Pelcome to Porship St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



November 3, 2024 All Saints' Sunday



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: <u>StLukesNB@gmail.com</u> 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: *Bob Fett*

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: Carl Lieser

Ushers: Pam & Rick Van Mooy Videographer: Beth Williams

To the Glory of God

November Altar Candles: Pat & Mike Wheeler November Bulletins: Laura & Tony Damon November Newsletter: Laura & Tony Damon



The Flowers are given by Arica & Matt Matthes in loving memory of Matt's father, Carl, whose birthday is November 8.



Order of Morship

All Saints' Sunday, November 3, 2024

God is glad you have joined us for worship today. At the symbol $\, \Xi \,$ 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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Forgiving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to forgive."

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

<u>Leader</u>: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. **ALL: Amen.**

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

<u>Leader</u>: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

ALL: we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

<u>Leader</u>: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are \maltese forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **ALL: Amen.**

*GREETING

<u>Leader</u>: 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.**





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

<u>Leader</u>: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

ALL: Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Reader: Moses said to the people, ¹Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, ²so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. ³Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 119:1-8

<u>Reader</u>: Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the Lord!

ALL: Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

Reader: who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

ALL: You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

<u>Reader</u>: Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

ALL: Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

<u>Reader</u>: I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

ALL: I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

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

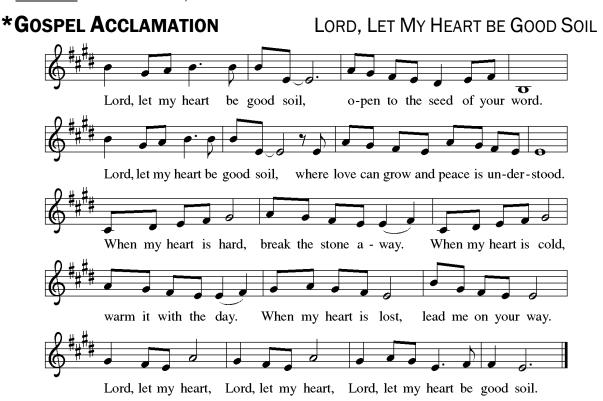
SECOND READING

HEBREWS 9:11-14

<u>Reader</u>: When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹²he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not

with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

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



*GOSPEL READING

MARK 12:28-34

When a scribe asks Jesus which commandment is first of all, Jesus answers that love of God and love of neighbor are interconnected and define the heart of the kingdom of God.

<u>Leader</u>: There is good news for us today and if comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 12. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: One of the scribes came near and heard Jesus and the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' ³¹The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³²Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; ³³and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'— this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #704 WHEN PAIN OF THE WORLD SURROUNDS US

*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

Invitation for Offerings

<u>Leader</u>: Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise. The God of heaven and earth, of all of creation, holds each one of us in tender love and care. God is gracious and good, and no one is insignificant in God's eyes.

OFFERTORY

*Offertory response #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray together.

ALL: Lord Jesus, you offered yourself in love for the world. Fill us with your love, that we may use these gifts to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and share your story with our neighbors. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: Merciful God, **ALL**: **receive our prayer.**

We pray for Becky, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Riley, Kelli, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Ron, Chase, Bob, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan,

Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Bob, Don, Ashley, Pat, and Gordon.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

<u>Leader</u>: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: and also with you.

Please feel free to shake hands as you share God's peace.

Leader: Let the peace of Christ reign among us.

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

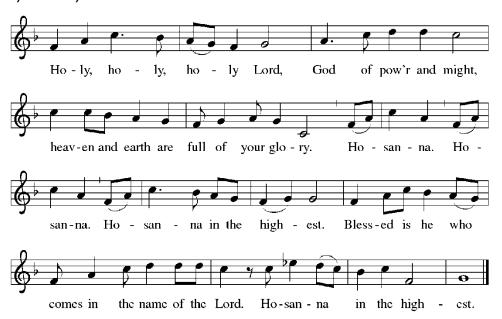
<u>Leader</u>: God's love binds us together. Grace comes to us through Christ Jesus. The Spirit moves among us giving us life.

ALL: All praise to God who is holy, almighty, and merciful.

<u>Leader</u>: As children of God, in baptism, we were sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

ALL: With our hearts lifted high, we give God thanks and praise.

<u>Leader</u>: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, Holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, who in the multitude of your saints did surround us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life and sing to the God of everlasting love.



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

<u>Leader</u>: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, given to you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Drink of it all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do in remembrance of me." **ALL: Amen**

<u>Leader</u>: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith;

ALL: We believe that Christ died for us.

We affirm that Christ was raised.

We proclaim that Christ will come again.

<u>Leader</u>: In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us 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



*Invitation to Communion

<u>Leader</u>: Behold, God is making all things new. Come, take your place in the new creation.

DISTRIBUTION

*TABLE BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **ALL: Amen**

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #182

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

*Prayer after Communion

Leader: Please join with me in prayer,

ALL: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and \maltese give you peace. In the name of the Father, the \maltese Son, and the Holy Spirit.

***THE AMEN**



*SENDING HYMN #543

GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

*DISMISSAL

<u>Leader</u>: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

As we leave worship each week, we remember the poor around the world by placing loose offerings in the "hunger bowls" on the Information Table in the Narthex. These gifts are then forwarded to the ELCA World Hunger Program.

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We are still in need of a few more cans of sweet potatoes and cranberry sauce for our community Christmas Boxes. Please bring your donations to the church by tomorrow and place them on the shelf above the coat rack nearest the monthly food pantry table.

Mark your calendar for next Sunday, November 10, for our fundraising dinner, and November 17 for our Annual Congregational Meeting both following worship.

Due to Dana's personal time off, the November Newsletter will be published this week. Watch your email (or snail mail) later this 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 all the saints. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Becky Bean, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Rick Van Mooy, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl & John Kruse, Shirley Heilman, Larry Slaughterbeck, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Bertha Carter, Barb Williams.

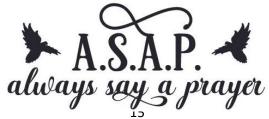
<u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS</u>: Riley Guy, Kelli Sterling, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, Deanna Griffith, Laura, Michael Sullivan, Cindy.

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.

<u>COMPANION CHURCH</u>: Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

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

<u>THE WORLD</u>: 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.



Training Your Faith

When people train for a marathon, they do best when they set a goal and make a training plan. While that may lead to success for the event, what about the rest of life? Few people have the capacity to sustain the kind of intense and focused training required for marathons for the rest of their lives. After the race, new goals need to be set and new training plans made that can become a long-term lifestyle.



People of faith are called to follow a similar path, because the life of faith is not about preparing for a single event. Faith is a lifelong journey. This journey is shaped by a commitment to pray, worship, learn, give, and serve.

The Shema (Deut. 6:4-5) talks about loving the Lord totally. This teaching is central to both the Jewish and the Christian faiths. The great commandment is the foundation under which Jesus teaches. "Love God totally. Love others as

you love yourself." How do these commandments become part of a lifestyle on a daily basis? In the reading from Hebrews we are reminded that Jesus is the one who makes us pure and holy through his suffering, dying, and rising. Made holy by Jesus, the people of God are called to live differently, to treat one another differently, and to be gracious and loving to one another.

Many debates and conflicts that can consume time and energy in the Christian community would be resolved if they were measured against these two commandments. Are proposed actions going to help people know and carry out these commandments? Are today's followers getting the training necessary to know how to love the Lord totally and love others as themselves?

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