

THE COMMEMORATION OF SAINT LUKE

October 18, 2020

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH | 170 McMillan Road Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
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| **This bulletin accompanies the Sunday 9:00am Online worship via Facebook.** |

WELCOME

Saint James Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America welcomes you to our online worship during Ordinary Time, which we mark as the Sundays after Pentecost. This season is about growth, faith, discipleship and the Great Commission.

Today celebrates the **Commemoration of Saint Luke**, Evangelist, physician, and the one identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon. Saint Luke's commemoration day is commonly a day set aside for prayers of healing.

As the community continues to address the challenges of the COVID19 pandemic, Saint James is pleased to offer multiple opportunities for worship: in person sanctuary worship (spoken), online (music), and **Low Contact Distribution** on Sunday following in person worship which will be offered on **November 1**. We confidently trust that the Holy Spirit of God makes us one community even when we are at a distance from one another.

PARTICIPANTS

Pastor Denise M. Grant
Kurt Heyer
Sue Martin
Cheryl Losey Feder

Officiant
Minister of Music
Lector
Harp

PRELUDE

Andante from Violin Sonata No. 2

Bach/ Grandjany

Special music today is by **harpist Cheryl Losey Feder** who has earned distinction as a leading soloist, decisive orchestral player, and passionate educator. Her love of music has led to numerous international awards, and performances in six continents with ensembles such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, Detroit Symphony and Cleveland Orchestra. Previously, Ms. Feder was Principal Harp of the Sarasota Orchestra and Buffalo Philharmonic, and relocated to Michigan with her husband Abraham Feder, Assistant Principal Cello of the DSO. She enjoys teaching the harp to students of all ages in Grosse Pointe, where they are raising their 18-month old son. For more information, visit clfharp.com. **Welcome, Cheryl!**

OPENING HYMN

O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come

1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
 2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find

How can we fail to be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
 yet in our hearts we would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
 our com - mon life de - clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
 the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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INVOCATION & DIALOG

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

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, for in your wisdom you have formed us. You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

God's mercy endures forever.

You set free those who are bound. You raise up those whose courage falters. You provide for our every need.

God's mercy endures forever.

You heal the sick, lift up those cast down, and comfort all who grieve.

God's mercy endures forever.

You bring calm amidst the storms of life and light into darkness. You turn sorrow into joy, and tears into laughter.

God's mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is faithful and good.

God's mercy endures forever.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:8-13

Set in the framework of a court of law, this poem describes God calling Israel to the witness stand to testify to the fact that God alone is the true God.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

⁸Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes,
who are deaf, yet have ears!

⁹Let all the nations gather together,
and let the peoples assemble.

Who among them declared this,
and foretold to us the former things?

Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
and let them hear and say, "It is true."

¹⁰You are my witnesses, says the LORD,
and my servant whom I have chosen,

so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.

¹¹I, I am the LORD,
and besides me there is no savior.

¹²I declared and saved and proclaimed,
when there was no strange god among you;
and you are my witnesses, says the LORD.

¹³I am God, and also henceforth I am He;
there is no one who can deliver from my hand;
I work and who can hinder it?

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 124



¹If the LORD had not been | on our side,
let Isra- | el now say;
²if the LORD had not been | on our side,
when enemies rose | up against us,
³then would they have swallowed us | up alive
in their fierce | anger toward us;
⁴then would the waters have | overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone | over us;
⁵then would the | raging waters
have gone right | over us.
⁶Blessed | be the LORD
who has not given us over to be a prey | for their teeth. **Refrain**
⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare | of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we | have escaped.
⁸Our help is in the name | of the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth. **Refrain**

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SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 4:5-11

Knowing that death draws near, Paul, a prisoner in Rome, closes his letter to Timothy in a way that exemplifies how Christians face death: thankful for the grace to finish the race and trusting in the final blessing that awaits him in Christ.

⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

⁹Do your best to come to me soon, ¹⁰for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Thy Strong Word

3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976
Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
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HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53

These introductory and concluding verses of Luke's gospel provide us with the reason he is writing: so that we might know the truth about Jesus Christ who, in his suffering, death, and resurrection, fulfilled the ancient promises of God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Luke writes:] ¹Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

^{24:44}[Before he ascended, Jesus said to the disciples and their companions:] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

THE COMMEMORATION OF SAINT LUKE

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

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APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

In hope and trust, let us draw near to God to pray for all who are in need of care and healing.

a brief silence

God of compassion, your Son Jesus Christ, the great physician, made the broken whole and healed the sick. Touch our wounds, relieve our hurts, and restore to us wholeness of life.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

O God, who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the troubled heart, bring hope and courage to all who face uncertainty. Bring the assurance that you are near in whatever lies ahead. Guide those who anticipate making difficult choices about medical treatment, especially those that may involve suffering and pain.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

God of strength, heal and strengthen those who have been stricken with illness and bodily discomfort. Rescue those who have contracted COVID19 especially who struggle to recover. Bring healing to those who have or will contract the flu. Guide the medical science community to find vaccines and a cure for these disease.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Loving God, your heart overflows with compassion for your whole creation. Pour out your Spirit on all people living with terminal illness, as well as their families and loved ones. Deliver them from fear and pain and replace it with peace and comfort.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

God of compassion, you have borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Stay close beside those whose loss of memory is hard to bear. Give help in knowing that you remember us, and call us by name.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Mighty God, in Jesus Christ you deal with forces that trouble our minds and set us against ourselves. Give peace to those who are cast down, beset by anxiety, crushed by depression, torn by inner conflict, or struggling with mental illness. By your great might, drive from us the powers that shake confidence and shatter love.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove the fears that attack them; strengthen those who are engaged in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

O Lord, you reconciled the world to yourself and forgive all sin. Bring healing and wholeness to broken relationships. Create unity and common purpose to troubled families, restore fidelity and trust in struggling marriages. Reconcile neighbors, governments, churches, community organizations and any place where there is discord. Help people to see commonality instead of focusing on those things that divide us.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, source of all life and health, we give you thanks for wisdom, knowledge, and skill; for nurses, doctors, medical staff, EMTs and firefighters, and all those who have brought the gift of healing through the exercise of their vocations. Continue to work through them to bring healing in body, mind, and spirit;

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who desire our prayers. Take from them all fears and help them put their trust in you, that they may feel your strong arms around them. Touch them with your renewing love, that they may know wholeness in you and glorify your name. We pray today especially for ...

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord God, constant source of all healing, we give you thanks for the gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for the day when there will be no more pain, help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord Jesus, the healing you bring is a sign of the kingdom come near.
Hear us as we pray:

Our Father ...

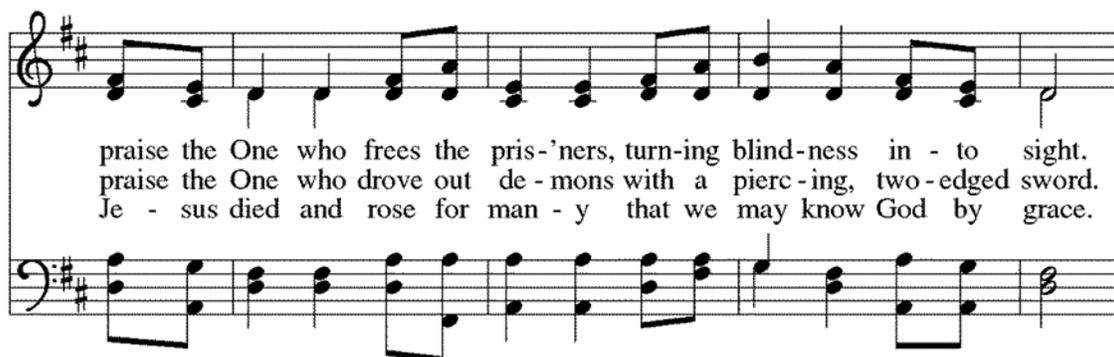
BENEDICTION

The Almighty Lord—a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and whom they obey—be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the + name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

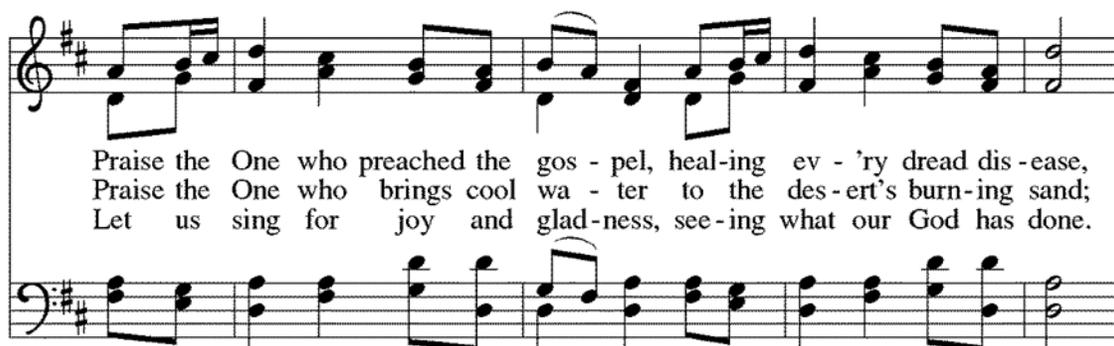
Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



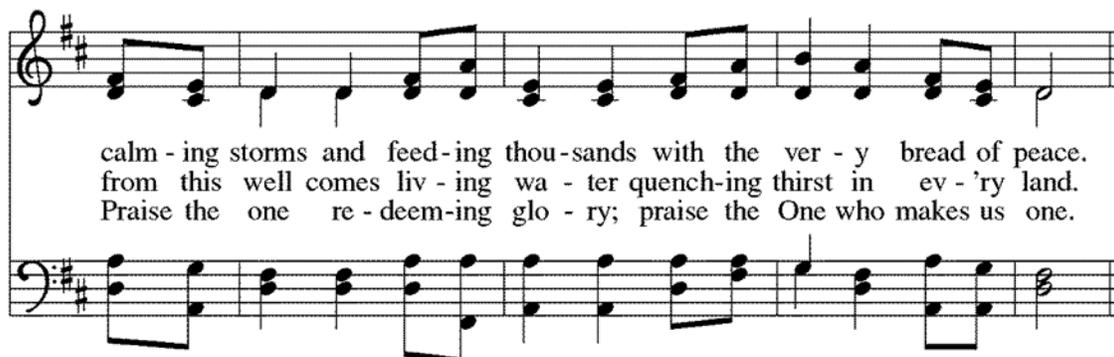
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Allegro from Concerto in B flat

Handel

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