



**St. Luke's
Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, March 15, 2026 – 11:00 AM

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(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, 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

The Lord is grieved by the blindness of His people, yet He does not abandon us to the darkness. Instead, He sends His Son—the Light of the world—to open our eyes and lead us in paths we have not known. Today we hear how Jesus sees a man who cannot see Him, and through His Word and His work gives him new eyes both for this world and for eternal life. In the same way, Jesus comes to us in His Word, in the water of Holy Baptism, and in His Holy Supper to shine His light into our darkness. As we gather, we ask Him to open our eyes once again: to see His mercy, to trust His promises, and to walk as children of light.

IMAGE

I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. *Isaiah 42:16*

PRELUDE

Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

WELCOME

PRESERVICE SONG – Special Music

A Joyful Sound

“O Sacred Head”

Accompanied by Bennett Addink on Cello

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

P We turn our eyes to Jesus, the Light of the world,

C from whom our help comes.

P Once we walked in darkness,

C but now we are light in the Lord.

P The Lord sees us in our blindness and calls us by His grace,

C that we may see His works and walk as children of light.

CONFESSION

P Let us come before our God, who sees all things clearly, and confess our sin and blindness before Him.

Silence for reflection.

P Merciful Father,

C we confess that we were born in darkness and cannot see by our own reason or strength. Our eyes have been fixed on ourselves instead of on You. We have judged by appearances, trusted in our own understanding, and stumbled in sin. We have been blind to Your works, slow to believe Your promises, and quick to justify our ways. For the sake of Jesus, the Light of the world, open our eyes. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may see Your mercy, walk in Your truth, and live as children of light. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God, in His mercy, has sent His Son into the world not to condemn the blind, but to give sight to those who cannot see. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. He shines into our darkness with forgiveness, life, and salvation. 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 children of light. Walk in the light of Christ.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Christ, have mercy on us.**

Lord, have mercy on us.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our Father of lights, You sent Your Son to shine into the darkness of this world and to open the eyes of the blind. Turn our eyes to Him today, that by His Word and Spirit we may see Your mercy, trust Your promises, and walk as children of light; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

NICENE CREED

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both
the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

OPENING SONG – “My Savior, My God”

1 I am not skilled to understand
What God has willed, what God has planned
I only know at His right hand
Stands One who is my Savior

2 I take Him at His word and deed
Christ died to save me, this I read
And in my heart I find a need
For Him to be my Savior

3, 7 That He would leave His place on high
And come for sinful man to die
You count it strange, so once did I
Before I knew my Savior

4, 5, 8, 9 My Savior loves, my Savior lives
My Savior's always there for me
My God He was, my God He is
My God He's always gonna be

6 Yes, living, dying let me bring
My strength, my solace from this spring
That He who lives to be my King
Once died to be my Savior

(By Aaron Shust ©2006 Word Entertainment LLC, A Warner/Curb Company CCLI #288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:14-21

(The Lord will lead His people in a new way, turning darkness into light.)

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Hebrews 12:2

- L** O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
C the founder and perfecter of our faith
- L** who for the joy that was set before Him
endured the cross, despising the shame,
C and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8-14

(The Lord positions us to walk as children of light.)

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

VERSE OF THE DAY

Psalms 36:9

- P** With you is the fountain of life;
C in Your light do we see light.

(Jesus heals a man born blind.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

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

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, *“It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.”* ⁴*We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.* ⁵*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”* ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, *“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam”* (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, *‘Go to Siloam and wash.’* So I went and washed and received my sight.”

¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”

²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "*Do you believe in the Son of Man?*" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "*You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.*" ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "*For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.*" ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "*If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains.*"

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: Psalm 142:5 – “I cry to you, O LORD; I say, ‘You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.’” The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.

OFFERTORY - "Immortal, Invisible" 1 Timothy 1:17

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days
Almighty, victorious Thy great name we praise
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might
Thy justice like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love
- 3 To all, life Thou givest to both great and small
In all life Thou livest the true life of all
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish but naught changeth Thee
- 4 Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight
All praise we would render O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee

(Walter Chalmers Smith, traditional music arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P As children of light, let us pray to the Lord who sees us, hears us, and deals bountifully with us in our time of need.

Lord of Light, in Your Son You have brought light into this dark world. Enlighten the eyes of Your Church by Your blessed Gospel. Bless all pastors and church workers, especially those who minister among the deaf and the blind. Guide our Synod president; our district president; and our circuit visitor. Provide faithful shepherds for vacant congregations, and send laborers into Your harvest. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Loving Father, You have claimed us as Your children in Holy Baptism, bringing us out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. Help us to walk as children of light, that Your works may be displayed in us while it is still day. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Patient Lord, You remain slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Give us Your patience in our encounters with the darkness of this world, that we graciously and fearlessly lead those blinded by sin back to You. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Sovereign Lord, You are our refuge and portion in the land of the living. Strengthen our leaders, our government, and all whom You have placed in authority. Open their eyes to see the needs of Your people and Your creation. Grant that they establish laws that are good and right and true. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, You promise that what we suffer does not condemn us but displays Your glory. Deliver those who cry to You from the darkness of pain, sickness, and grief, *especially [names]*. Help them take heart, trust You for healing, and find You even in the midst of their trials. Hide them in Your shelter and restore to them the joy of being Your children. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Savior, blessed is everyone who is not offended by You. Give us faith to believe Your blessed testament, seek Your Holy Supper for the forgiveness of our sins, and confess Your truth with honest hearts in the communion of this altar. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You lead the blind in ways they have not known and turn darkness before them into light. Guide all who wander through rough places, that they may wait for Your salvation and not be put to shame. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 179

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. They then distribute the body and blood of Christ to those in the pews who are unable to come forward, and then finally to those who come forward.

Distribution and dismissal will be done by half tables.

LAMB OF GOD SONG

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“You Gave”

1, 3 Lord, I want to be pleasing to you
 In everything I do
 And I want to love you more
 More than yesterday
 More than words can say

2, 5 'Cause you gave your life
 You lived and died for me, for me
 You paid the price
 You sacrificed for me, for me
 Now the least that I can do
 Is live my life for you

4 'Cause you gave your life
 You lived and died for me, for me
 You paid the price
 You sacrificed for me, for me

“I See the Lord”

1, 2, 4 I see the Lord seated on the throne exalted
And the train of his robe fills the temple with glory
And the whole earth is filled, and the whole earth is filled
And the whole earth is filled with His glory

3, 5 Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord

6 Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord of lords
(Chris Falson ©1993, arr. ©1997 Maranatha Music CCLI #288089)

Stand

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Gracious Father, we give You thanks that in this Holy Supper You have opened our eyes once again to see Your goodness in the body and blood of Your Son. As You have refreshed us with His forgiveness and strengthened us with His life, help us now to walk as children of light. Keep our eyes ever toward You in faith, and turn our hearts toward one another in love, until the day when we see You face-to-face in the kingdom that has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

G 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 - "Lion of Judah" Revelation 5:5

- 1, 5 You're the Lion of Judah the Lamb who was slain
You ascended to heaven and evermore will reign
At the end of the age when the earth You reclaim
You will gather the nations before You
And the eyes of all men will be fixed on the Lamb who was crucified
With wisdom and mercy and justice You'll reign at Your Father's side
- 2, 4, 6 And the angels will cry, "Hail the Lamb
Who was slain for the world to rule in power!"
And the earth will reply, "You shall reign
As the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords!"
- 3 There's a shield in our hand and a sword at our side
There's a fire in our spirits that cannot be denied
'Cause the Father has told us for these You have died
For the nations that gather before You
And the ears of all men need to hear of the Lamb who was crucified
Who descended to hell yet was raised up to reign at His Father's side

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Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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