



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, July 12, 2026 – 11:00 AM

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

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(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 gathers us today under a promise that steadies every fearful heart: **we are no longer slaves to fear but children of God**. Through the **Spirit of adoption**, the Father of Jesus has become our Father too, giving us a new identity, a new family, and a secure future. His Word—like rain that never returns empty—creates faith, sustains hope, and bears fruit in lives shaped by grace. In the Gospel, the seed of the kingdom is scattered generously, reminding us that the power is in the **living Word**. And in Romans 8, the Spirit teaches us to cry “**Abba, Father**” and bears witness that we are God’s own children—heirs with Christ, sharing both His cross and His glory. Today we gather as those who belong to the Father, are led by the Spirit, and live in the victory of the Son.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. *Isaiah 55:10–11*

PRELUDE

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

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

WELCOME

OPENING SONG - "Blessed Be Your Name"

- 1 Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful
 Where your streams of abundance flow
 Blessed be Your name
 Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place
 Though I walk through the wilderness
 Blessed be Your name
- 2, 5, 8 Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise
 When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
- 3, 6, 9, 10 Blessed be the name of the Lord
 Blessed be Your name
 Blessed be the name of the Lord
 Blessed be Your glorious name
- 4 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
 Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering
 Though there's pain in the offering
 Blessed be Your name
- 7, 11 You give and take away
 You give and take away
 My heart will choose to say
 Lord, blessed be Your name

(By Matt Redman, used by permission 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.

CONFESSION

- P** Beloved in the Lord, the Scriptures teach that God's Word goes forth like rain, giving life and bearing fruit. Yet Jesus also warns that the seed may fall on hard paths, rocky ground, or among thorns. And Paul reminds us that we are not debtors to the flesh but children of God, called to live by the Spirit. Let us therefore return to the Lord, confessing the barrenness of our hearts and trusting His abundant mercy.

Heavenly Father, Your Word is good seed, yet our hearts have often been hard and unyielding. We have heard without listening and received without bearing fruit.

- C** Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us.

- P** Lord Jesus Christ, You sow the Gospel with generosity, yet we have allowed the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires of the flesh to choke Your Word.

- C** Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us.

- P** Holy Spirit, You lead the children of God and free us from the fear that enslaves, yet we have lived according to the flesh and trusted our own strength instead of Yours.

- C** Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us.

- P** Gracious Lord, soften our hearts, deepen our roots, and clear away every thorn, that Your Word may bear fruit with patience.

- C** Amen.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 May the Spirit who makes you God's own children keep you in faith and bring forth His good fruit in your life.

C Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 103:15-19; antiphon: v. 8

P The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P As for man, his days are like grass;

C **he flourishes like a flower of the field;**

P for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

C **and its place knows it no more.**

P But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

C **and his righteousness to children's children,**

P to those who keep his covenant

C **and remember to do his commandments.**

P The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

C **and his kingdom rules over all.**

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.**

P The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.

O Lord, our Father, You have made us Your own children through the Spirit of adoption, teaching our hearts to cry, “Abba, Father,” and granting us a share in the life and glory of Your Son. Drive far from us the fear that enslaves, deepen our trust in Your steadfast love, and lead us to live as heirs of the resurrection. 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

HYMN OF PRAISE - "Be Lifted High"

- 1 Sin and its ways grow old
All of my heart turns to stone
And I'm left with no strength to arise
How You need to be lifted high
- 2 Sin and its ways lead to pain
Left here with hurt and with shame
So no longer will I leave Your side
Jesus, You be lifted high
- 3, 6, 7 You be lifted high, You be lifted high
You be lifted high in my life, oh God
And I fall to my knees so it's You that they see not I
Jesus, You be lifted high
- 4 Even now that I'm inside Your hands
Help me not to grow prideful again
Don't let me forsake sacrifice
Jesus, You be lifted high
- 5 If I'm blessed with the riches of kings
How could I ever think that it was me
For you brought me from darkness to light
Jesus, You be lifted high

(Leeland Dayton Mooring ©2006 Meaux Mercy (admin.By EMI CMG Publishing)/BMI)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

(The Lord's powerful Word sets His people free in joy and singing.)

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 65:9-13; antiphon: v. 5

L ⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,

C **the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;**

L ⁹ You visit the earth and water it;

C **you greatly enrich it;**

L the river of God is full of water;
you provide their grain,

C **for so you have prepared it.**

L ¹⁰ You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,

C **softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.**

L ¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty;

C **your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.**

L ¹² The pastures of the wilderness overflow,

C **the hills gird themselves with joy,**

L ¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

C **the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.**

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 ⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,

C **the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;**

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12-17

(Set free by the Spirit, believers are challenged to recognize their adoption into the family of God.)

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Isaiah 40:8

P Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades,

C but the word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-25

(Jesus shares and interprets His story of the lavish sower and the harvest He seeks.)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: *"A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .*

¹⁸*"Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

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: Romans 8:12 – “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.” We owe the flesh, the world and the devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ's kingdom — servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord's plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.

OFFERTORY - “Holy Love, Holy Light”

1, 4 Holy love, holy light
 Holy fire burning bright
 You came to earth to live and die
 That we might be forgiven

2 Holy love, holy light
 Holy lamb crucified
 You welcome sinners to Your side
 That we might be forgiven

3, 5 Holy love, holy light, holy One
 We’ll sing Your praise forever

(Used with permission CCLI #288089)

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS, CHAIRS, AND ELDERS

Elected Officers

Mark Hatesohl – President
Dennis Tegtmeier – Vice-President

Elected Elders

Brett Richardson
Kyle Larson
Shawn Thiele

Elected Chairs

Chari Miller – Parish
 Communications
Jessica Jones – Campus Ministry
Lori Uffman – Stewardship
Carol Deetjen – Fellowship
Walt Fick – Adult Ministry

ADDRESS

- P** Beloved in the Lord, Holy Scripture admonishes us that “all things should be done decently and in order.”

To that end, the constitution and bylaws of this congregation establish various offices and chairs to which men and women are elected and appointed to serve, and the position of elder to which men are elected and appointed to serve. In so doing, the Church follows the example of the Early Christian Church as described in Acts, chapter six:

The twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

The apostle Peter writes in his first epistle:

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

- P** You have been elected to serve in your various positions.

QUESTIONING

P You have been chosen to fill specific offices and positions of responsibility at St. Luke's Lutheran Church here in Manhattan, KS. You are to work with me, the pastor, that our life together in Christ may be orderly and pleasing in His sight. You are to see that the services of God's house are held at the proper times, that the Word of God is purely preached and taught according to the Lutheran Confessions, that the Sacraments of Christ are administered according to His institution, that provision is made for the Christian instruction of young and old, that the erring are admonished, and that discipline is maintained. You are to see that the temporal affairs of the congregation are properly administered and that proper support is provided for the workers of this congregation. You are to assist in caring for the poor and the sick, in cultivating harmony among the members, in promoting the general welfare of the congregation, and in furthering the kingdom of Christ here and throughout the world.

While holiness of life and obedience to Christ are expected of all members of the congregation, it is especially important that you, as office-bearers in His Church, show yourselves, by word and example, to be faithful to Him in service and Christian devotion. In the presence of God and of this congregation, I therefore ask you: Do you accept the office(s) entrusted to you, and do you promise faithfully to carry out your duties, trusting in the Lord and conforming yourself to His Word in accordance with the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church? If so, then answer: I do.

R *I do.*

ADDRESS TO THE CONGREGATION

P Beloved in the Lord, you have heard the promises of faithfulness spoken by these men and women whom you have selected to serve as officers, chairs, and elders of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Do you promise to support them in their work, to remember them in your prayers, and to work with them to the best of the abilities that God has given you, so that He may be glorified and His work be done in our midst? If so, then answer: We do.

C We do.

INSTALLATION

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, I install you as officers and chairs, and brothers I install you as elders of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The almighty and most merciful God enlighten and strengthen you in your offices that you may be good and faithful stewards to the glory of His name and the good of His people.

C Amen.

Stand

PRAYER

P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks that You have raised up these servants for work among Your people. We humbly implore You to grant them, by Your Holy Spirit, those gifts needed for the faithful carrying out of their tasks, most especially wisdom, strength, and willing hearts. Let Your blessing rest on this congregation. Strengthen the faith, quicken the love, and enkindle the zeal of its members, that Your name may be glorified and that here and in all places under heaven the kingdom of Your Son may be advanced. We remember with thanksgiving those who have faithfully served Your people and have now completed their time of service. We pray that in the end of days we, with all Your faithful people, may hear the voice of Christ saying: “Come, you who are blessed by My Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world”; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P Go in the name of the Lord. Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

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.

Heavenly Father, Your Word is good seed, and Your Church is the field You tend. Yet our hearts are often hard, shallow, or crowded with many cares. Make us receptive to Your Word, that it may bear fruit in our lives.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, You have made us fellow heirs with You, children of the same Father. Drive far from us the spirit of slavery and grant us the Spirit of adoption, that we may live in confidence and joy.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Holy Spirit, You lead the children of God and bear witness with our spirit that we belong to the Father. Calm every fear, quiet every accusation, and deepen our trust in Your promises.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, bless our nation and all who serve in public office. Grant wisdom, justice, and peace, that Your people may live quiet and godly lives.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Compassionate Lord, look with mercy on all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Bring healing to the sick, comfort to the grieving, and strength to the weary. Especially we name before You...

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Father, You promise that Your Word will not return empty. Bless the homes of this congregation, that Your Word may take root, grow deep, and bear fruit in love, forgiveness, and faith.

C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.

Gracious Father, Your Word goes forth like rain, giving life and accomplishing Your purpose. By Your Spirit, make us to live as Your children, freed from fear and rooted in Christ, that the seed of the Gospel may take deep root in our hearts and bear fruit that endures. Bring to completion the work You have begun in us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** 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.
- 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 - "Go Light Your World"

- 1 There is a candle in every soul
 Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
 There is a Spirit who brings fire
 Ignites a candle and makes His home
- 2, 7 Carry your candle, run to the darkness
 Seek out the hopeless, confused, and torn
 Hold out your candle for all to see it
 Take your candle, and go light your world
 Take your candle, and go light your world
- 3 Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to
 Light his own candle some other way
 See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to
 Still holds a candle without a flame
- 4 Carry your candle, run to the darkness
 Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn
 Hold out your candle for all to see it
 Take your candle, and go light your world
 Take your candle, and go light your world

- (Chris Rice, Used by permission CCLI #288089)

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD