

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.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255-258 in the hymnal.

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

www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar

Setting 2: pg. 172

382 The People Who Walked in Darkness

CW 382

The choir will sing v1-2 The congregation will sing v3-5

1 The people who walked in darkness
awaken to see a great light.

The people who dwelt in the land of the shadow
rise to a star shining bright. (Refrain)

**Ref His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty
God, Father forever, Prince of Peace.
Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God,
Father forever, Prince of Peace.**

- 2 For God has enlarged the nation
and prospered the fruit of its land.
God's people are blest with the harvest of vict'ry,
gift from a bountiful hand. (Refrain)
- 3 The yoke of despair and bondage,
the chains and the slavemaster's rod
are shattered and scattered like dust in a
windstorm
loosed by the justice of God. (Refrain)
- 4 For us now a child is given,
for all the despised and forlorn.
The rule of compassion shall rest on his shoulder.
God's own Messiah is born. (Refrain)

Please stand for the final stanza

- 5 How vast is our God's dominion!
How far truth and mercy extend.
The zeal of the Lord will accomplish its purpose:
justice shall reign without end. (Refrain)

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

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, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we too may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim

liberty to the captive; 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 8:19—9:4

¹⁹When they tell you, “Consult the mediums and the spiritists, who whisper and mutter,” shouldn't a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰To the law and to the testimony! If people do not speak according to this word, there will be no dawn for them. ²¹They will pass through the land, distressed and starving, but when this takes place and they are starving, they will be frustrated, and they will curse their king and their God. They will turn their faces upward, ²²and then they will look down to the ground, but I tell you, they will see only distress, darkness, and the gloom that brings anguish. They will be banished into thick darkness.

¹Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for the land that was in anguish. In former times, he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will cause it to be glorious, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

For those living in the land of the shadow of death,
the light has dawned.

³You have multiplied the nation. You have
increased its joy.

They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time,
like the celebration when people divide the
plunder.

⁴For you have shattered the yoke that burdened
them.

You have broken the bar on their shoulders and the
rod of their oppressor,
as you did in the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

27 O LORD, You Are My Light

Psalm 27

¹ O LORD, you are my light
and my salvation near;
then who will cause me fright
or fill my heart with fear?

While God my strength, my life sustains,
secure from fear my soul remains,
secure from fear my soul remains.

- 2 My one request has been
 and still this prayer I raise,
 that I may live within
 God's house for all my days,
 God's glorious beauty to admire,
 and in his temple to inquire,
 and in his temple to inquire.
- 3 When troubles round me swell,
 when fears and dangers throng,
 securely I will dwell
 in his pavilion strong.
 Within the shelter of God's tent
 he hides me till the storm is spent,
 he hides me till the storm is spent.
- 4 Uplifted on a rock
 above my foes around,
 amid the battle shock
 my song shall still resound.
 Then joyful off'rings I will bring;
 the LORD God's praise my heart shall sing,
 the LORD God's praise my heart shall sing.

Text (st. 1): Psalter, 1887, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Psalter, 1912, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Second Reading

1 John 2:3–11

³This is how we know that we have known him: if we keep his commands. ⁴The one who says, “I know him,”

but does not keep his commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵If anyone keeps God's word, the love of God is truly made complete in him. This is how we know that we are in him: ⁶The one who says he remains in him should walk as Jesus walked.

⁷Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one that you have had since the beginning. The old command is the message you heard. ⁸At the same time, the command I am writing is new—it is true in Jesus and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. ⁹The one who says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is still in the darkness. ¹⁰The one who loves his brother remains in the light, and nothing causes him to stumble. ¹¹The one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 9:2

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has
dawned.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 4:12–23

¹²When Jesus heard that John was put in prison, he
withdrew into Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and went to
live in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of
Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴He did this to fulfill what was
spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee
of the Gentiles,

¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great
light,

and on those dwelling in the region and the shadow
of death a light has dawned.

¹⁷From that time, Jesus began to preach: “Repent,
because the kingdom of heaven is near.”

¹⁸As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw
two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and his
brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea,

since they were fishermen. ¹⁹He said to them, “Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

²⁰They immediately left their nets and followed him. ²¹Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

904 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

CW 904

- 1 O Christ, our true and only light,
enlighten those who sit in night;
let those afar now hear your voice
and in your fold with us rejoice.
- 2 Fill with the radiance of your grace
the souls now lost in error's maze;
enlighten those whose inmost minds
some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

- 3 O gently call those gone astray
that they may find the saving way;
let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
in you find peace and heav'nly rest.
- 4 Shine on the darkened and the cold,
recall the wand'ers to your fold;
unite all those who walk apart,
confirm the weak and doubting heart,
- 5 That they with us may evermore
such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
and endless praise to you be giv'n
by all your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Matthew 4:12-23

The Word Became Flesh

I. He fulfilled the Word (12-17)

II. He sends out the Word (18-23)

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

381 The People Who in Darkness Walked

CW 381

- 1 The people who in darkness walked
have seen a glorious light;
the heav'nly dawn broke forth on those
who dwelt in death and night,
who dwelt in death and night.
- 2 To us a child of hope is born,
to us a son is giv'n,
and on his shoulders ever rests
all pow'r in earth and heav'n,
all pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- 3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
the Everlasting Lord,
the Wonderful, the Counselor,
the God by all adored,
the God by all adored.
- 4 His righteous government and pow'r
shall over all extend;
on judgment and on justice based,
his reign shall have no end,
his reign shall have no end.

5 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
and make us yours alone,
for you are with the Father and
the Spirit ever one,
the Spirit ever one.

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.**

Text: John Morison, 1749–1798, abr., alt.

Text: Public domain

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.

932 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

CW 932

1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from his dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended;
O be now extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of his teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

His grace did invite us;
his love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer his call

2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing his children of each tribe and race.

One bread that has fed us,
 one light that has led us
 unite us as one in his life that we share.
 Then may all the living
 with praise and thanksgiving
 give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

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Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Created by Christian Worship:

Our **Talents** to Our Lord

Voters' Assembly: Following the service today we will have our fourth quarter Voters' Assembly. Among the topics for discussion will be the adoption of the budget for 2026. Plan to join us!

Meditations: The newest edition of the Meditation booklet is now in. You'll find them under the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Please cross out your name as you take your booklet.

Scholarships: St. Luke's distributed scholarship monies to our students attending MLS. Piper and Phoebe Schultz, Braylin Zieroff, and Bentleigh Goss were each

awarded financial aid from St. Luke's. God bless your studies as you grow in knowledge, faith, and service

This Week at St. Luke's January 25-February 2, 2026

Today 01/25/2026 9:00 Worship Servi
 10:15 AM.....Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Sunday School
 No Bible Class
 No Choir Practice

Monday 01/26/2026 7:00 PM..... Worship Service
 Tuesday 01/27/2026 7:00 CEO Meeting
 Sunday 02/01/2026 9:00 AM.....Communion Worship
 Monday 02/02/2026 7:00 PM.....Communion Worship

Serving This Week

Elder: Paul Schultz
Organist: Olivia Marker
Ushers: Paul and Silas Schultz, Eric Korthals
Monday: David Atkins
Altar: Beth Arnold and Beth Solgat
Finance: Gabe Fall and John Korthals

Sunday Bible Study: History of the WELS

Snack Volunteers: January 25th Voter's Meeting
 February 1st Phil & Chris Pellar.....February 8th Rose Walker
 February 22nd Denniston/Marker

Our Treasures to Our Lord

Services included: January 12th and January 18th
 Budgetary Gifts: \$4,188.00
 Non-Member Gift: \$220.00 Sunday School: \$5.00

Attendance

Sunday January 18: 113 Communed: 90
 Monday January 19: 18 Communed: 13
 Bible Class: 29 Sunday School: 9
 LIGHT: January 15: 11 January 22: 15

St. Luke's Mission Statement

Our mission is to serve God by teaching and preaching his word in truth and purity, and to reach out with the gospel to our members and to our community.