



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.

March 23, 2025 – 11:00 AM

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

(Series C)

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

A main emphasis of our Lenten discipline is our struggle against temptations to sin and toward true repentance that leads to living faithful Christian lives. As our physical well-being depends in part on healthy choices of diet, in today's Readings God uses the metaphor of eating and drinking to warn and encourage His people to avoid the temptations of the world and our own sin that leads us away from God and to rely constantly on the forgiveness and faith that God provides to enable us to lead godly lives. In the Epistle, Paul has in mind how God provides for us in His Word and Sacraments. We are to remember not only that we *were* baptized but that we *are* baptized, meaning God still provides us with saving, bold faith that relies on His mercy and grace because we belong to Him now. The center of the Divine Service is the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, through which we are given forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation—all the benefits won for us by the cross and sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf. Today we are encouraged to receive and rely on God's gifts and provision constantly, that we may maintain a healthy and strong faith in the face of all adversities and challenges.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

"Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." And He told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'" *Luke 13:5–9*

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 – A Joyful Sound “Child of God”

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 85:4, 7

P Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

C and put away Your indignation toward us!

P Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,

C and grant us Your salvation.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P God has made us His people by our Baptism into Christ. He graciously provides us with all we need to live in true faith, confidence, and hope. Let us present ourselves before Him, confessing our sins and need for His mercy, and receive His promised help.

C Almighty God, our Father in heaven, we come to You seeking Your forgiveness and the strengthening of our faith that we may live and serve You faithfully. We confess all our sins against You and against those whom we have hurt or failed to help. Even our very thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. In true sorrow, we ask for Your grace, Your forgiveness, and that You strengthen our faith, all for the sake and in the praise of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful.” Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P Lord, have mercy,

C Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, You have made each of us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, and You daily feed us with Your mercy and grace by Your Word. Help us, we pray, in the face of all trials and temptations to go our own way, to grow stronger in our faith in You and our love for one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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 - "I Waited for the Lord" Psalm 40:1-6

1, 4, I waited for the Lord on high
8, 10 I waited and He heard my cry

2, 6, 9 There's a new song in my heart to sing
 A new song, praises for the King

3, 7 He pulled me out of my despair
 And showed me where to walk
 From fear into security
 From quicksand to a rock

5 I'll sing to let the people know
 That I have been restored
 And they will kneel and understand
 To return and trust in the Lord

(Bill Batstone ©1982, arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music All Rights Reserved.
International Copyright Secured, used by permission CCLI #288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-20

(Ezekiel is Israel's watchman.)

⁷"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰"And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: 'Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?' ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 85; antiphon: v. 8

L ⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;

C but let them not turn back to folly.

L ¹LORD, you were favorable to your land;

C you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

L ²You forgave the iniquity of your people;

C you covered all their sin.

L ³You withdrew all your wrath;

C you turned from your hot anger.

L ⁴Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
C and put away your indignation toward us!

L ⁵Will you be angry with us forever?
C Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

L ⁶Will you not revive us again,
C that your people may rejoice in you?

L ⁷Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
C and grant us your salvation.

L ⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
C but let them not turn back to folly.

L ⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
C that glory may dwell in our land.

L ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
C righteousness and peace kiss each other .

L ¹¹Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
C and righteousness looks down from the sky.

L ¹²Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
C and our land will yield its increase.

L ¹³Righteousness will go before him
C and make his footsteps a way.

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 ⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
C **but let them not turn back to folly.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

(Warning against idolatry.)

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. ¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

Stand

VERSE

2 Peter 3:9b, c

P The Lord is patient toward you,
C **not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

(Repent or perish.)

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

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

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, *“Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”*

⁶And he told this parable: *“A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”*

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: Luke 13:3 – “No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” The season of Lent is all about repentance: turning back to the Lord, away from our sins, in faith. We know that it is only in the Lord that we can find salvation. So, we do well in this season of repentance to examine ourselves, asking questions like, “What is trying to keep me away from Jesus?” “What is a temptation I face?” What is a sin I need to repent of and leave behind?” Then we turn to the Lord for the strength to leave these sins behind, and for the courage to follow Him in faith and faithful living.

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)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who are sick, [*especially . . . and*], all who are injured or suffer in body or soul, that God grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and trust, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; 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 – "You are Everything"

- 1 I'm the one with two left feet
 Standing on a lonely street
 I can't even walk a straight line
 And every time you look at me
 I'm spinning like an autumn leaf
 Bound to hit bottom sometime
- 2, 5 Where would I be without someone to save me
 Someone who won't let me fall
- 3, 6, 8 You are everything that I live for
 Everything that I can't believe is happening
 You're standing right in front of me
 With arms wide open all I know is
 Every day is filled with hope
 'Cause You are everything that I believe for
 And I can't help but breathe You in
 Breathe again feeling all this life within
 Every single beat of my heart
- 4 I'm the one with big mistakes
 Big regrets and bigger breaks
 Than I ever care to confess
 You're the one who looks at me
 And sees what I was meant to be
 More than just a beautiful mess

7 You're everything good in my life
 Everything honest and true
 And all of those stars hanging up in the sky
 Could never shine brighter than You

9 You are, You are
 Jesus, You are
 You are everything

(Used by permission CCLI #288089)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Publishing House.

