



## **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, January 4, 2026 – 11:00 AM**

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

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
(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**

What great faith Solomon must have had! He could have asked for so much but chose a listening heart. Even the phrase itself is difficult to translate, but the point is that it relies totally on what God will say and do. Mary and Joseph were likewise confounded when Jesus did what He needed to do by staying in the temple. Fortunately, the grace of God is overwhelming, beyond what we can understand. As Paul writes in the Epistle, we are only on the receiving end, as God has adopted us as fellow children with Jesus “according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved” (Ephesians 1:5–6). Are our hearts listening?

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. *Luke 2:46–47*

## **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 – “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Matthew 2: 2**

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels
- 2, 4 O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him  
6 O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above  
Glory to God, glory in the highest
- 5 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing  
(Latin Hymn, Music by John Francis Wade arr. ©1997 Maranatha 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.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**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.

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

**P** Lord, have mercy,

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

**C** Grant that, with Your help, we may live holy and blameless lives as Your sons and daughters;

**P** 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

**C** 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 – “We Three Kings”

- 1     We three kings of Orient are  
      Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
      Field and fountain, moor and mountain  
      Following yonder star
- 2, 4   O star of wonder, star of night  
6     Star with royal beauty bright  
      Westward leading, still proceeding  
      Guide us to Thy perfect Light
- 3     Born a king on Bethlehem's plain  
      Gold I bring to crown Him again  
      King forever, ceasing never  
      Over us all to reign
- 5     Glorious now behold Him arise  
      King and God and Sacrifice  
      Alleluia, alleluia  
      Heaven to earth replies

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*1 Kings 3:4-15*

*(Solomon asks for an understanding mind, a listening heart.)*

<sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day.

<sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

<sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a*

**P** To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

**C** and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

**P** And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

**C** Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**P** Sing to the Lord a new song,

**C** for he has done marvelous things!

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

*(Paul tries to explain the overwhelming grace of God and our response to it.)*

- L** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved.
- C** **In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,**
- L** according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.
- C** **In Him we have obtained an inheritance,**
- L** having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.
- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*



## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Luke 2:40

**P** Alleluia. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.

**C** And the favor of God was upon Him. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

*(The boy Jesus is found in the temple.)*

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

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

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

<sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, *"Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"* <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

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

## 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 2:49 – “And he said to them, ‘Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?’” What a privilege the Lord has given to us by calling us to come to His house! It is not a burden but rather an honor and a blessing for us to always be able to come to a place where we know God is present for us in His gifts of Word and Sacrament. Likewise, the Lord has honored us by allowing us to support the work of His house with our tithes and offerings.

## OFFERTORY – “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

God rest ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our savior was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from satan's power when we were gone astray  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy

From God our heavenly Father this blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

*Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed be You, O God our Father, for in Your great wisdom, mercy, and love You have chosen us to be Your own children by faith in Christ. Grant to Your whole church Your light, love, and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Give wisdom, O God, to all preachers of Your Word, to all pastors and leaders in Your church, wherever they may be, that they may rightly divide Your Word, proclaim it with power, and administer Your Holy Sacraments according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Let Your Holy Spirit seek out and reveal Your salvation for those who hear and believe Your saving Gospel. Cast away all doubt and strengthen the faith of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

- P** Give peace among the nations, O Lord, that Your Word may not be bound but be proclaimed freely and boldly to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Bring Your healing and comfort to all who are sick or injured or in any need, [*especially . . .*]. Give confidence in suffering and thankful hearts for Your every blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let the body and blood of Your Son strengthen faith and grant the wisdom that comes down from above, that all who commune may be one in confession and faith. 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, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### 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 unto the Lord, our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## **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.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**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.

## **LAMB OF GOD SONG**

### **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.*

## DISTRIBUTION SONGS

### “As We Seek Your Face” Psalm 27:4

1, 2 As we seek Your face, may we know Your heart  
Feel Your presence, acceptance, as we seek Your face  
At Your feet we fall, sov'reign Lord  
We cry holy, holy, at Your feet we fall

3 As we seek Your face, may we know Your heart  
Feel Your presence, acceptance, as we seek Your face  
Feel Your presence, acceptance, as we seek Your face

(Dave Bilbrough ©1990, arr. ©1997 Kingsway's Thankyou Music & Dave Bilbrough Music CCLI  
#288089)

### “We Are the Reason”

1 As little children we would dream of Christmas morn  
And all the gifts and toys we knew we'd find  
But we never realized a baby born one blessed night  
Gave us the greatest gift of our lives

2, 4, 6 We are the reason that He gave His life  
We are the reason that He suffered and died  
To a world that was lost He gave all He could give  
To show us a reason to live

3 As the years went by we learned more about gifts  
And giving of ourselves and what that means  
On a dark and cloudy day a man hung crying in the rain  
Because of love, because of love

5 I finally found a reason for living  
It's in giving every part of my heart to Him  
In all that I do, every word that I say  
I'll be giving my heart just for Him, for Him

7 He is my reason to live

(David Meece ©1986 World Inc.)

*Stand*

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward 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.

## 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 Tell It on the Mountain”**

1, 3, 5      Go, tell it on the mountain  
7, 8      Over the hills and everywhere  
             Go, tell it on the mountain  
             That Jesus Christ is born

2            While shepherds kept their watching  
             O'er silent flocks by night  
             Behold throughout the heavens  
             There shone a holy light

4            The shepherds feared and trembled  
             When lo above the earth  
             Rang out the angel chorus  
             That hailed our Savior's birth

6            Down in the lowly manger  
             Our humble Christ was born  
             And God sent us salvation  
             That blessed Christmas morn

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Holy Baptism from Lutheran Service Book

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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