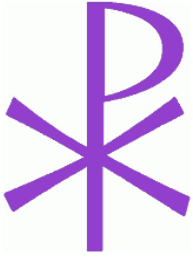


W elcome to W orship
St. Luke's E vangelical
Lutheran Church



First Sunday in Lent
February 26, 2023



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Interim Pastor: *Rob Johnson*
NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*
ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton*
Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania*
Web Page: <http://www.stlukesnb.org>
eMail: StLukesNB@gmail.com
[Pastor Rob's phone: 419-913-7506](tel:419-913-7506)

*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*
Scripture Reader: *Dwight Patterson*
Prayer Leader: *Janet Goldner*
Acolyte: *Easton Wymer*
Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

February Altar Candles: *available for sign up*
February Bulletins: *available for sign up*
February Newsletter: *available for sign up*

The flowers are given by Dwight Patterson and Tiffany & Tom Mika in celebration of Ruth Patterson's birthday on February 28.

North Baltimore Food Pantry February requested donations include: instant potatoes and pork & beans.

Lenten Wednesdays Bible Study

In-person and online every Wednesday at St. Luke's, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5 @ 6:00pm-Soup, Sandwich, & Dessert Supper (in-person) 7:00pm- Bible Study in-person and online. Pick up a copy of the Bible Study on the Information Table today.

Order of Worship

First Sunday in Lent – February 26, 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 as you feel comfortable. Pandemic update: we will continue monitoring the CDC and following their guidelines.*

GOD GATHERS US

PRAYER REQUESTS, 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, “Jesus, Son of God.” When you exhale, pray, “have mercy on 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 using the “peace sign.”

AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Please join me in an offering of confession,

ALL: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of my heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In your heart and your spirit, confess to God your fears, your anger, your greed, and your disappointments. Lift up the names of people whom you’ve hurt recently.

ALL: Most merciful God, I confess that I am captive to sin and cannot free myself. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved you

with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbors as you have loved me. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me; renew me; and lead me, so that I may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Leader: Hear these words and believe in their power: Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9; James 5:16

***GATHERING HYMN #504**

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

***KYRIE**

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 120

***GLORY TO GOD**

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 121

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

GENESIS 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Reader: The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶ But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— ¹⁷ except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the Lord God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

² “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied. ³ “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

⁴ “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵ “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

⁶ The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷ At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

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

DISCIPLESHIP READING

ROMANS 5:12-19

Reader: When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. ¹³ Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break. ¹⁴ Still, everyone died—from the time of Adam to the time of Moses—even those who did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did. Now Adam is a symbol, a representation of Christ, who was yet to come. ¹⁵ But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁶ And the result of God's gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷ For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. ¹⁹ Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 125



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 4:1-11

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This interrogation of the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 4. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

³ During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

⁴ But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the

Scriptures say, ‘He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won’t even hurt your foot on a stone.’”

⁷ Jesus responded, “The Scriptures also say, ‘You must not test the Lord your God.’”

⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ “I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.”

¹⁰ “Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.’” ¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

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

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 into hell. 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 live everlasting. Amen

THE MESSAGE

***HYMN OF THE DAY #785**

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: Merciful God, **ALL: receive our prayer.**

We pray for Harry, Julie, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Eloise, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Jack, Gloria, Rex, Ryan, Frances, Isabella, A.J., Frank, Bill, Mike, Mavery, Caroline, Mike, Chelsea, Ethan, Tom, Beth, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, Sally, Catherine, Ja-nét, Ann, Ed, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Cindy, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Gus, Michelle, Barb, Riker, and Kelly.

.....who taught us to pray saying,

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**



GOD NOURISHES US

THE TABLE PRAYER

Leader: 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. **ALL: Amen**

THE EXHORTATION

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 133

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: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of the Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

Leader: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for 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...

SANCTUS

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 130

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, gave a piece to each disciple and said

ALL: This is my body, given for you. Do this and remember me.

Leader: Again, after supper, Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks; and gave it to each disciple to drink, saying

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

Leader: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Please join in prayer if you are unable to receive the elements.

ALL: Forgiving and faithful God, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed and Holy Sacrament. Like a river through the desert, your Spirit floods my thirsty heart with mercy and peace. Since I cannot now receive You through bread and wine, come spiritually into my heart. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a forgiving spirit within me. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Setting #2 Hymnal page 135

DISTRIBUTION

* HYMN AFTER COMMUNION

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 135

NOW, LORD, YOU LET YOUR SERVANT GO IN PEACE

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION

Leader: Please join me in the absolution,

ALL: Merciful and forgiving God, you have made this promise to me: I am a gift. Jesus' story is my story. When I was baptized in Christ Jesus, I was buried with him into his death. As Christ was raised from the dead, I, too, might live a new life. By removing my sins, you give me strength to forgive myself and to forgive those who have offended and sinned against me. Amen.

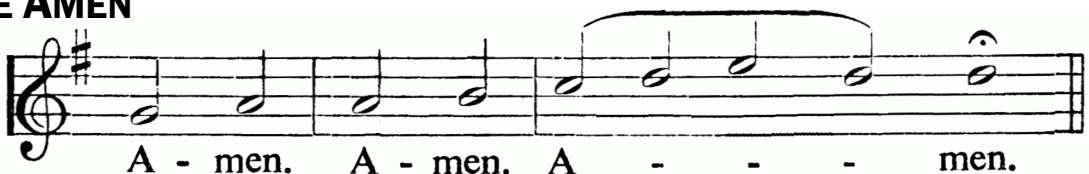
GOD SENDS US

* BLESSING

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 136-137

We are sent to serve others.

* THE AMEN



* **SENDING HYMN # 742**

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

* **DISMISSAL**

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 137

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 bench in the Narthex.

TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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“When Peace like a River” TEXT: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888 Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” TEXT: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886 Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

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The Good News†Amen Team has once again accepted the opportunity to reach out and share the love of

Jesus through the Kairos Prison Ministry. You are invited to join us to bake cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry at the Allen/Oakwood Correctional Institution in Lima, Ohio. The cookies are needed by March 15, so we will gather on Sunday, March 12, following worship, to bake and package cookies. We will purchase the ingredients and the packaging supplies. If you are unable to come and help bake, financial donations are welcome. If you wish to bake cookies at home, there are specific guidelines to follow. Please call the church office or stop by and pick up a flyer with the details. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Please join us for fellowship, food, and service on March 12.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

You are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for
Easter Sunday, April 9!

Traditional Single



Stem Easter Lily: \$12.00

QUANTITY: _____

Hyacinths: \$12.00



QUANTITY WHITE: _____

PINK: _____

BLUE: _____

Yellow Daffodils: \$12.00



QUANTITY: _____

Tulips: \$12.00



QUANTITY RED: _____

PINK: _____

YELLOW: _____

PURPLE: _____

WHITE: _____

PLEASE PRINT

Given by: _____

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Other: _____

Flower color choices may change due to availability.

ORDER DEADLINE: SUNDAY, March 26

Please indicate the quantity of your selections and designation information on this order form. Order forms (with payment) may be dropped off or mailed to the church. Please put "Easter Flowers" in the check memo. Thank you!



Sermon Notes

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, North Baltimore, Ohio

Name _____ Date _____

1. Today's sermon **TITLE** is:
2. Today's sermon is based on these **BIBLE VERSES**:
3. Write a brief **SUMMARY** of the Bible verses:
4. Write **3 TEACHINGS or IDEAS** you heard in the sermon:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. Name something I might do in **MY LIFE** to put this sermon into practice.
6. Write a **BRIEF PRAYER** relating to today's sermon.



March 2023



St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, North Baltimore, Ohio

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm</p>	2	3	4
<p>Lent 2</p> <p>5 International Women's Day</p> <p>Worship 10:15</p>	6 Staff Meeting 9:30	7	<p>8 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm</p>	9	10	<p>11</p>
<p>Lent 3</p> <p>12 Daylight Savings Time Begins</p> <p>Worship 10:15</p> <p>Church Council 11:30 Cookie Baking 11:30</p>	13 Staff Meeting 9:30	14	<p>15 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm</p>	16	<p>17</p>	18
<p>Lent 4</p> <p>19 Worship 10:15</p>	<p>20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING</p> <p>Staff Meeting 9:30</p>	22	<p>22 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm</p>	23	<p>24</p>	25
<p>Lent 5</p> <p>26 Worship 10:15</p>	27 Staff Meeting 9:30	28	<p>29 Soup Dinner 6 Lenten Devotion with dessert 7pm</p>	30	31	

HOLY WEEK





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 the opportunities to come together for food, fellowship and Bible study. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Jim Wymer, Harry & Julie Friess, Cheryl & John Kruse, Fred Husing, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Eloise Matthes, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha & Jim Carter, Barb Williams, Rex McCarty.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Patty Webb, Cheryl, Ryan Bullock, Isabella Miller, A.J., Frank Strausbaugh, Bill Bankey, Mike Gorsline, Mavery Breece, Caroline, Mike Lerma, Ethan, Tom Szor, Beth Johnson, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy, Sally Eggleston, Catherine Pritts, Ja-nét Moske.

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.

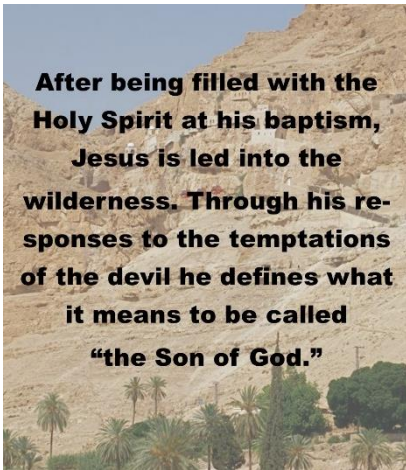
WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS: all ministries of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, leaders, of the congregations of the NWOS (Northwestern Ohio Synod), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our 15 Central Conference congregations.

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.

The Devil Doesn't Wear Tights

No one believes in the existence of the devil these days, do they? Do you? Perhaps we can thank Hollywood and Halloween's marketing blitz for our casual if not incredulous approach to the devil's existence. Pointy horns, pitch forks, red costumes, and box office ticket sales continue to shape our culture's collective consciousness of the devil. Though red tights and long tails may be a frightening thought as you consider a costume for a Halloween party, they do nothing to communicate the true terror of an honest-to-God encounter with the devil's power.

This Lent we are called to expunge the fantastical images of the devil from our minds and think seriously about the real presence of evil in our world. We know firsthand about the sin that caused, causes, and will cause suffering to us, our



loved ones, our neighbors, our global communities, and creation itself. Sin is real; suffering is real; evil is real; indeed, the devil is real. This oppressive, tangible reality is as real as the air we breathe—felt but not always seen. Greed, envy, rage, hatred, war, discrimination, and apathy are just some of the ways the devil's forces wreak havoc upon us. These forces have one goal and one goal only: to turn us away from the will of God.

Matthew's gospel reorients us to the truth of the devil's power, and calls us to name Satan's presence in the world. In the wilderness Jesus encounters an evil as real as its opposite, resurrection. The great tempter seeks to undermine Jesus' mission before he even begins; testimony that evil has much to fear of our Jesus! Nonetheless, Jesus will not be dissuaded. "Away with you, Satan!" proclaims the redeemer of the cosmos. Thus, the Lenten journey begins—a journey that takes us to the cross, where the devil is named and crushed underfoot.

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419-257-3253

StLukesNB@gmail.com

[Church Office Hours M-F 9-1](#)