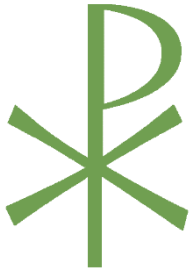


Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



June 25, 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

*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

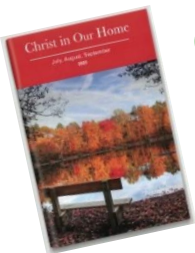
Organist: *Janet Goldner*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*
Acolyte: *Hannah Hagemyer*
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

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



North Baltimore Food Pantry June requested donations include: peanut butter, jams, jellies, and preserves.



Christ in Our Home – the July–September issues of the *Christ in Our Home* devotionals are available on the Information table in the Narthex. Pick up a copy today!

Order of Worship

Sunday, June 25, 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

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."

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: Blessed be the ✠ One God who, like a farmer, plants the seeds of wisdom, faith, and joy in our hearts, so that we may reap a harvest of new life.

ALL: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: If I say I have no sin, I deceive myself and the truth is not in me. However, if I confess my sins, you are faithful and just. Forgive me. Cleanse the thoughts of my heart by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that I 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

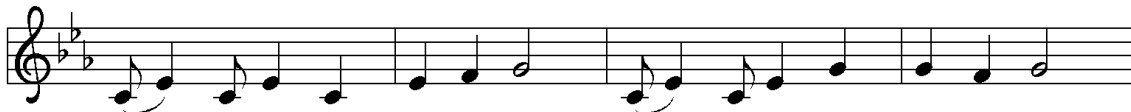
***GATHERING HYMN #807** COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

***CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE**

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

*GLORY TO GOD

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 121

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: O God our rock, you offer us a covenant of mercy, and you provide the foundation of our lives. Ground us in your word, and strengthen our resolve to be your disciples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GOD SPEAKS TO US

PROPHETIC READING

responsively

JEREMIAH 20:7-13

Reader: O Lord, you misled me, and I allowed myself to be misled. You are stronger than I am, and you overpowered me. Now I am mocked every day; everyone laughs at me.

ALL: ⁸ When I speak, the words burst out. “Violence and destruction!” I shout. So these messages from the Lord have made me a household joke.

Reader: ⁹ But if I say I’ll never mention the Lord or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It’s like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can’t do it!

ALL: ¹⁰ I have heard the many rumors about me. They call me “The Man Who Lives in Terror.” They threaten, “If you say anything, we will report it.” Even my old friends are watching me, waiting for a fatal slip. “He will trap himself,” they say, “and then we will get our revenge on him.”

Reader: ¹¹ But the Lord stands beside me like a great warrior. Before him my persecutors will stumble. They cannot defeat me. They will fail and be thoroughly humiliated. Their dishonor will never be forgotten.

ALL: ¹² O Lord of Heaven's Armies, you test those who are righteous, and you examine the deepest thoughts and secrets. Let me see your vengeance against them, for I have committed my cause to you.

Reader: ¹³ Sing to the Lord! Praise the Lord! For though I was poor and needy, he rescued me from my oppressors.

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

DISCIPLESHIP READING

ROMANS 6:1-11

Reader: So what do we do? Keep on sinning so God can keep on forgiving? I should hope not! If we've left the country where sin is sovereign, how can we still live in our old house there? Or didn't you realize we packed up and left there for good? That is what happened in baptism. When we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind; when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace—a new life in a new land!

³⁻⁵ That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means. When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus; when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus. Each of us is raised into a light-filled world by our Father so that we can see where we're going in our new grace-sovereign country.

⁶⁻¹¹ Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer captive to sin's demands! What we believe is this: If we get included in Christ's sin-conquering death, we also get included in his life-saving resurrection. We know that when Jesus was raised from the dead it was a signal of the end of "death-as-the-end". Never again will death have the last word. When Jesus died, he took sin down with him, but alive he brings God down to us. From now on, think of it this way: Sin speaks a dead language that means nothing to you; God speaks your mother tongue, and you hang on every word. You are dead to sin and alive to God. That's what Jesus did.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN #172



Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

*GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 10:24-33

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 10. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: “Students are not greater than their teacher, and servants are not greater than their master. ²⁵ Students are to be like their teacher, and servants are to be like their master. And since I, the master of the household, have been called the prince of demons, the members of my household will be called by even worse names!

²⁶ “But don’t be afraid of those who threaten you. For the time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. ²⁷ What I tell you now in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear!

²⁸ “Don’t be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single

sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. ³⁰ And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

³² "Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.

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 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

THE MESSAGE

* HYMN OF THE DAY #802

LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

* PRAYER SONG HYMN #752

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: God in your mercy, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

We pray for Janet, Jim, Harry, Julie, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Jim, Barb, Shirley, Dolores, Susan, Darrell, Beth, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Chelsea, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, Ed, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Teresa, Betty, Don, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Cindy, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Ashley, Beth, Jayne, Ed, Barb, Riker, Kelly, Al, Pat, and Dan.

*PRAYER SONG HYMN #752

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

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-sing. 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: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through 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: Your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish me with these gifts. Use me and what I have gathered to feed the world with your love, through the feast of love and bread of life, Jesus Christ. 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 is the Lord, the God of the universe. God's faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise the Lord in the heights above. Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise

the Lord, all you shining stars. Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, and stormy winds. Praise the Lord, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for they were created. *Psalm 148*

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



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, 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: We proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Sin is conquered! Death is defeated! Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Leader: God of resurrection and new life: pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine

ALL: Grace this table with your presence. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

***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**



***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. Your Spirit fills my spirit, allowing it to bloom like a flower in spring. 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.

DISTRIBUTION

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

VERSE 1

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



1 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 OF ABSOLUTION

Leader: Please join me in the absolution,

ALL: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

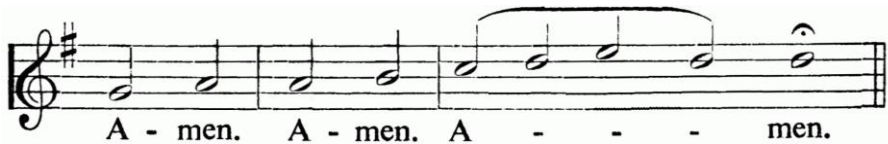
GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 136-137

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

*THE AMEN



*SENDING HYMN #810

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

*DISMISSAL

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 137

We are sent to serve others.

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.

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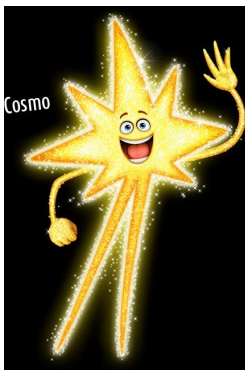
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"O Jesus, I Have Promised" TEXT: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt. MUSIC: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

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Remember to check out the VBS Bulletin Board



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 local food pantry and the service they offer to those in need in our community, and those who support the food pantry. Thanks be to God!

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Shirley Hollowell, Dolores Bucher, Susan Miller, Darrell Miller, Beth Johnson, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

GRIEVING: Tracey and Steve Pritts, following the death of Steve's mother, Catherine, on June 9.

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** (**N**orth**w**estern **O**hio **S**ynod), **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.

God Comes First

God is, the theologians say, transcendent—beyond us, always exceeding our easy grasp. Recognizing God’s awesome transcendence brings a reevaluation of other values. The God of vertigo-inspiring infinitude is also the God who know the hairs of our head. Trusting this God, fear is defanged and faith becomes a sort of courage. We live in faithful relationship to the hair-counting God as we joyfully “acknowledge” the one who acknowledges us. And as we do so, reveling in the intimacy of God’s loving regard for us, other relationships, even familial ones, take on a different cast. God comes first, we realize, not only in priority, but ontologically, “in the beginning.” Before the God who is at once gracious and transcendent, we “lose” our lives and discover the true life in following the way of Jesus the crucified Son.

He gives your life back to you.

Live it for his glory.

He who finds his life
will lose it, and he who
loses his life for my sake
will find it.

Matthew 10:39

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1