

ST. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

First Sunday after Christmas

December 30th & 31st, 2023

The Season

The world is starving for good news. And that is exactly what we get at Christmas. The angel told the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10). The angel reported a fact—the birth of One who would make everything right again. This child would remove all our fears and fill our hearts with joy.

The Sunday

Because of what Christ did as our Savior, there is no hostility between us and God, only peace and love. We have the peace of salvation in our hearts. As we draw near the end of life, like elderly Simeon or Anna, we have the peace of knowing of the glorious eternal life that is to come. As this peace with God fills our hearts, it moves us to live in peace with each other too.

The Service

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar in which we joyfully receive Christ's body and blood, in, with, and under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate the Sacrament we also give public confession of our complete unity in the Christian faith. We invite communicant members of St. Lucas Lutheran Church, or of another congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) to commune. If you are a guest visiting with us today, please refrain from communing until you have spoken with our pastor. The congregation reads the potions in bold print.

Prayer before Worship

Lord Jesus, you have invited me to come and receive your holy Sacrament. I believe that in the bread and wine you give me your true body and blood to eat and drink. Forgive my sins and nourish my faith through this precious meal. I long for the comfort that comes with your promises; I yearn for the assurance of your faithful love. Bless me now as I receive you by faith.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister:Pastor Timothy HenningOrganist:Coralee HenningUshers:David Butzke (6 pm Saturday)Kevin Kempf (8 am Sunday)Johnathan Koch (10:30 am Sunday)

Let All Together Praise Our God CW 355 Stand for the 6th stanza 1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be fore his 2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa ther's throne. is born an veils flesh 3 He in his pow'r di vine а ser - vant's He un - der - takes 4 а great ex - change, puts on our throne; high - est to day he o - pens heav'n a gain and in - fant small. and in а man - ger, poor and lone, lies form to take. in want and low - li ness must pine who realm, his hu - man frame. and in re - turn gives us his gives his own Son, and gives his Son. us us own in а hum - ble stall. lies in а hum - ble stall. heav'n and earth did make. who heav'n and earth did make. glo - ry, and his name, his glo - ry, and his name. He serves that I a lord may be— For us he opens wide the door 6 5 a great exchange indeed! of paradise today. Could Jesus' love do more for me The angel guards the gate no more; to help me in my need, to God our thanks we pay, to help me in my need? to God our thanks we pay.

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; (sts. 1–3, 5–6): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.; (st. 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, st. 4 Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

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In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Dialogue

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us. Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. **My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

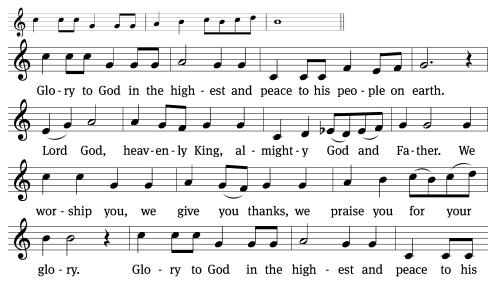
When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest!

Glory to God in the Highest





Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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The Word

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

1 Kings 8:6–13 King Solomon dedicates the temple, a place where the glory of the LORD would be revealed as the peace of salvation was proclaimed.

⁶The priests then brought the ark of the LORD's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim. ⁷The cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark and overshadowed the ark and its carrying poles. ⁸These poles were so long that their ends could be seen from the Holy Place in front of the inner sanctuary, but not from outside the Holy Place; and they are still there today. ⁹There was nothing in the ark except the two stone tablets that Moses had placed in it at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites after they came out of Egypt.

¹⁰When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the LORD. ¹¹And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled his temple.

¹²Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud; ¹³I have indeed built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Will Give Thanks to the LORD Psalm 111B Sung responsively between Pastor & congregation Refrain Al-le-lu-ia! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart. Tone Θ O Great are the works / of the LORD: they are pondered by all who de- / light in them. Glorious and majestic / are his deeds, and his righteousness endures for- / ever. Refrain He has caused his wonders to be re- / membered: the LORD is gracious and com- / passionate. He provided redemption for his / people; holy and awesome / is his name. Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Text: Book of Common Prayer, 1979 Tune: David Cherwien Setting: David Cherwien Music: © 1989 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 130003205

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12–17

As the peace of Christ rules our hearts, we are moved to live in peace.

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 2:30,31

Alleluia! For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:22–40 God allows elderly Simeon and Anna to see their Savior with their own eyes. This fills them with

²²When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,

you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,

and the glory of your people Israel."

³³The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and

praying. ³⁸Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated



Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Tune: Public domain

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Move Forward in the Peace Jesus Brings

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

With all our hearts and with all our minds, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of our synod and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our president, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this (*city, town, village*), for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth that God has given us and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air (or through outer space), let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

[For... *here name the person and the cause of the petition*, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**]

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, by your grace. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our lives to Christ our God. **Amen.**

Offering God's people offer their first and best to the Lord in response to the Lord's blessings to them. The offering is gathered in a basket in the church entrance before or after the service. If you prefer to give electronically, you may scan this graphic to access www.stlucaswels.org/donate.



The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

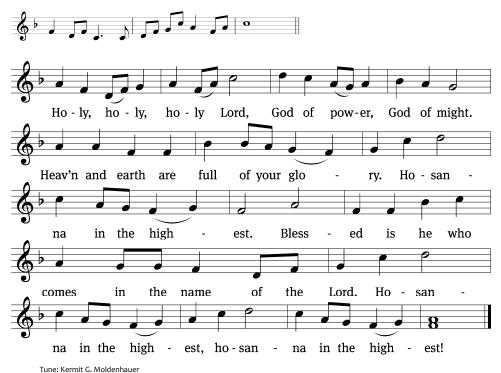
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

O Christ, Lamb of God



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Be seated

Distribution



Text: attr. Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628.

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go + in peace.

Amen.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

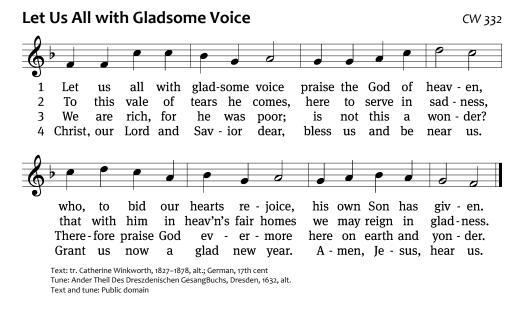
Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**



Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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Announcements

New Bible Study Topic in the New Year: Starting Sunday, January 7, we will discuss the topic "Burden Bearing." Paul wrote, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). The Burden Bearing Bible study provides encouragement, instruction, and practical examples to help Christians bear one another's burdens. On December 3 we will conclude the study of the Letter of James. December 10 & 17 we will discuss different aspects of the Advent season.

KML Job Opening: KML is looking to fill the position of *Study Hall/Commons Supervisor*. Duties include monitoring students, maintaining an atmosphere conducive to study, issuing student passes as needed, collecting and entering lunch deposits, and depositing money with the fiscal office. Additionally, the person in this position will compile and disseminate school-wide morning announcements.

This is a part-time seasonal position of approximately 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM, Monday – Friday, yearly from August through May (during the school year). Proposed start date for this job opening: January 2024. Hourly pay is based on experience. This position does not include benefits.

Please submit questions and resumes **on or before January 15, 2024**, to Mrs. Melanie Schoeneck (262.677.4051 x4018; <u>melanie.schoeneck@kmlhs.org</u>).

Frozen Jr.: Mrs. Luba Rohrback and Redeemer Lutheran Church are providing theatre opportunities for any KML Federation students (grades 4th-9th) that are interested in being a part of Frozen Jr! Rehearsals are held at Redeemer Lutheran Church and KMLHS. Public performances will be held in KML's Performing Arts Center on Thursday, June 20th @7pm, Friday, June 21st @7pm, Saturday, June 22nd @1pm/7pm, and Sunday, June 23 @1pm.

- Auditions are March 3rd 12:00-3:00pm, March 5th 5:30-8:00pm, callbacks March 10th, 4:00-6:00pm;
- Sign up link: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoA4DA8AA29AoF58-46737857-auditions</u>
- The theatre group is also looking for kids who would like to be a part of the stage crew.

Please see the flyer for more information and contact Mrs. Rohrback at <u>lyubocka@gmail.com</u> with any questions.

Celebrating God's Blessings This Week:

BIRTHDAYS

Emmett Homuth – 1/1 Codie Kreif – 1/1 Jeremy Kreif – 1/1 Kristie Kreif – 1/1 Vicki Kerif – 1/1 Samuel Rudzitis – 1/1 Wren Becht – 1/3 Eugene Ebert – 1/4 Derek Schulz – ¼ Patrick Marquardt – 1/5

CALENDAR

Readings for December 31st - January 7th



Contact Information

Pastor Timothy Henning

(262) 707-6984 - thenning@stlucaswels.org

Principal Mark Hesse

(920) 915-1130 - mhesse@stlucaswels.org

School/Church Office

(262) 626-2680 - church@stlucaswels.org

St. Lucas Lutheran Church strives to be a congregation that is always inviting, always edifying, and always equipping. <u>www.stlucaswels.org</u>