

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
Second Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, January 4, 2026

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Star in the East ", arr. Susan T. Nelson. St. Luke Handbell Choir, Conductor, Kim Hawkins. ©2010 Lorenz Publishing Company.

Congregation stands

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin. Reconciling God,

C we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. + Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "O Word of God Incarnate", #514

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE S-203 (*Front of hymnal, page S-203*)

HYMN OF PRAISE "Gloria" S-204a (*Front of hymnal, page 204*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WA Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Congregation sits

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:7-14

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:12-20

L ¹² Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

C ¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

L ¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

C ¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

L ¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

C ¹⁷ **God scatters hail like breadcrumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

L ¹⁸ The Lord sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

C ¹⁹ **God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

L ²⁰ The Lord has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands

“Alleluia” S-205a (Front of hymnal, page #205a)

GOSPEL John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

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

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Congregation sits

+ SERMON +

+ THE REVEREND DR. CHRISTIAN EICHORN, PASTOR +

Silence for reflection

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY "Word of God Come Down to Earth", #510

"THE NICENE CREED" S-105 (*Front of hymnal, page #105*)

WA Let us confess the faith of the church.

C 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 with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

WA ...Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P ...through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

PEACE & SHARE THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY "Love That Cannot Separate Us", Lee Turner.

St. Luke Voice Choir. ©1976 Broadman Press.

Congregation stands

OFFERING HYMN “Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful”, #184

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of glory,
C **God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.**
Amen.

“THE GREAT THANKSGIVING” S-206 (*Front of hymnal, page #206*)

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 to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” S-207 (*Front of hymnal, page #207*)

P ...Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.
C **Amen.**
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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P **God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!**
C Thanks be to God.

Congregation sits

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE Our communion is open to all who are baptized. We will commune around the Altar.

“LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)” S-208 (*Front of hymnal, page #208*)

COMMUNION HYMNS

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”, #308
“Brightest and Best of the Stars”, #303

Congregation stands

TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

“POST COMMUNION CANTICLE”, S-113 (*Front of hymnal, page 113*)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, + bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”, #545

DISMISSAL

WA Glory to God in the highest!

C **And peace to God’s people on earth!**

WA Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

--Thank you for worshiping with us today--

The following members assisted with today's worship service with live streaming:

Altar Guild: Joyce Charity, Sara Hart | AV Team: Dan & Deb Mardis

Bulletin: Dawn Plyler ~ Cover Art: Lori Schneider | Cantor: Lori Pollard

Music: Bud Esper, Director of Church Music; Kim Hawkins, Conductor, St. Luke Handbell Choir; St. Luke Voice Choir and St. Luke Handbell Choir | Communion

Assistants: Dona Quinlan, Sara Hart | Crucifer: Emil Gnam | Eucharistic Minister: Karen Barnhart | Greeters: Florence Asmund, Lisa Severine | Lector: Karen Nelson | Ushers: Jim Drake, Dan Mardis, Bob Moore, Bob Regan | Worship Assistant: Kristen Killoran

NEW MEMBERS

Are you looking for a new church family? We'd love to help you connect with others in the church and grow in our Faith Community together. If you are thinking about joining St. Luke, please contact Pastor Eichorn at 610.393.7622 or pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org or the Church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please contact the church office to sponsor Sunday altar flowers.

Upcoming availability: January 11,18,25, 2026

PRAYER LIST JANUARY 4, 2025

Steve and Dianne Jewell, Ron Spangler, Amy Golden, Mary Margaret Saffos, Ed Tanzman, Pastor Pam Cook, Sherry Roseman, Joan Zimmermann, Dorothy Castorina, Elizabeth Harty, David Renninger, the families of Candy Brooker and Edith Wilckens.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

WELCOME VISITORS ~ We are delighted you visited St. Luke today. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship services for light refreshments and to say hello. We can't wait to meet you!

SAINT LUKE MINISTRIES

- ❖ New Hymnals ... The cost is \$35/each.
- ❖ “*I'm loving it!*” ~ Well, you guessed it! The LMM will bring back their scrumptious and delicious breakfast meal on Sunday, January 11, 8am-9:15am. The cost is \$10/per person. Menu consists of waffles and sausage, coffee, OJ, assortment of condiments, i.e. strawberry jam, etc. Make your plans to attend.
- ❖ Morning Prayer will resume Wednesday, January 7.
- ❖ Adult Sunday School will resume Sunday, January 11.
- ❖ Ministry & Talents Fair Volunteers & Attendees ~ Part 2 ~ Mark your calendars to attend Sunday, January 18, after worship service. This will include a presentation of all our fellowship groups ~ Adult Sunday School, Prayer Group, The Listening Group, Bibles & Bagels, Line Dancing, Bridge, Dominos, Knitting, German Club and The Prayer Shawl Ministry. Rounding out the Fair, we will also feature the two groups that all our members engage in ~ Lutheran Men in Mission and the Women of St. Luke. Come see the many different personal enrichment opportunities offered at St. Luke. See you there! ~*Lori Schneider*.
- ❖ Saturday, January 10, 11am ~ A Celebration of the Resurrection and Life of Edith Wilckens.

NOTE OF THANKS/THANK YOU

- ❖ On behalf of the dogs and cats of Brunswick County, thank you for your generous contributions to food. This year St. Luke donated 113 lbs. of dog food and 80 lbs. of cat food to help feed the pet population. ~*Thank you, Jeanne Nelson*.
- ❖ Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Luggage of Love project. Through your generous contributions we were able to provide approximately thirty pieces of new luggage for children and teens in foster care in Brunswick County. ~*Thank you, Ann Morris*
- ❖ The American flag has been lovingly donated by Beverly Werner in memory of her husband, William. *Thank you, Mrs. Werner!*

SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor | cell/text: 610.393.7622 | email: pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org

Kristen Killoran, Worship Assistant | **Pam Eichorn, Worship Assistant**

Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Music | stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org

Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator | main: 910.579.0107 | email: stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org

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