



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church  
Sunday, March 30, 2025**

**4<sup>th</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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## 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: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## Praise and Worship

### “Be Enthroned”

We've come to join the song sung long before our lives  
To raise our voice along heaven and earth alike

We've seen Your faithful hand, Your mercy without end  
The King who bled and died a God who sacrificed

Chorus: Be enthroned upon the praises  
Of a thousand generations  
You are worthy Lord of all  
And unto You the slain and risen King  
We lift our voice with heaven  
Singing worthy Lord of all  
(Lord of all)

All through this life we lead and on to eternity  
Our endless praise we cry Jesus be glorified

Bridge: Highest praises Lord of all

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### **“Give Us Clean Hands”**

We bow our hearts we bend our knees  
Oh Spirit come make us humble  
We turn our eyes from evil things  
Oh Lord we cast down our idols

Chorus: Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another  
Give us clean hands give us pure hearts  
Let us not lift our souls to another

And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob  
And oh God let us be a generation that seeks  
That seeks Your face oh God of Jacob

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### **“Your Presence Is Heaven”**

Who is like You Lord in all the earth  
Matchless love and beauty endless worth  
For nothing in this world can satisfy  
Jesus You're the cup that won't run dry

Chorus: Your presence is heaven to me  
Your presence is heaven to me

Treasure of my heart and of my soul  
In my weakness You are merciful  
Redeemer of my past and present wrong  
Holder of my future days to come

Bridge: Oh Jesus oh Jesus Your presence is heaven to me  
Oh Jesus oh Jesus Your presence is heaven to me

All my days on earth I will await  
The moment that I see You face to face  
For nothing in this world can satisfy  
Jesus You're the cup that won't run dry

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## Children Released for Sunday School / Announcements

### The Lessons

Joshua 4:19-5:12

Psalms 34

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*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 15:11-32.

**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 worshipped 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)

### "I Surrender"

Here I am down on my knees again  
Surrendering all, surrendering all

Find me here Lord as You draw me near  
Desperate for You, desperate for You  
I surrender

Drench my soul as mercy and grace unfold  
I hunger and thirst, I hunger and thirst

With arms stretched wide I know You hear my cry  
Speak to me now, speak to me now

Chorus: I surrender, I surrender  
I want to know You more  
I want to know You more

Bridge: Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within  
Lord have Your way, Lord have Your way in me  
Like a mighty storm stir within my soul  
Lord have Your way, Lord have Your way in me

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**

#### **“Eternal God”**

Though the earth should tremble  
And the oceans roar  
And the mountains slip into the sea  
I shall not fear any harm  
With Your powerful arms around me

Chorus: I worship You Eternal God  
I worship You  
The unchanging One  
Before the angels ever sang one song  
Before the morning star had ever shone  
You were on Your throne Eternal God

Though men's kingdoms crumble  
And the nations rage  
And rulers and kings come and go  
Yours is the kingdom unshaken  
And You've never forsaken Your own

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#### **“Take Me Away”**

I am looking for  
I am longing for the place  
Where I can lay my head upon Your breast  
I am looking for  
The place where You will pour Your oil over me  
All over me

Chorus 1: Won't You pour over me  
Pour over me  
Your oil of perfect peace

I am looking for  
The time when I can steal away  
To find the place of rest the place of peace  
I am looking for  
The time to steal away and be with You  
To be with You

Chorus 2: Won't You take me away  
Take me away  
So I can be with You

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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

### "The Blessing"

The Lord bless you and keep you  
Make His face shine upon you  
And be gracious to you  
The Lord turn His face toward you  
And give you peace

Chorus: Amen, amen, amen  
Amen, amen, amen

May His favor be upon you  
And a thousand generations  
Your family and your children  
And their children, and their children

May His presence go before you  
And behind you, and beside you  
All around you, and within you  
He is with you, He is with you

In the morning, in the evening  
In your coming, and your going  
In your weeping, and rejoicing  
He is for you, He is for you

He is for you, He is for you  
He is for you, He is for you  
He is for you, He is for you

Kari Jobe Songwriters: Cody Carnes / Kari Brooke Jobe / Steven Furtick  
Christopher/ Joel Brown  
The Blessing Lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC  
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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, March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **Monday**

### **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**

'Meeting w/ God' Service, 7:00-8:30 PM (Sanctuary)

### **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:**

April 13-19 – Holy Week

April 20 – Easter Sunday

April 26 – Men's Breakfast, 8:30-11:30 AM (The Harbor)

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, 12:30 PM (Sanctuary)

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

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

**Readings for April 6: Joshua 4:19-5:12, Psalm 34  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Luke 15:11-32**