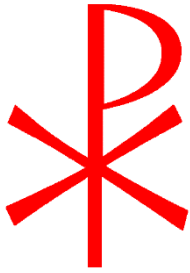


Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



November 19, 2023



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Pastor:
NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*
ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton*
Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*
Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>
eMail: StLukesNB@gmail.com
Church Phone: 419-257-3253

*Whether this is your first time with us or you have been here your whole life, **WELCOME** to the place where we stand together before God as equals. If you are new here and seeking a church home, please contact the church office at 419-257-3253 and leave a message.*

Assisting in Worship

Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Worship Leader: *SAM Bob Fett*
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Tracey Pritts*
Acolyte: *Hannah Hagemyer*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

November Candles: [available for sign-up](#)
November Bulletins: [available for sign-up](#)
November Newsletter: [available for sign-up](#)

Christmas Poinsettias - the Altar Guild has located a new source for poinsettias this year. Unfortunately, with the timing, poinsettias had to be order NOW. The Guild has ordered 20 poinsettias. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of them, please see the bulletin insert. Thank you.

Choir rehearsals are Sundays @ 9:30 a.m. You may join us anytime. Everyone age 16 and older is invited to join us. Come and lift your voice in praise to God.



Order of Worship

Sunday, November 19, 2023

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol ✠ assembly members may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked upon us at baptism.

**please stand, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.*

Pandemic update: we will continue monitoring the CDC and following their guidelines.

GOD GATHERS US

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Gracious God." When you exhale, pray, "open my heart."

AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Holy One,

ALL: we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Leader: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ✠ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **ALL: Amen.**

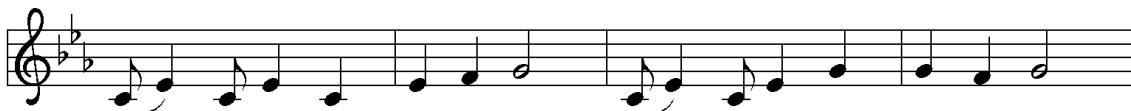
*GATHERING HYMN #639

WHEN WE ARE LIVING

*CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL:** and also with you.

*KYRIE HYMN #151



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

*THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry, for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia. For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18

Reader: The day is near when the LORD will sit in judgment; so be silent in his presence. The LORD is preparing to sacrifice his people and has invited enemies to plunder Judah. ¹² “At that time I will take a lamp and search Jerusalem. I will punish the people who are self-satisfied and confident, who say to themselves, ‘The LORD never does anything, one way or the other.’ ¹³ Their wealth will be looted and their houses destroyed. They will never live in the houses they are building or drink wine from the vineyards they are planting.”

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near—very near and coming fast! That day will be bitter, for even^[a] the bravest soldiers will cry out in despair! ¹⁵ It will be a day of fury, a day of trouble and distress, a day of ruin and destruction, a day of darkness and gloom, a black and cloudy day, ¹⁶ a day filled with the sound of war trumpets and the battle cry of soldiers attacking fortified cities and high towers.

¹⁷ The LORD says, “I will bring such disasters on the human race that everyone will grope about like someone blind. They have sinned against me, and now their blood will be poured out like water, and their dead bodies will lie rotting on the ground.”

¹⁸ On the day when the LORD shows his fury, not even all their silver and gold will save them. The whole earth will be destroyed by the fire of his anger. He will put an end—a sudden end—to everyone who lives on earth.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 90:1-12

Reader: O Lord, you have always been our home.

ALL: Before you created the hills or brought the world into being, you were eternally God, and will be God forever.

Reader: You tell us to return to what we were; you change us back to dust.

ALL: A thousand years to you are like one day; they are like yesterday, already gone, like a short hour in the night.

Reader: You carry us away like a flood; we last no longer than a dream

ALL: We are like weeds that sprout in the morning, that grow and burst into bloom, then dry up and die in the evening.

Reader: We are destroyed by your anger; we are terrified by your fury.

ALL: You place our sins before you, our secret sins where you can see them.

Reader: Our life is cut short by your anger; it fades away like a whisper.

ALL: Seventy years is all we have — eighty years, if we are strong; yet all they bring us is trouble and sorrow; life is soon over, and we are gone.

Reader: Who has felt the full power of your anger? Who knows what fear your fury can bring?

ALL: Teach us how short our life is, so that we may become wise.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

DISCIPLESHIP READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Reader: There is no need to write you, friends, about the times and occasions when these things will happen. ²For you yourselves know very well that the Day of the Lord will come as a thief comes at night. ³When people say, “Everything is quiet and safe,” then suddenly destruction will

hit them! It will come as suddenly as the pains that come upon a woman in labor, and people will not escape.⁴ But you, friends, are not in the darkness, and the Day should not take you by surprise like a thief.⁵ All of you are people who belong to the light, who belong to the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.⁶ So then, we should not be sleeping like the others; we should be awake and sober.⁷ It is at night when people sleep; it is at night when they get drunk.⁸ But we belong to the day, and we should be sober. We must wear faith and love as a breastplate, and our hope of salvation as a helmet.⁹ God did not choose us to suffer his anger, but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁰ who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes.¹¹ And so encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing.

Reader: Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

setting 2 pg 124

ALL:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Leader/
Cantor

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

ALL:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 25. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the

talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

Leader: The gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE MESSAGE

*HYMN OF THE DAY #588

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

ALL: 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 OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

Prayer Leader: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*PRAYER SONG HYMN #751

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a five-line staff with a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the staff. The second staff is identical to the first, with the same melody and lyrics.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

We pray for Rick, Kolton, Ron, Jim, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Cali, Howard, Jim, Emelyn, Isabella, Mary Ann, Kevin, Shirley, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Teresa, Doug, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Ashley, Beth, Holly, Tessa, Riker, Kelly, Al, Pat, Dan, and Cooper.

*THE PRAYER OUR LORD TAUGHT US

**All: 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**



*PRAYER SONG HYMN #751

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you

Please share God's peace."

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: In gratitude for all that we have received from God let us now present our tithes and offerings for the work and mission of God's church.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #182

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE TABLE PRAYER

Leader: God of all creation, all you have made is good.

ALL: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from our abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 129

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL:** We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life.

ALL: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life and the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. And so, with all the universe and the hosts of heaven, we join in praise and sing...

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, gave it to his disciples, saying

ALL: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Leader: Again, after supper, Jesus took a cup, gave thanks; and gave it for all to drink, saying

ALL: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Leader: For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

DISTRIBUTION

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

VERSE 1

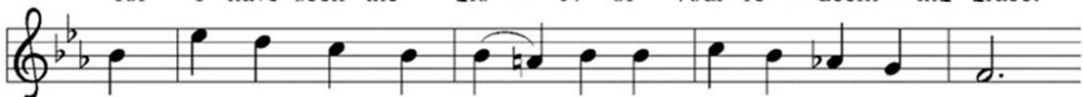
O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me prayer,

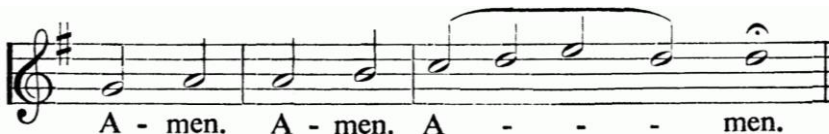
ALL: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

Leader: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

***THE AMEN**



***SENDING HYMN #661**

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Beloved of God, go in peace and with thanksgiving to love and serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



ELCA “Hunger Appeal” Offering - Each week as we leave worship, we remember the poor by placing loose change offerings in the “hunger bowls” on the Information Table in the Narthex.

Please remember to stop by the Information Table and sign the greeting cards, reminding our members and friends that we are thinking about them.

Please stay following worship for our Annual Congregational Meeting

On the agenda:

1. Election of 4 Council members for 2-year terms. Those completing their terms are: JoLynn Stewart, Vice President; Clay McCartney, Treasurer; and Suzanne Bucker, Secretary. There is also one vacant position to fill.
2. Presentation of the 2024 budget
3. Approval for new door

North Baltimore Food Pantry November requested donations include: laundry detergent, dish soap, and toilet paper. Thank you for your continued support of this vital community ministry.



Please help to keep our Prayer List up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes, additions or deletions.

WE GIVE THANKS: for Pastor Elizabeth Hadler and SAM Bob Fett, sent by God to help us along our journey. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha & Jim Carter, Barb Williams.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Cali, Howard Till, Jim Heize, Emelyn, Isabella, Keven Bickle, Shirley Hollowell, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

MILITARY: for all those who are in training and who are serving in the military & their families; the chaplains (*especially those in combat zones*); grieving families and friends of those who died while serving.

COMPANION CHURCH: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS: all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

THE WORLD: for peace in our country and around the world. For the end of violence against one another. For world leaders to seek guidance from you.



TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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"When We Are Living" TEXT: st. 1 based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b.1942; st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946 MUSIC: Spanish traditional

"Kyrie" TEXT: Dinah Reindorf, b.c. 1927 MUSIC: 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" TEXT: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt. MUSIC: North American, 19th cent.

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer" Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt. MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994 TEXT AND MUSIC © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" TEXT: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text ©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress

"O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" TEXT: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis MUSIC: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version TEXT© 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

"I Love to Tell the Story" TEXT: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911 MUSIC: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

All Scripture Readings: from GNT, *Today's English Version, Second Edition*: Good News Translation © copyright © 1992 by American Bible Society, used with permission.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING DAY AND THE DAY FOLLOWING.



Sermon Notes

Write 3 teachings or ideas you heard in today's sermon:

1.

2.

3.

Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.

Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.

Awake to the Grace of God

Linked with the reading from 1 Thessalonians and Psalm 90, Jesus' parable of the talents invites a full-hearted response to God's lavish gifts of faith and purpose: "Use 'em if you've got 'em!" The people of God are meant to be engaged, alert, and ready to share what we have received from our prodigally (wastefully) generous God. While the parable has sometimes been interpreted in the context of judgment, a careful reading also spotlights the beauty of the faith-generated response to God's lavish grace.

One word for this is of God's gift of faith and can today be understanding in the text. Instead of the we so often associate today to another way: to the grace of God?

On the surface Jesus' the contrast of workers disappoint their master. Psalm 90 sings to us to carefully treasure our lifetimes, for there is something at stake. First Thessalonians is a letter reminding people they have exactly what they need to survive and thrive.

What does it mean to be awake to the grace of God?

In a time in history when so many people are discouraged with work, home, life, and church, a word from Jesus' parables may be healing, enriching, and startlingly attractive. The gospel text today is an opportunity to remind the people of God that there is a depth to faith that is sustainable. In fact, beneath the parables of Jesus is a depth it will take a lifetime to unpack.



stewardship. Presented in light purpose, this "churchy" term transformed to new proclamation of the gospel weight of obligation and duty with religion, we are invited What does it mean to be awake

parable is a simple premise: who please and workers who

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StLukesNB@gmail.com

Church Office Hours M-F 9-1