

*St. Luke's Saxonburg*  
310 West Main Street  
724-352-2333  
*Stlks.com*

**9:30**

Sunday, December 17, 2017

**PRELUDE** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming - Mark Hayes*

**THE GATHERING**

**Welcome/Announcements/Meet and Greet**

**Invocation**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**SOLO** *Lift Up Your Eyes*

**Lift Up Your Eyes**  
Congregational part:

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur - round you;  
with ra - diant hope, il - lu - mi - nate the night.  
Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav - en ring,  
lift up your eyes and see the ev - er - last - ing light.

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## LITANY

L: In a world torn asunder by violence, Jesus says, “No more.”

C: “... a new command I give, ‘Love one another as I have loved you’.”

L: In a world where hurting people are too often neglected, Jesus says, “No more.”

C: “... a new command I give, ‘Love one another as I have loved you’.”

L: In a world where another’s needs are too often overlooked, Jesus says, “No more.”

C: “... a new command I give, ‘Love one another as I have loved you’.”

L: This morning we light three candles. In a world where darkness abounds, the light of the first candle radiates the hope of God’s unfailing promise. As we light the second candle, we long for God’s perfect peace to calm our souls and end our wars. As we light the third candle, we seek to share with others the love God has shown us through the gift of Jesus Christ.



**Offering** *Jesus, Our Emmanuel*

**Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

**Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

**We need Your presence more than we could ever tell,**

**Jesus, our Emmanuel. (repeat)**

## **Prayer and Dismissal of Children**

### **Gathering Song   *Bring Forth the Kingdom***

**You are the salt for the earth, O people;**

**Salt for the kingdom of God!**

**Share the flavor of life, O people;**

**Life in the kingdom of God!**

#### **Refrain:**

**Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,**

**bring forth the kingdom of peace:**

**Bring forth the kingdom of justice,**

**bring forth the city of God.**

**You are a light on the hill, O people;**

**Light for the city of God!**

**Shine so holy and bright, O people;**

**Shine for the kingdom of God!**

**(refrain)**

**You are a seed of the word, O people;**

**Bring for the kingdom of God!**

**Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice;**

**Grow in the kingdom of God!**

**(refrain)**

**We are a blest and a pilgrim people;**

**Bound for the kingdom of God!**

**Love our journey and love our homeland;**

**Love is the kingdom of God!**

**(refrain)**

### **Song of Praise**

***The Angel Gabriel* (ELW 265)**

## THE WORD PROCLAIMED

### Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. . . .

C: Amen.

### Response *Emmanuel*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel;**

**God with us, revealed in us; his name is called Emmanuel.**

### GOSPEL: John 1: 6-8, 19-28

L: The holy gospel according to Saint John, chapter one.

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

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No."

<sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

'Make straight the way of the Lord,' "

as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Today's readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, 1  
Thessalonians 5:16-24)*

## **Message**

**Musical Offering**      *Gabriel's Message - Todd Beaney*

### **OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**L:**      When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we  
like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

**C:**      **Then they said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great things for them."**

**L:**      The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad  
indeed. Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.

**C:**      **Then they said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great things for them."**

**L:**      Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.  
Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again  
with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**C:**      **Then they said among the nations,  
"The LORD has done great things for them."**

## **Intercessory Prayers**

**L:**      Lord, in your mercy,

**C:**      **hear our prayer.**

## **The 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**

**L:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
In the Name of the Father, the Son ✠ and Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen

**Closing Song** *Joy to the World (ELW 267)*

### **Dismissal**

**L:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** *Joy to the World - Marth Sherrill Kelsey*

**PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK:** (*Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2: 11-14, Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]*)

## **WELCOME!**

*Please complete the pew card before you leave worship this day.*

*Pastor Keller would be happy to visit with you at the time and place of your choosing to answer questions about membership.*

*Simply call the church office at 724-352-2333 to make an appointment.*

### Attendance on Sunday, December 10, 2017

8:15	41	St. Luke's Lutheran Church
9:30	15	310 West Main Street
10:45	54	Saxonburg, PA 16056
Nursery	3	724-352-2333
Total	113	<a href="mailto:stlukechurch@consolidated.net">stlukechurch@consolidated.net</a>

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### **Worship Servers**

**Greeter**

**Usher**

**Praise Team**

**Jodi Volchko**

**Mike Begeman**

**Chris Savannah**

**Marilyn Merbach**

**Jean Yohe**

**Jeannine Sanford**

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