



**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.

January 25, 2026 – 11:00 AM

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

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

(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 Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and “the shadow of death” (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah’s prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live “in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali” (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God’s voice directly saying, “Follow me”? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that’s no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, “Repent” and “Follow Me,” even in the ordinary details of life.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned. *Matthew 4:16*

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

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

Psalm 22:22

P Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.

C **Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.**

P Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You.”

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

P Now, let us follow Him!

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P Lord, have mercy,

C Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord God, You call each and every sinner to awaken to their need to turn to You for deliverance from the ravages of suffering, sickness, and sinful separation from You. By Your powerful Word, draw us by Your grace and mercy to a living faith in Your salvation, Your help, and Your purpose for us, that we may live daily trusting in Your guidance and love; 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 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 - “Because He Lives (Amen)”

- 1 I believe in the Son
I believe in the risen One
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood
- 2, 4, 6, 7 Amen, Amen
I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives
Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
(only 2 & 7) Because He lives
- 3 I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away
- 5 Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives every fear is gone
I know He holds my life, my future in His hands
- 8 Because He lives

OLD TESTAMENT READING

(The light of God's reign breaks into the world.)

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 22:1-9

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, 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.

EPISTLE

(*Divisions in the church.*)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Matthew 4:17

P Alleluia. From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
C "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Alleluia.

*(Jesus begins calling the first disciples.)***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee.

¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, *“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

¹⁹And he said to them, *“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*

²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

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: **Matthew 4:20** – “Immediately they left their nets and followed him.” Discipleship cost Peter and Andrew everything they had. They left their trade, their hometown, their families, and they followed Jesus. God has called us to the same discipleship, the same devotion, though the exact details of how that is lived out will vary. The important thing is this: we know that all we have is the Lord’s, to be used for His purpose. We are His disciples and are ready to follow where He leads.

OFFERTORY – “Lord, I’m in Your Hands” John 10:28

1, 4, 7 Lord, I’m in Your hands, Lord, I’m in Your heart
In Your thoughts, in Your plans
Never on my own

2, 5 Lord, I’m in Your hands, Lord, I’m in Your heart
In Your thoughts, in Your plans
Never left alone

3, 6 And when the darkness closes in and fear begins to rise
Help me to remember You’re always by my side

8 In Your thoughts, in Your plans
Never left alone

(Tim Weeks ©1994, 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, You gather us by the work of Your Spirit and dwell in our midst by Your Means of Grace for the sake of Your Son. Open our mouths to tell of Your name and declare Your praises to all who will hear. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Lord, graciously allow Your Church to enjoy unity of doctrine and a spirit of harmony in the work that You have given her to do. Prosper this work, and supply us with faithful pastors and church workers. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son as the Savior of the world, that all the families of the nations might worship before You. Bless the families of this congregation with Your grace and protection, that they might remember You in both joy and trouble and worship before You forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, grant peace to the nations. Give good and faithful leaders in our land. Grant them wisdom and integrity for the good of all people, that justice may be served in every place and for the protection of the unborn and the weak. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy Lord, Your Son welcomed the sick, the afflicted and those oppressed by demons, and He healed them. Have mercy upon all whom we bring before You in prayer, [especially _____] and deliver them according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, be present with the lonely. Work through us, that they may find welcome and consolation within the fellowship of God's people. Grant that those who sorrow may not despair but find hope in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, You raised Your Son, Jesus, from the dead as the firstfruits of the new creation. In reverence, we glorify Your name for the hope and promise of the resurrection. We give You thanks and praise for all those who have departed from this mortal life in faith. Preserve us also in Your Word and faith until we die. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God 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.

Lord God, heavenly Father, You sent Your Son as the great Light for those who dwell in darkness, calling all people to repentance and gathering disciples by His gracious Word. Grant that we may walk in His light, live in the unity of His Gospel, and proclaim that Your kingdom is near. 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 – “Hallelujah, Your Love is Amazing”

- 1 Your love is amazing, steady, and unchanging
Your love is a mountain firm beneath my feet
Your love is a mystery, how You gently lift me
When I am surrounded Your love carries me

- 2, 4 Your love is surprising; I can feel it rising
All the joy that's growing deep inside of me
Every time I see You all Your goodness shines through
I can feel this God-song rising up in me

- 3, 5, 6, 7 Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, Your love makes me sing
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, Your love makes me sing
(Phillips, Craig, & Dean ©Daywind Inc. Contemporary Series)

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Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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