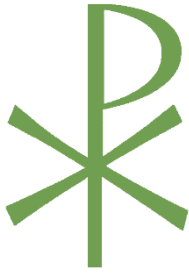


Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



July 2, 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: *Janet Goldner*
Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

July Altar Candles: *Beth & Clay McCartney*
July Bulletins: *Beth & Clay McCartney*
July Newsletter: *Beth & Clay McCartney*



The flowers are given by Tiffany & Tom Mika in honor and celebration of Independence Day.

North Baltimore Food Pantry July requested donations include: canned soups, fruits, and veggies.

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, July 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, 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 #812**

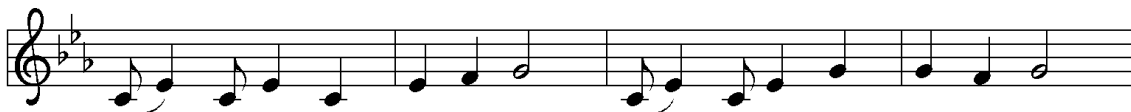
FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

***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

JEREMIAH 28:5-9

Reader: Jeremiah responded to Hananiah as they stood in front of all the priests and people at the Temple. ⁶He said, “Amen! May your prophecies come true! I hope the LORD does everything you say. I hope he does bring back from Babylon the treasures of this Temple and all the captives. ⁷But listen now to the solemn words I speak to you in the presence of all these people. ⁸The ancient prophets who preceded you and me spoke against many nations, always warning of war, disaster, and disease. ⁹So a prophet who predicts peace must show he is right. Only when his predictions come true can we know that he is really from the LORD.”

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

PSALM READING

(RESPONSIVELY)

PSALM 89:1-7, 11

Reader: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

ALL: ²I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Reader: ³You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: ⁴‘I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”

ALL: ⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

Reader: ⁶For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord, ⁷a God feared in the council of the holy ones, great and awesome above all that are around him?

ALL: ¹¹The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours; the world and all that is in it—you have founded them.

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

DISCIPLESHIP READING

ROMANS 6:12-23

Reader: Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. ¹³ Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. ¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

¹⁵ Well then, since God's grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! ¹⁶ Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living. ¹⁷ Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. ¹⁸ Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.

¹⁹ Because of the weakness of your human nature, I am using the illustration of slavery to help you understand all this. Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity and lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin. Now you must give yourselves to be slaves to righteous living so that you will become holy.

²⁰When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the obligation to do right. ²¹And what was the result? You are now ashamed of the things you used to do, things that end in eternal doom. ²²But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 10:40-42

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

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: Jesus said, “We are intimately linked in this harvest work. Anyone who accepts what you do, accepts me, the One who sent you. Anyone who accepts what I do accepts my Father, who sent me. Accepting a messenger of God is as good as being God’s messenger. Accepting someone’s help is as good as giving someone help. This is a large work I’ve called you into, but don’t be overwhelmed by it. It’s best to start small. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won’t lose out on a thing.”

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 #836

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

*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.

Psalms 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 prayer of 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.

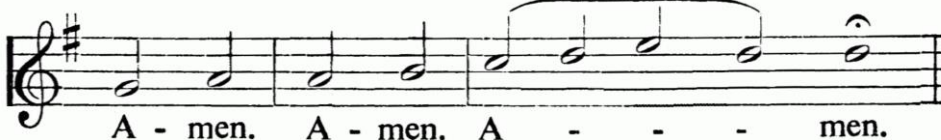
GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 136-137

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

*THE AMEN



A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

*SENDING HYMN #890

MINE EYES HAVE SEEN THE GLORY

*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.

TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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“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

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**Have a Happy
Fourth of July! Be safe.**



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 all those who have served and are serving to protect our freedoms. 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.

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.



Life in Christ Includes Praise and Lament

Though we may prefer to think of God giving us lives of joy and ease, a full life in Christ also includes sorrow and grief. To the extent we are willing to acknowledge God's presence in every circumstance, our faith becomes integrated and sustainable through a lifetime.

The texts for today offer a survey of faith-full moments for the people of God, from arguably the most disturbing story in all our scriptures (Genesis 22; semicontinuous series) to the proclamation of God's everlasting faithfulness (Psalms 89 and 13).

Does our worship have a blind spot? Do we avoid faithful lament?



Marked by transformation as clear and life and death (Romans 6), the disciple naturally embodies the gospel of Jesus Christ. Like it or not, this includes moments of sadness, grief, and betrayal that were very much a part of Jesus' faithful journey. If our lives are identified with Christ, disciples can name both joys and sorrows as dimensions of Christ's story and

purpose.

The greatest challenge of faith for most Christians is the moment of suffering, so this day invites us to practice faithful lament. In an age of denial when difficult things are swept under the rug, we may resist the idea that God wants anything to do with suffering. Our scriptures, however, ensure we do not avoid earth-bound realities. The psalmist wails a prayer in faith that not only laments abandonment by God but also confesses God's steadfast love (Psalm 13; semicontinuous series). The story of Abraham and Isaac haunts our imaginations when we expect God to make life easy.

Worship calls us to faithfully lament as well as praise. Let today be a service of full-hearted proclamation of the depths of life in Christ.

215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105

419-257-3253

StLukesNB@gmail.com

Church Office Hours M-F 9-1