

Welcome! We are happy to share God’s peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

- Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Large Print Hymnal Binders are available on the tract desk for those with vision difficulties.

Please note: the Sunday service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube.

www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar

Setting 2, pg. 172

486 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

CW 486

1 “Wake, awake, for night is flying,”
 the watchmen on the heights are crying;
 “awake, Jerusalem, arise!”
 Midnight hears the welcome voices
 and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
 “Oh, where are all you virgins wise?
 The Bridegroom comes, awake!”

Your lamps with gladness take!

Alleluia!

With bridal care

yourselves prepare

to meet the Bridegroom, who is near.”

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
and all her heart with joy is springing;
she wakes, she rises from her gloom.

For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
the strong in grace, in truth victorious;
her star is ris'n, her light is come.

Now come, O Blessèd One,
Christ Jesus, God's own Son.

Hail! Hosanna!

We enter all
the marriage hall
to eat the Supper at your call.

3 Now let all the heav'ns adore you,
let saints and angels sing before you
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.

Of one pearl each shining portal,

where, dwelling with the choir immortal,
 we gather round your radiant throne.
 No vision ever brought,
 no ear has ever caught
 such great glory;
 therefore will we
 in victory
 sing hymns of praise eternally.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Text: Public domain

(Stand)

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the
 Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
 whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count
 against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**We have followed what we have devised and
desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your
holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not
have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we
should have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

Refrain: **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen.

Refrain

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your

Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; 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

Isaiah 51:4–6

⁴Pay attention to me, O my people.

My nation, listen to me!

For the law will go out from me,

and I will establish my justice as a light to the peoples.

⁵My righteousness is near.

My salvation goes forth,

and my arms will bring justice to the peoples.

The seacoasts will wait for me.

They will have confidence in my arm.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens.

Look closely at the earth beneath,

because the heavens will vanish like smoke,

and the earth will wear out like a garment,
 and its inhabitants will die like gnats.
 But my salvation will remain forever,
 and my righteousness will never be abolished.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

95 The Rock of Our Salvation

Psalm 95

Refrain

Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Come, let us sing for joy / to the LORD;

let us shout aloud to the rock of our sal- / vation.

Let us come before him with thanks- / giving

and extol him with mu- / sic and song.

For the LORD is the / great God,

the great King a- / bove all gods.

In his hand are the depths / of the earth,

and the mountain peaks be- / long to him.

The sea is his, for he / made it,

and his hands formed the / dry land. *Refrain*

Come, let us bow down in / worship,
 let us kneel before the LORD our / maker;
 for he is our God and we are the people of his / pasture,
 the flock under / his care.

Today, if only you would / hear his voice,

“Do not hard- / en your hearts
 as you did at / Meribah,

as you did that day at Massah in the / wilderness.”

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

Second Reading

Jude 20–25

²⁰But you, dear friends, continue to build yourselves up in your most holy faith as you keep praying in the Holy Spirit. ²¹Keep yourselves in God's love as you continue to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, which results in eternal life. ²²Show mercy to those who are wavering. ²³Save others by snatching them out of the

fire. Show mercy to still others with fear, hating even the clothing that is stained by the flesh.

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you faultless in the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, be glory, majesty, power, and authority through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all time, now, and to all eternity. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 24:42



Gospel*Mark 13:26–37*

²⁶Then you will see the Son of Man coming on clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷At that time he will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of the sky.

²⁸“Learn from this illustration of the fig tree: Whenever its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also when you see these things happening, you will know that he is near—at the doors! ³⁰Amen I tell you: This generation will certainly not pass away until all these things happen. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³²“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. ³⁵Therefore

keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. ³⁶If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

488 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

CW 488

1 The day is surely drawing near
when Jesus, God’s anointed,
shall with great majesty appear
as judge of all appointed.

All mirth and laughter then shall cease
when flames on flames will still increase,
as Scripture truly teaches.

2 A trumpet loud shall then resound
and all the earth be shaken.

Then all who in their graves are found
shall from their sleep awaken
and with the living in that hour,
by God's almighty, boundless pow'r,
be changed at his commanding.

3 A book is opened then to all,
a record truly telling
what each has done, both great and small,
when they on earth were dwelling,
and ev'ry heart be clearly seen,
and all be known as they have been
in thoughts and words and actions.

4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord
and sought but carnal pleasures,
who here despised his precious Word
and loved their earthly treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand
and at the judge's stern command
to Satan be delivered.

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
and for my sin was smitten;

within the Book of Life I know
my name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
and Satan cannot threaten me;
there is no condemnation!

Text: tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.; Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–1599, abr.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

(Stand)

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

**From there 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.**

(Be seated)

Prayer of the Church

Offering

813 He Will Hold Me Fast

CW 813

Choir Will Sing Verses 1 - 2

1 *When I fear my faith will fail,
 Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail,
 he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
 thro' life's fearful path,
for my love is often cold—
 he must hold me fast. (Refrain)*

**Ref He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;
for my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.**

2 *Those he saves are his delight;
 Christ will hold me fast;
precious in his holy sight,
 he will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
 his promises shall last;*

*bought by him at such a cost,
he will hold me fast. (Refrain)*

3 For my life he bled and died;
Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied;
he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life,
he will hold me fast
till our faith is turned to sight
when he comes at last! (Refrain)

Text (sts. 1–2): Matt Merker, b. 1984, alt.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2): Ada Habershon, 1861–1918; (st. 3): Matt Merker, b. 1984

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(Stand)

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

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.

Hymn

CW 488

6 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
but hasten our salvation;
we often tremble on our way
in fear and tribulation.

Your saints are waiting patiently;
 come soon, Redeemer, make us free
 from ev'ry evil. Amen.

Text: tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.; Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–1599, abr.

Text: Public domain

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MESSAGE BOARD

Common Cup: A couple of members had expressed interest in having the common cup back as an option for Holy Communion. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Arnold or email him at revmra@gmail.com.

Poinsettia Orders: Order forms can be found on the radiator by the office.

Meditations: The newest meditation book is available. It begins Dec. 1st. They will be in the office.

Calling All Bakers: Cookie Exchange!!! The cookie exchange will take place on December 8th in the fellowship hall following the morning service. Please make at least 5 dozen servings for the swap, we want to

be sure there are enough for all participants. The church will provide boxes to take home your goodies!

All-Member Contact: Callers were able to reach out to many of our members. The mission is to update everyone's contact information for our new 360 program. If you, or any of your friends or family, are not sure how up to date you are, please jot down any information (address, phone numbers, email addresses, children including birthdates, etc.) and place that information in Pat Mecham's mailbox.

Excellent Christmas Gift! \$ 12.99- Lutheran Book of Prayer is a fantastic gift for anyone. Events happen all the time, good, bad or otherwise. As Christians we look to the Lord in prayer to celebrate, to grieve, to give thanks, and much more. **Contact the church office with orders: 989-823-7923**

MLS News

Light up a Student's Life-: Information is available on the MLS Bulletin Board by the bathrooms. Please consider donating to assist these enthusiastic young Christians the financial ability to continue their education.

MLS Christmas Concert: Join us at Michigan Lutheran Seminary on **December 20 at 7 pm for our annual Christmas concert**, "Worship Christ, the Newborn King." The choirs and instrumentalists will share new and familiar carols that will surely enrich your Christmas celebration. Doors will open at 6:30, and there is no reserved seating. A freewill offering will be gathered for the music department.

HAPPENING SOON

Sunday 11/24

9:00 AM Worship Service

10:15 AM Sunday School/Bible Class

11:15 AM Choir Practice

Monday 11/25

7:00 PM Worship Service

Thursday 11/2
Service

9:00 AM Thanksgiving Day

Sunday 12/01

9:00 AM Communion

Worship Service

Monday 12/02

7:00 PM Communion

Worship Service

December Servers

December Sunday Ushers: John Solgat,
Mike Hecht, Nate Rupprecht, Grant Barnes

December Communion Elder:

December Monday Usher: Barry Mays

December Finance: Jeremy LaPratt, Nick
Hubbard

December Altar Guild: Marian Whitney
and Pat Mecham

Organist: Olivia Marker

EVENT ATTENDANCE

Sunday Service: 121, 101 Communed

Monday Service: 25, 21 Communed

STEWARDSHIP AT ST. LUKE'S

For 2024, the planned giving needed is \$7,910.00 per week to meet our ministry goals.

Last Week's Budgetary Offerings: \$4,932.00

Sunday School: \$7.00