

† Epiphany VII †

“The Light Is Upon Us”



“The Narrow Way”

Luke 12:41—13:35

✠ The Divine Liturgy ✠

“Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus”
Saint Luke Lutheran Church | February 20, 2022

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

Processional Song ✠ *LSB 932 “Jesus Sat With His Disciples”*

- ♫ *Jesus sat with his disciples on a mountain and he said, “Blessed are the poor and hungry, heaven’s kingdom gives them bread. Blessed are the meek and humble, all of the earth they will own. Yes, the merciful are blessed, mercy to them will be shown.”* ♫
- ♫ *“Blessed are God’s sons and daughters, making peace where there is strife. Blessed are the persecuted, who faithfully lose their life. Their reward comes from the Father, as his love comes from above—so be glad to share my suff’ring and rejoice to know my love.”* ♫
- ♫ *“Love your enemies who hurt you, turn your other cheek in trust. Speak well of those who abuse you, pray for those who hate you most. Your Father has shown you mercy, so forgiveness you must learn. What you give and do to others, you will receive in return.”* ♫
- ♫ *“Do not worry about your life, or give in to anxious fear. Do not store up for tomorrow, for it will all disappear. Your Father has you in his hands, he treasures your every hair. He will be with you through all life, everything is in his care.”* ♫

Remembering Our Baptism Journey

Father, Creator of all heaven and earth, ✠ **you save us from our selfishness and make us your children through Baptism.** ✠ Through your Son, whose example we follow, ✠ **we die to Civilization’s Way of arrogance, fear, and violence.** ✠ Through your Spirit, who dwells among us, ✠ **we are reborn in Jesus’s Way of faith, hope, and love.** ✠ We pray that you will complete this work of Baptism within us, ✠ **as we daily surrender to you and listen to your every word.**

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is present among us)

♫ *The people that in darkness sat, a glorious light will see. The light has shined on them who are, held in death’s slavery. Held in death’s slavery. ♫ For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is giv’n. And on his shoulder ever rests, all pow’r in earth and heav’n. All pow’r in earth and heav’n. ♫ (tune: LSB 412)*

Epiphany Litany

Our world that is living in darkness ✠ **has now seen a great light.**
This light has come to the nations ✠ **who all live in the shadow of death.**
Jesus has come to awaken us ✠ **to the presence of his Kingdom.**

Surrendering to the Creator

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ **we surrender our minds, bodies, and whole lives to you.**

(we make the sign of the cross, touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

We let go of control ✠ **and submit ourselves into your loving hands.** ✠ We leave behind our people-pleasing ✠ **and seek only your approval.** ✠ We walk away from our reliance on self, family, and nation ✠ **and trust you for everything we need.**

♩ *Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy.* ♪ *Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed.* ♪ *Take my things and my money, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how, to love all creation now.* ♪ (tune: LSB 783)

Prayer of the Day

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✠ **And also with you.** ✠ Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, help us to let go of everything that we might pass through your narrow Way. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

(sit)

Listening to the Creator

We gather at the feet of our Lord Jesus, listening to his word and allowing it to change and shape our minds, decisions, and lives. ♪ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (tune: LSB 770)

Remembering the Saints & Martyrs ✠ Valentine of Rome

Father, we give you thanks for your Spirit-filled saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Valentine who refused to listen to the Roman Emperor's decree that army aged men could not be married. He continued to perform marriages and help Christians who were being persecuted until he himself was beaten and beheaded in 278 AD. Help us learn from his faith and example, **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm ✠ *Psalm 119 Daleth*



♩ *My soul dwells | in the dust;*

** revive me according | to your word.*

Make me understand your | instructions,

** so I will meditate on | your wonders.*

My soul weeps because | of great grief;

** strengthen me according | to your word.*

Remove the false way | from my life,

** and graciously grant me to obey | your teachings.* ♪

Law & Prophets ✠ Ezekiel 13:8-16

The Prophets reading comes from Ezekiel 13. ✠ **We listen with open hearts.**

This is the word of our Creator. ✠ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

Epistle ✠ 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

The epistle reading comes from 2 Thessalonians 2. ✠ **We listen with open hearts.**
This is the word of our Creator. ✠ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

(stand)

† Holy Gospel † Luke 12:41—13:35

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♪ ***Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light. Praise the one who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight. Praise the one who preached the Gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease, calming storms, and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 849)

The holy Gospel comes from Luke 12. ✠ **Jesus, we listen, ready to follow you.**
This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. ✠ **We will trust and obey.**

(sit)

Message

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Let us reflect on how the word of Jesus is speaking into our lives this day.

(silence for reflection)

For placing our self, family, and nation above you, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trusting the technology and works of human hands, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not living in restful peace with land, animals, and each other, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not respecting our fathers and mothers in Christ, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being violent to our bodies and your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not keeping our sexuality within marriage, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trying to possess and control your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not being vulnerable and truthful with others, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For competing with others and not being content with our lives, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 449)

Will you turn away from the Way of Civilization and reaffirm the Creator's claim upon you through your Baptism into the Way of Jesus? ✠ **Yes, I renounce the Way of Civilization and pledge my full allegiance to Jesus.** ✠ Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including yourself and every member of this church? ✠ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ✠ Our heavenly Father heals all those who return to his loving arms. You are forgiven and set free from all slavery to live life in the Way of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! ✠ **Amen.**

(stand)

Song of the Day ✠ **LSB 688 “Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake**

- ♫ **“Come follow me,” the Savior spake, “All in my Way abiding. Deny yourselves, the world forsake. Obey my call and guiding. Oh bear the cross for you have died. Take my example for your guide.”** ♫
- ♫ **“I am the light, I light the Way, a godly life displaying. I bid you walk as in the day. I keep your feet from straying. I am the Way, and well I show, how you must journey here below.”** ♫
- ♫ **“My heart abounds in lowliness, my soul with love is glowing. And gracious words my lips express, with meekness overflowing. My heart, my mind, my strength, my all, to God I yield, on him I call.”** ♫
- ♫ **“I teach you how to shun and flee, what harms your soul’s salvation. Your heart from ev’ry guile to free, from sin and its temptation. I am the refuge of the soul, and lead you to your godly goal.”** ♫
- ♫ **Then let us follow Christ our Lord, and take the cross appointed. And firmly clinging to his word, in suff’ring be undaunted. For those who bear the battle’s strain, the crown of true life will obtain.** ♫

Waiting on the Creator

- ♫ **Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do.**
- ♫ **Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen.** ♫ (tune: LSB 637)

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ **Lord have mercy.** ♫

Our Father in heaven, make your name holy, bring your Rule, make your will be done—on earth as in heaven. ✠ Father, set us apart from Civilization in all our thoughts, words, and deeds. Take charge of our lives and all those in authority. Use everything that happens to bring your good judgment and healing upon all creation. *Let us pray to the Lord,* ♫ **Lord have mercy.** ♫

Give us this day our daily bread. ✠ Father, provide for us, protect us, and heal our brokenness. Especially this day we remember Charlene Sargent, Jan & Paul Zugelder, COVID-19 victims, and those we name in our hearts... Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *Let us pray to the Lord,* ♫ **Lord have mercy.** ♫

Forgive us our debts as we forgive those in debt to us. ✠ Father, forgive us and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our anxieties and traumas as well as our addictions to Civilization’s Way, so we may walk in Jesus’s Way. Empower us to love and forgive everyone, even our enemies, in the same way you have loved and forgiven us. *Let us pray to the Lord,* ♫ **Lord have mercy.** ♫

Do not abandon us in temptation, but rescue us from evil. ✠ Father, humble us and remind us that we have no strength apart from you. Stay with us in times of difficulty and save us from our selfishness. Comfort us in the certain hope that your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *Let us pray to the Lord,* ♫ **Lord have mercy.** ♫

For all authority, power, and glory are yours—now and forever. ☩ Father, help us to let go and surrender everything into your loving hands, trusting that you are working all things to the good of those who love you. ☩ **Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

We prepare to be united as one Body and communion at the Lord's table by sharing with each other the peace and love our Father has freely given to us.

(sit)

Offering

Everything belongs to our Father and is to be used to love each other in the same way Jesus has loved us. Therefore, we offer our entire lives as a living sacrifice to him while also offering gifts to support this communion.

Musical Offering

(stand)

Pledge of Allegiance

♩ We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us! ♪ (tune: LSB 816)

Lord, we pledge our obedience and every part of our lives to you...

I pledge allegiance to one God, the all-powerful Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I pledge allegiance to one Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God's only Son. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He loved and he suffered. Under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he was raised from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He is coming to judge the living and the dead. His rule will not end.

I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the baptism for forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life in the age to come. Amen.

Thanksgiving

The Lord Jesus be with you. ☩ **And also with you.** ☩ Lift up your hearts! ☩ **We lift them to the Lord!** ☩ Let us give thanks to our Creator! ☩ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!** ☩ Praise and thanks are due to you, Father, ☩ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ☩ We are grateful that you bring heaven and earth together through Jesus's love for all creation!

♩ Let all creation be humble and rejoice in awe and fear. We give thanks to our Lord Jesus who brings heaven to us here. He is giving himself to us and his presence has come near. ♪ (tune: LSB 621)

† Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. He said, “Follow my example. Love each other in the same way I have loved you.” During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory.” After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, “This is my blood which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of all of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory.” ♪ ***When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death Lord Jesus. So as we share this feast may we, remember your love for us. Help us now to follow your Way, and to walk in your goodness. Always make us one in you.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 384)

Invitation to the Table

We gather around Jesus’s table, trusting that he is truly giving his whole self to us through this bread, wine, and communion. As we receive the Lord’s gifts, we commit ourselves to laying down our lives for each member of this church in the same Way that Jesus has laid down his life for us. We invite all Baptized members of the holy universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us in this mysterious communion of heaven and earth. ♪ ***Oh come, Lord Jesus, come and dine, and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov’r all the earth. Come now, come now! Our Lord Jesus and bring your healing love to us!*** ♪ (tune: LSB 357)

(sit)

Sharing the Bread & Wine

(stand)

Sent to “Do the Same in My Memory”

Christ Jesus, as we feed on you ☩ **we are made members of your Body.** ☩ We leave behind our old lives ☩ **and are crucified with you.** ☩ We no longer live for ourselves ☩ **but you, Lord Christ, live within us.** ☩ As you have laid down your body and blood for us, ☩ **help us to do the same in your memory.** ☩ Help us share our whole lives with the church ☩ **and care for all your creation, including our own bodies. Amen.**

♪ ***Hail to the Lord’s anointed, he is God’s very son! Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captives free, to take away transgression and rule in equity. He comes with rescue speedy, to those who suffer wrong, to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong: to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 398)

Blessing

May the Father bless you and hold you in his hands. May the Son empower you to love all his creation in the way he has loved you. May the Holy Spirit fill your body and give

you a peace that is free of all anxiety. ✠ Amen.

Recessional Song ✠ LSB 918 “Guide Me, Oh Thou Great Redeemer”

- ♫ *Guide me oh my great Redeemer, as I journey through this land. I am weak but you are mighty, hold me in your powerful hand. Bread of heaven, daily feed me. Feed me with your word of truth, feed me with your word of truth.* ♪
- ♫ *Open now your Spirit fountain, where your healing waters flow. Let your fire refine and cleanse me, changing me as I do grow. Jesus Savior, ever help me. Always be my strength and shield, always be my strength and shield.* ♪
- ♫ *When I stand on the brink of change, help my anxious fears subside. Save me now from fear’s way of death, bring me across the divide. Move me forward, as I follow, keep me daily on your Way, keep me daily on your Way.* ♪

* Midweek Lent worship is at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays, March 2 — April 6.

* During liturgy try out the ancient prayer position of “orans,” arms outstretched.

*** Want to do a retreat at the Disciple Garden?**

Contact Samantha @ samantha.timpe@gmail.com or (219) 508-6194

Weekly Calendar | February 20 - 27, 2022

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|--|
| Sun, Feb 20 | 9:30 am | Divine Liturgy “The Narrow Way” Luke 12:41—13:35 |
| | 10:45 am | Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study |
| Mon, Feb 21 | | |
| Wed, Feb 23 | | |
| | | |
| Thurs, Feb 24 | | |
| | | |
| Sat, Feb 26 | 7-9 am | Breakfast & Devotion |
| Sun, Feb 27 | 9:30 am | Divine Liturgy “Everything You Own” Luke 14:1-35 |
| | 10:45 am | Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study |

Saint Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church — www.stlukeskck.org

Luke Kamrath, Pastor — luke.kamrath@gmail.com(913) 303-0977

Kevin Dierks, Community Minister — kgdierks@gmail.com(913) 709-1349

Marie Sasnett, Financial Deacon — marie.stlukes@gmail.com

Marsha Oyer, Music — arbpe@sbcglobal.net