And I, I'm desperate for You  
And I, I'm lost without You

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#### **“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  
Oh 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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### **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: 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

Pre-Chorus: 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

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 CCLI #73146

## The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **This Week at St. Luke's Church, March 24<sup>th</sup> – March 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **Monday**

Vestry Meeting, 6:30-9:00 PM (Lower Conference Room)

### **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**

MomCo, 9:30-11:30 AM (Café)

### **Thursday**

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

### **Friday**

Red Cross Blood Drive, 12:00-6:00 PM (Common Room)

### **Saturday**

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

### **Sunday**

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:00 AM (Sanctuary)

Understanding Sacraments Teaching Series, 12:30 PM (Sanctuary)

Youth Group, 6:00-8:30 PM (The Harbor)

### **Upcoming:**

Now thru April 6 – 'Understanding Sacraments' Lenten teaching series (Sundays after church)

April 4 – 'Meeting w/ God' service, 7:00-8:30 PM (Sanctuary)

April 13-19 – Holy Week

April 20 – Easter Sunday

April 27-June 20 – 'Reason for God' teaching series (Sundays after church)

May 2-June 20 – Alpha Marriage Course (Friday Evenings)

May 18 – Youth Group Mission Trip Raffle

July 6-12 – Youth Group Mission Trip to Jesus People Chicago

June 23-July 28 – Vacation Bible School (Monday Evenings)

**Readings for March 30: Joshua 4:19-5:12, Psalm 34  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Luke 15:11-32**