



## **St. Luke's Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
785-539-2604  
[www.stlukesmanhattan.org](http://www.stlukesmanhattan.org)

*Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.*

**Sunday, February 8, 2026 – 11:00 AM**

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor  
William Prann, Director of Christian Education  
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
(Series A)**

## **WELCOME**

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, [office@stlukesmanhattan.org](mailto:office@stlukesmanhattan.org), or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

## **AS WE GATHER**

In this Epiphany season, the light of Christ reveals both our deep need for God's mercy and the gracious righteousness He freely gives. Today's readings contrast outward religious performance with the true "fast" God desires—a life shaped by His compassion, justice, and love. Jesus calls His people the salt of the earth and the light of the world not because of their own goodness, but because He has fulfilled the Law perfectly for them. Strengthened by His forgiveness in Word and Sacrament, we are sent to reflect His mercy in our daily callings, sharing bread with the hungry, lifting up the oppressed, and shining with the light that Christ first shines into us.

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

Isaiah 58:6–9 depicts Christ-centered acts of mercy radiating from the cross—figures freeing captives, sharing bread, and clothing the poor, all illuminated by Epiphany light.

## **PRELUDE**

*(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)*

## **✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠**

## PRESERVICE SONG – “Glory to the Lamb”

- 1 To the reigning King of heaven, Alleluia, Alleluia  
To the One whose life was given, glory to Your name
- 2, 4, 6 Alleluia, glory to the Lamb, Alleluia, glory to the Lamb  
Alleluia, glory ever more to the Lamb  
Who was slain and who rose from the dead  
Alleluia, glory to the Lamb, Alleluia, glory to the Lamb  
Alleluia, glory to the Lamb, Alleluia
- 3 To the One whose blood redeemed us, Alleluia, Alleluia  
To the Holy One called Jesus, glory to Your name
- 5 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia  
To the reigning King of heaven, Alleluia  
(Bill Batstone ©1993, arr. ©1997 Marantha! Music CCLI#288089)

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross ✙ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 112:4; Isaiah 58:6; Matthew 5:13-14; Matthew 5:16;  
1 Corinthians 2:1-2; Isaiah 58:9a*

- P** Light dawns in the darkness for the upright,  
**C** for the Lord is gracious, merciful, and righteous.
- P** Is not this the fast that the Lord chooses—  
**C** to loose the bonds of wickedness and to let the oppressed go free?

**P** Jesus says, “You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world.”

**C** **Let our light shine before others, that they may glorify our Father in heaven.**

**P** We come not with lofty speech or wisdom,

**C** **but with faith in Jesus Christ and Him crucified.**

**P** Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;

**C** **“Here I am.”**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P** In the light of Christ, we see both the depth of our sin and the greatness of His mercy. Let us come before our gracious God with humble hearts, seeking His forgiveness and renewal.

**C** **Merciful Father, we confess that we have often honored You with our lips while our hearts have wandered. We have trusted in outward works while neglecting justice, mercy, and love. We have hidden our light, withheld our compassion, and turned from those in need. For the sake of Jesus Christ—who fulfilled the Law for us, who is our righteousness, and who shines upon us with grace—have mercy on us. Forgive our sins, renew our hearts, and lead us to walk in Your ways, that our lives may reflect Your light.**

**P** Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Christ Jesus—your righteousness, your peace, your light—has loosed the bonds of your guilt and set you free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** You are forgiven. You are renewed. Walk now as children of the light.

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

- P** Lord, have mercy,  
**C** Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

## **SALUTATION**

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, You have called us out of darkness into the marvelous light of Your Son, who has fulfilled all righteousness for us and makes us the salt of the earth and the light of the world. By Your Holy Spirit, shape our hearts with Christ's mercy, that we may delight in Your Word, walk in Your ways, and show forth Your compassion to those in need. As You shine upon us with Your steadfast love, lead us to reflect that light in all we do; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** We confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed,

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 58:3-9a

*(The brightness of the Lord's light breaking forth.)*

<sup>3</sup>“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?  
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day  
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day for a person to humble himself?  
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,  
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?  
Will you call this a fast,  
and a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>“Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of wickedness,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover him,  
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

<sup>8</sup>Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up speedily;  
your righteousness shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 112; antiphon: v. 4*

**L** <sup>4</sup>Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;  
**C**     **he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

**L** <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
Blessèd is the man who fears the LORD,  
**C**     **who greatly delights in his commandments!**

**L** <sup>2</sup>His offspring will be mighty in the land;  
**C**     **the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

**L** <sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches are in his house,  
**C**     **and his righteousness endures forever.**

**L** <sup>4</sup>Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;  
**C**     **he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

**L** <sup>5</sup>It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;  
**C**     **who conducts his affairs with justice.**

**L** <sup>6</sup>For the righteous will never be moved;  
**C**     **he will be remembered forever.**

**L** <sup>7</sup>He is not afraid of bad news;  
**C**     **his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD .**

**L** <sup>8</sup>His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,  
**C**     **until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**

**L** <sup>9</sup>He has distributed freely;  
**C**     **he has given to the poor;**

**L** his righteousness endures forever;  
**C**     **his horn is exalted in honor.**



**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen

**L** <sup>4</sup>Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;  
**C** he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Corinthians 2:1-16*

*(Paul speaks and writes in and with the Spirit's power.)*

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. <sup>16</sup>“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*Matthew 5:16b*

**P** Alleluia. Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works

**C** and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:13-20*

*(Jesus calls His followers to be salt and light in the world.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>*[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.*

<sup>14</sup>*“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.*

<sup>16</sup>*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

<sup>17</sup>*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*

*<sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## LAMB'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## VOTUM

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
4801 Anderson Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66503

2. **Electronic Funds Transfer**

Sign up through the church office.

**STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Matthew 5:17 – “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”** We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

## OFFERTORY - “Forever (He is Alive)”

- 1 The moon and stars they wept  
The morning sun was dead  
The Savior of the world was fallen  
His body on the cross  
His blood poured out for us  
The weight of every curse upon Him
- 2 One final breath He gave  
As Heaven looked away  
The Son of God was laid in darkness  
A battle in the grave  
The war on death was waged  
The power of hell forever broken

3, 5 The ground began to shake  
The stone was rolled away  
His perfect love could not be overcome  
Now death where is your sting  
Our resurrected King  
Has rendered you defeated

4, 6 Forever, He is glorified  
9 Forever, He is lifted high  
Forever, He is risen  
He is alive, He is alive

7, 8 We sing Hallelujah  
We sing Hallelujah  
We sing Hallelujah  
The Lamb has overcome

*Stand*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious Father, You have called Your people to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. By Your Spirit, shape our hearts with the mercy of Christ, that our faith may not rest on human wisdom or outward performance, but on Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Strengthen Your Church to shine with compassion, justice, and love in all she says and does. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Bless our Synod, our congregations and schools, and all who serve in Your name—pastors, teachers, deaconesses, musicians, and lay leaders. Make their work faithful and fruitful, that the light of Christ may be seen in every place. Guide all preparations for the coming convention, and raise up servants who reflect Your wisdom and truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord of every home, bless husbands and wives, parents and children, and all who share life together. Let Your Word dwell richly among us, that our homes may be places of forgiveness, peace, and generous love—where the fast You choose is lived out in daily acts of kindness and care. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** God of all nations, grant wisdom to those in authority, including our president; our governor; and all who serve in public office. Teach them to govern with justice, to defend the weak, and to promote what is good. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, look with compassion on the hungry, the homeless, the oppressed, and all who suffer in body or spirit. Loosen the bonds of wickedness, lift up the downtrodden, and bring healing to the sick, relief to the suffering, comfort to the grieving, and peace to the dying, especially [*names may be spoken*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Spirit of wisdom, grant us the mind of Christ, that we may discern all things according to Your Word. Keep us from empty rituals and self-reliance, and lead us instead into lives shaped by Your mercy—lives that shine with the light of Christ in a world of darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** 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  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, Your Word has shined the light of Christ into our hearts, revealing both our need for mercy and the righteousness You freely give. Shape us by Your Spirit to walk in the way You choose—lives marked by compassion, justice, and love. As we go forth, make us salt and light in the world, reflecting the grace we have received; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## GREET ONE ANOTHER

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "The Lord be with you," "Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord be with you".*

## CLOSING SONG – "This is Our God"

- 1            Remember those walls that we called sin and shame  
              They were like prisons that we couldn't escape  
              But He came and He died and He rose  
              Those walls are rubble now  
              Remember those giants we called death and grave  
              They were like mountains that stood in our way  
              But He came and He died and He rose  
              Those giants are dead now
- 2, 4          This is our God, this is who He is  
              He loves us  
              This is our God, this is what He does  
              He saves us  
              He bore the cross, beat the grave  
              Let heaven and earth proclaim  
              This is our God, King Jesus
- 3            Remember that fear that took our breath away  
              Faith so weak that we could barely pray  
              But He heard every word, every whisper  
              Now those altars in the wilderness  
              Tell the story of his faithfulness  
              Never once did He fail and He never will



- 5, 6      Who pulled me out of that pit?  
He did, He did  
Who paid for all of our sin?  
Nobody but Jesus
- 7          Who rescued me from that grave?  
Yahweh Yahweh  
Who gets the glory and praise  
Nobody but Jesus  
Who rescued me from that grave?  
Yahweh Yahweh  
Who gets the glory and praise  
Nobody but Him
- 8          This is our God, this is who He is  
He loves us  
This is our God, this is what He does  
He saves us  
He bore the cross, beat the grave  
Let heaven and earth proclaim  
This is our God, King Jesus
- 9          He bore the cross, beat the grave  
Let heaven and earth proclaim  
This is our God, King Jesus

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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