

Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church





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

*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 & Prayer Leader: *Pam Van Mooy*
Acolyte: *Olivia Matthes*
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

April Altar Candles: *Ruth McKee*
April Bulletins: [available for sign-up](#)
April Newsletter: [available for sign-up](#)



Lenten Wednesdays Bible Study

Join us in-person and online for our final gathering of our Lenten Wednesday Bible Studies at St. Luke's, on April 5 @ 6:00pm-Soup, Sandwich, & Dessert Supper (in-person) 7:00pm- Bible Study in-person and online. All are welcome!

North Baltimore Food Pantry April requested donations include: canned meats.

Order of Worship

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 2, 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 the Lord be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

Please share God's peace using the "peace sign."

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN #344

ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 119:105

Leader: Hosanna to the Son of David!

ALL: blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Leader: We prepare now for the holiest of weeks.

ALL: As we journey with praise on our lips, we remember the suffering and death of our Lord. With sadness and disappointment, but always with hope in our hearts.

Leader: Jesus leads us through the week.

ALL: He is the life we long for, the Word who sustains us.

Leader: We will follow him this week and through our lives.

ALL: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and alight to my path.”

Leader: Hosanna to the Son of David!

ALL: Hosana in the highest!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: We remember the struggle we have to love God, to love others, and to love ourselves. We ask God to forgive us.

Silent prayer of confession for your anger, our fears, and our regrets that prevent us from love that is patient and kind.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ,

ALL: we praise you not only with outward signs of palm branches and “Hosannas,” but with lives turned towards you. When our words and actions betray you, when we fail to love you, when we fail to love others, when we fail to love ourselves, forgive us, and imprint your image on our hearts.

CONFESSION RESPONSE #811



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray,

ALL: Everlasting God, in our endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our human nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

ISAIAH 50:4-9

Reader: Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore, I have set my face like a stone, determined to do his will. And I know that I will not be put to shame. He who gives me justice is near. Who will dare to bring charges against me now? Where are my accusers? Let them appear! See, the Sovereign Lord is on my side! Who will declare me guilty? All my enemies will be destroyed like old clothes that have been eaten by moths! Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:9-16

(responsively)

Reader: Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in trouble; my eyes are tired from so much crying; I am completely worn out.

ALL: I am exhausted by sorrow, and weeping has shortened my life.

Reader: I am weak from all my troubles; even my bones are wasting away.

ALL: All my enemies, and especially my neighbors, treat me with contempt.

Reader: Those who know me are afraid of me; when they see me in the street, they run away.

ALL: Everyone has forgotten me, as though I were dead; I am like something thrown away.

Reader: I hear many enemies whispering; terror is all around me. They are making plans against me, plotting to kill me. But my trust is in you, O Lord; you are my God.

ALL: I am always in your care; save me from my enemies, from those who persecute me.

Reader: Look on your servant with kindness; save me in your constant love. Word of God, word of life. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

DISCIPLESHIP READING

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Reader: You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

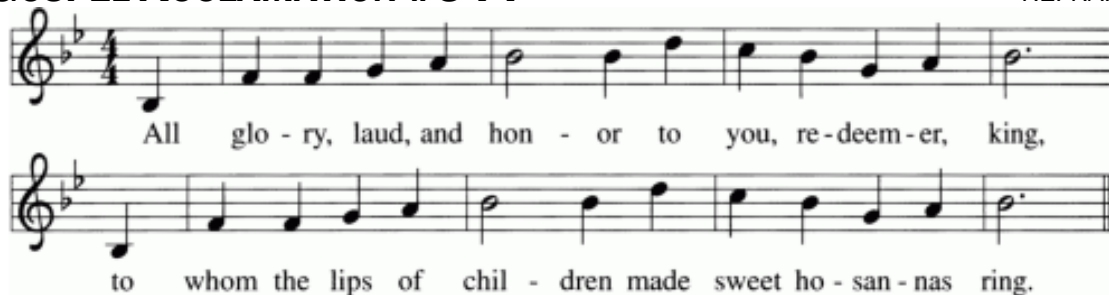
Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #344

REFRAIN



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 16:13-21

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it is found in the Gospel according to Matthew. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

Leader: Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

“Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”

Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it. And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.”

Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.

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

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Leader: Martin Luther reminds us that, when we wash our faces,
ALL: say, “I am baptized!”

Leader: We are CLAIMED by God’s grace for the sake of the world,

ALL: I am a new creation through God's living word by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: We are GATHERED by God's grace for the sake of the world,

ALL: I will live among God's faithful people. I will hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper.

Leader: We are SENT by God's grace for the sake of the world,

ALL: I will proclaim the Good News of God in word and deed. I will serve my neighbors, following the example of Jesus. I will strive for justice and peace everywhere.

Leader: Holy and gracious God,

ALL: pour your Spirit into my heart; give me wisdom, grant me courage, and grow within me the confidence to live a life of grace and mercy. Amen.

THE MESSAGE

HYMN #803

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERINGS

OFFERING CANTICLE

THE DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from Whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be - low;

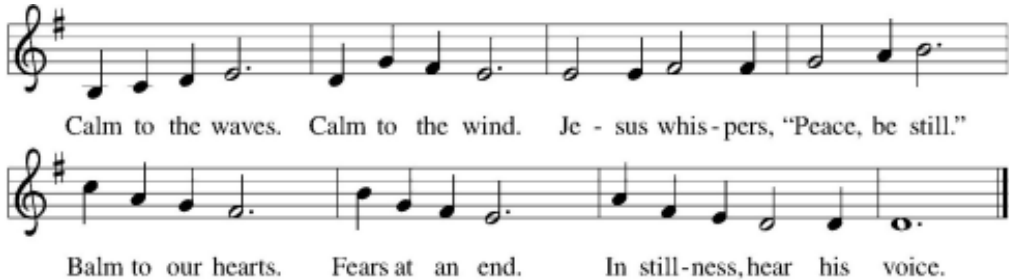


Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-men.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

PRAYER SONG



Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be still."

Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still - ness, hear his voice.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

We pray for Steve, Janet, Harry, Julie, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Eloise, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Jack, Gloria, Rex, Brianne, Larry Jr., Larry Sr., Beth, Gerald, Frances, Isabella, A.J., Frank, Bill, Mike, Mavery, Caroline, Mike, Chelsea, Ethan, Tom, 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**

PRAYER SONG



Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, "Peace, be still."



Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.

GOD NOURISHES US

PREFACE/EXHORTATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Blessed are you, God, for your plans and visions for us. In the midst of our wandering and the uncertainties of this world, you refresh us with living waters:

ALL: In the beginning, you brought forth the waters of the seas. To Hagar, you gave water to save her and her son. To the Israelites, you brought them safely through the sea. To Naaman, you gave cleansing water to heal his sickness. To the woman at the well, you gave eternal, living waters. In the waters of the Jordan River, you gave us a baptism to guide our lives for the better.

SANCTUS

setting 144b



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

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.

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.

COMMUNION SONG

ELW setting 10



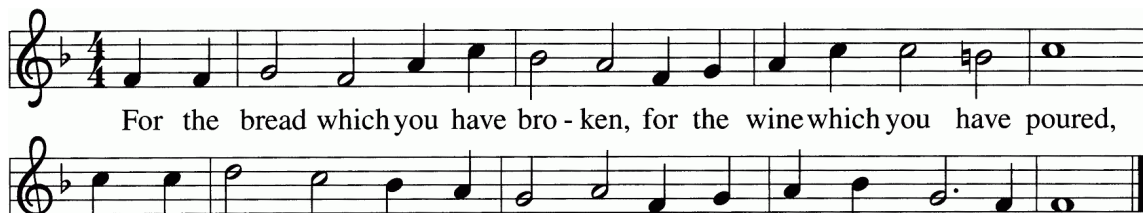
1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION

SONG AFTER COMMUNION #494

verse one



For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
 for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

Leader: Let us pray together,

ALL: Through the body, blood, and Spirit of Jesus Christ, I am not condemned by my angry, fearful actions. My sins are forgiven, forgotten, and erased. This is God's promise to me. Freed from the shackles of my own guilt and regret, I have been given the strength

to reconcile with those I have hurt and forgive those who have hurt me. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Leader: Before the week ends, palm branches will dry up on the roadside. Instead of a crowd singing in praise: “Hosanna,” an angry mob will shout in judgement: “crucify him!”

ALL: We will remember and proclaim God’s love for us in Christ Jesus.

Leader: Our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high on the cross for us.

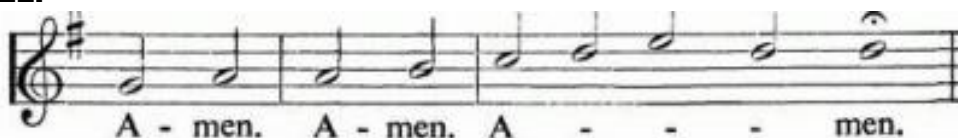
ALL: We will remember and proclaim God’s love for us in Christ Jesus.

Leader: By his cross, Jesus draws all people to himself.

ALL: We will remember and proclaim God’s love for us in Christ Jesus.

Leader: You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. And the people sing ...

ALL:



HYMN #351

O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED

SILENT PRAYER AS THE CANDLES ARE EXTINGUISHED

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the poor. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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"When I Survey" TEXT:

"On My Heart Imprint Your Image" TEXT: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856-1921, alt. MUSIC: Johann B. König, 1691-1758

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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Maundy Thursday, April 6,

5:00 p.m. @ St. John's, McComb

7:00 p.m. @ St. Luke's, North Baltimore

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## **Good Friday, April 7**

**7:00 p.m. Community Worship @ McComb Presbyterian Church**

**7:00 p.m. Taize Service, @ St. Luke's, North Baltimore**

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Easter Sunday, April 9,

8:00 a.m. Worship @ St. John's McComb

9:00 a.m. Breakfast @ St. John's

9:00 a.m. Breakfast @ St. Luke's

10:15 a.m. Worship @ St. Luke's, North Baltimore



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 celebration of Palm Sunday and the saving grace of Jesus. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Steve Pritts, Janet Holloway, Brittany Vanaman, 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: Aunt Mary, Ashley Koenig, Brianne Gott, Larry Thompson Sr, Larry Thompson Jr., Beth Johnson, Gerald Leitch, Patty Webb, Cheryl, Isabella Miller, A.J., Frank Strausbaugh, Bill Bankey, Mike Gorsline, Mavery Breece, Caroline, Mike Lerma, Ethan, Tom Szor, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy, Sally Eggleston, Catherine Pritts, Ja-nét Moske.

GRIEVING: Peggy Hoffsis and family following the death of Tom, on March 23.

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.

True Humility

The servanthood of a teacher in Isaiah, the outcast in the psalm, those who bow down in Philippians: today's readings teach humility. On this day we move from Christ's triumphant ride on a humble donkey to the humiliation of the cross. The humility of the characters in the passion story is in question: Judas, Pilate, the Twelve, chief priests and elders, Barabbas, the crowd, the soldiers, two bandits.



Among other things, their lack of humility is what brings about the passion of Christ. There is only one truly humble person in this story: Jesus the Christ. Matthew's humble Jesus cries out from the cross to ask God why he has been forsaken.

Only in the stories of the resurrection do other humble characters appear: the centurion, the women, Joseph of Arimathea. A careful look at the

complexity of humility in the palm and passion stories could set up a reflective theme carried through to Easter. Who in each story do we regard as humble? Why? How does our humility compare? Are there characters who seem to gain or lose humility in the course of the story from the triumphant entry to the resurrection? A deep and meaningful understanding of humility is a worthy and lasting gift to take away from the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter.

Joseph of Arimathea is a particularly good character on which to base an understanding of humility. A close look at all references to him in the Gospels, and a bit of creative narrative, create an image of a truly humble believer. He is referenced in both canonical and apocryphal texts. His devotion represents deep humility that leads to the very finest of good works as he cares for the body of Jesus.

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1