



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



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

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, September 24, 2023 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music
Shelby Bruckerhoff, Director of Early Learning Center*

SEVENTEENTH 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

When Paul wrote to his co-worker Timothy that he was “bound with chains as a criminal” (2 Timothy 2:9), he knew well the situation he was in. Acts 16 relates the time that he was thrown in jail in Philippi without benefit of a trial. He was later jailed in Jerusalem and then Caesarea and finally at Rome, where he was under a type of house arrest for two years. The final chapter of Acts finds Paul as a captive one more time, accepting this imprisonment as a prelude to his death. He writes to Timothy “the time of my departure has come” (2 Timothy 4:6). In the centuries since Paul gave his prison witness, countless Christian men and women have been imprisoned for their Gospel witness. We are encouraged to be faithful witnesses in our time by Paul, who writes to his young associate Timothy: “Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith” (1 Timothy 6:11–12a). Paul’s words from prison are good instruction for every situation!

IMAGE ON THE COVER

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. *Philippians 1:12–13, 21*

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 by A Joyful Sound Vocal Choir

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 67:1-5, 7

P May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us,

C that Your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations.

P Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

C Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

P Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

C God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins and hear the words of absolution that assure us of God's forgiveness. The section on "Confession" in the Small Catechism written by Dr. Martin Luther instructs and directs us with these words:

C Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

P Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C **Amen.**

P 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 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely and may your lives reflect His forgiveness. Be at peace!

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our strength and support in all situations, grant us the power and presence of Your Holy Spirit that we may be strong and steadfast in all situations, joyfully witnessing to the power of Your love and continually learning of You in every season; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and rules with the Father 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

OPENING SONG - "Starry Night"

- 1 From the birds that sing in the tallest trees
To the human life of you and me
From the desert sands to the place we stand
He is God of all, He is everything
- 2, 4 Oh, I'm giving my life to the only One
Who makes the moon reflect the sun
Every starry night, that was His design
I'm giving my life to the only Son
Who was and is and yet to come
Let the praises ring 'cause He is everything
'Cause He is everything
- 3 From the autumn leaves that will ride the breeze
To the faith it takes to pray and sing
From the faded sky to my plank-filled eye
He is God of all, He is everything
- 5 Hallelujah, hallelujah I believe
Hallelujah, hallelujah I believe
- 6 I'm giving my life to the only One
Who makes the moon reflect the sun
On that starry night He changed my life
I'm giving it all to the only Son
Who gave me hope when I had none
Let the praises ring, let the praises ring
- 7 I'm giving my life to the only One
Who makes the moon reflect the sun
Every starry night, that was His design
I'm giving my life to the only Son
Who was and is and yet to come
Let the angels sing, He is heavenly
Let the praises ring, He is everything

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

(The prophet encourages God's people.)

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 27:1-9; antiphon: v. 4a

L ⁴One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:

C that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,

L ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

C The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

L ²When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,

C my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.

- L** ³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
C **though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.**
- L** ⁴One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
C **that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.**
- L** ⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
C **he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.**
- L** ⁶And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
C **I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**
- L** ⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
C **be gracious to me and answer me!**
- L** ⁸You have said, "Seek my face."
C **My heart says to you,
"Your face, LORD, do I seek."**
- L** ⁹Hide not your face from me,
Turn not your servant away in anger
C **O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!**

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 ⁴One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:

C that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

(Paul writes that to live is Christ.)

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Matthew 13:35b

P Alleluia. By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing;

C it is the gift of God. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

(The parable of the laborers in the vineyard.)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹*[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius.*

¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

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. **A basket** is available in the narthex as you exit.

2. Please **send** your offerings to

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

4801 Anderson Avenue

Manhattan, KS 66503

3. Give through our **website**:

<https://stlukesmanhattan.org/about-us/financial-support/>

Electronic Funds Transfer - Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Matthew 20:9 – “And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.” Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God's being is His generosity.

OFFERTORY - "Come, Thou Almighty King" Daniel 7:22

- 1 Come, Thou almighty King, help us Thy name to sing
 Help us to praise
 Father all-glorious, o'er all victorious
 Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days
- 2 Come, Thou incarnate Word, gird on Thy mighty sword
 Our prayer attend
 Come, and Thy people bless, and give Thy Word success
 Spirit of holiness on us descend
- 3 Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
 In this glad hour
 Thou, who almighty art, now rule in every heart
 And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power
- 4 To Thee, great One in Three eternal praises be
 Hence evermore
 Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see
 And to eternity love and adore

(Felice De Giardini, arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

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.

O Lord, grant that we would rejoice in the light of Christ and His salvation, and that sinners would find refuge in His mercy and comfort in His forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, embolden our congregation and all sister churches throughout the world to confess the truth steadfastly and to witness boldly to our only Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, we give You humble thanks for instituting the estate of holy marriage and for the blessing of family. Grant that these gifts would be cherished and honored in our society and especially within the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty Lord, bless this nation and all people in their rightful callings. Grant that we may serve our neighbors in love, and that all authorities would exercise their callings with humility and wisdom on behalf of the defenseless. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Loving God, we thank You for the gift of health. Hear our prayers on behalf of the sick, the aged, the infirm, the mourning or the dying [*especially* _____]. Grant them healing in accord with Your will and grace to sustain them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, we thank You for the witness of the faithful who lived and died in Christ. Grant that at the last we, too, may be joined with them in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, grant that, in Christ, we may seek You while You may be found and call upon You while You are near, forsaking all wicked ways and unrighteous thoughts. 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 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.

O God, who gave Your Holy Spirit to the apostles, grant us that same Spirit that we may live in faith and abide in peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 - "Great and Mighty is He" Psalm 48:1

(x denotes clap)

1, 3, 5 Great and mighty is He (xxx) Great and mighty is He (xxx)
Clothed in glory, arrayed in splendor, great and mighty is He (xxx)
Great and mighty is He (xxx) Great and mighty is He (xxx)
Clothed in glory, arrayed in splendor, great and mighty is He (xxx)

2, 4 Let us lift His name up high, celebrate His grace
For He has redeemed our lives and He reigns on high

6 Great and mighty is He (xxx) Great and mighty is He (xxx)
Clothed in glory, arrayed in splendor
Great and mighty is, great and mighty is, great and mighty is He

(Todd Pettygove ©1987 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI #288089)

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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