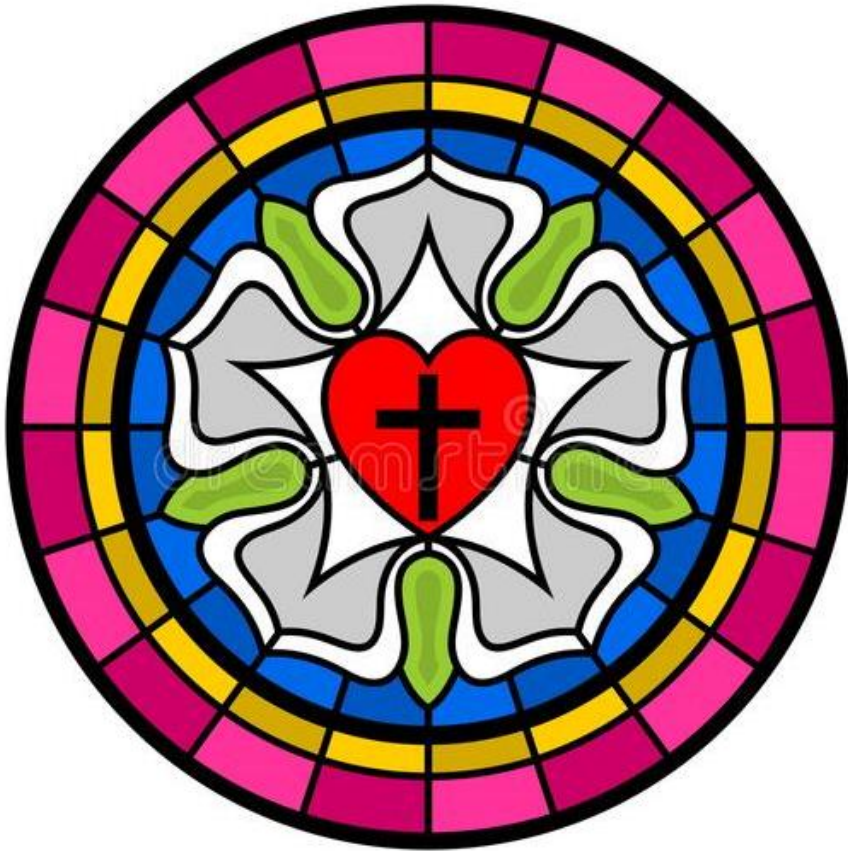


Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



February 11, 2024



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: StLukesNB@gmail.com

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: *Pastor Elizabeth Hadler*

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *JoLynn Stewart*

Acolyte: *Avery Wymer*

Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*

Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

February Candles: [available for signup](#)

February Bulletins: [available for signup](#)

February Newsletter: [available for signup](#)

Choir rehearsals are Sundays @ 9:30 a.m. You may join us anytime.

Everyone age 16 and older is invited to join us. Come and lift your voice in praise to God.

North Baltimore Food Pantry February requested donations include: mac & cheese, pasta, and pasta sauces. Start the new year off right by making a commitment to donate to the food pantry every month. Thank you for your continued support of this vital community mission.

Order of Worship

Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 2024

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 AND 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, "Gracious God." When you exhale, pray, "open my heart."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beyond our busyness, above the cold winter floor there is a glory rising born of heaven and reaching out to each one of us.

ALL: A light that shines through the clouds, an invitation seeking all of who we are, that transfigures the world, that transforms darkness into hope and that brings life from a cross where old life ends and new life is born.

Leader: In glory Jesus meets us here raising us from depths of valley to the height of the mountain carrying the weight of our humanity to the heights of heavens glory.

Leader: Let us worship from the mountain and hear again

ALL: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

*GATHERING HYMN #614

THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

*AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: All throughout Scripture, there are stories which reveal our sin and brokenness. Every storm points us to the One who loves us with an everlasting love, and longs to forgive us. Let us now confess our sins.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Lord our God,

ALL: forgive us when we harden our hearts to your Word. Grant us your light and your love that we might daily follow our Lord to the mountain tops of worship and to the valleys of service. In his name we pray. Amen.

*KYRIE HYMN #151



1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

*CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE

Leader: Though blinded by sin, God's saving light beams into our souls and hearts. We see the love of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

*THIS IS THE FEAST



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

2 KINGS 2:1-12

Reader: Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 50:1-6

Reader: The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

ALL: Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory.

Reader: Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

ALL: God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people.

Reader: Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

ALL: The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause, for it is God who is judge.

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

SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-6

Reader: Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we

proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

setting 3

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL READING

MARK 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Mark chapter 9. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice,

“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #715

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

***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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

Prayer Leader: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: God of grace, **ALL: receive our prayer.**

We pray for Emily, Carl, Jim, Pat, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Fred, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Ron, Chase, Bob, Cali,

Howard, Emelyn, Isabella, Kevin, Shirley, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, Gus, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Teresa, Doug, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Braxton, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Logan, Don, Ashley, Beth, Holly, Tessa, Riker, Kelly, Al, Pat, Dan, and Cooper.

***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**



***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The hope, peace, joy, love, and light of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of God.

Please share God's peace."

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: Lord Jesus, our light shining in the darkness, you have set the ultimate example of sacrificial love by giving life for our salvation. We ask for grace to emulate your sacrificial love in our own lives. Grant us the capacity to give as a heartfelt act of worship and devotion to you.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

GOD NOURISHES US

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: Almighty God, we give you thanks, for by the leading of a star you have revealed your only Son to the world. **ALL: Following him we are led from darkness into his marvelous light.**

Leader: We give you thanks, for a new light has dawned upon the world.

ALL: All the nations are now called out of darkness to see the radiance of your glory.

Leader: As we remember his birth, life, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith, revealed to us in Christ:

ALL: Christ came to us, the morning star of love.

Christ died, the evening star of salvation.

Christ arose, the eternal star of resurrection.

Christ will come again, the light that leads us to hope.

Leader: As we journey together with Christ, let us join our voices with the faithful of all times and all places:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, gave it to his disciples, saying

ALL: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Leader: Again, after supper, Jesus took a cup, gave thanks; and gave it for all to drink, saying

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

Leader: Believing that the light of Christ came into our world and still shines in the darkness, come and take your place at the table.

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

DISTRIBUTION

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #204

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE



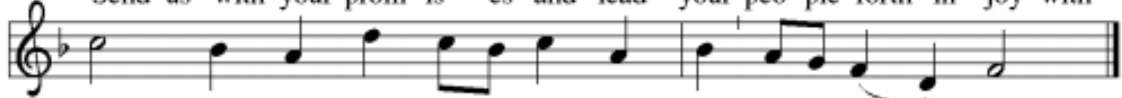
Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me prayer,

ALL: We give you thanks, faithful God, for feeding us with this heavenly food. Transform us through this meal into the likeness of your Son, and unite us in love for one another, that we may be your presence in the world. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

Leader: Praise God! Alleluia!

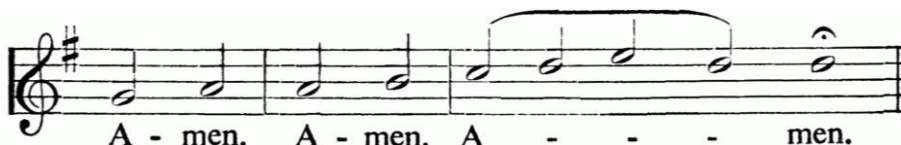
ALL: Heaven and earth praise God! Alleluia!

Leader: All honor, glory, and praise be to God!

ALL: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

*THE AMEN



*SENDING HYMN #638

BLESSED ASSURANCE

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

Designated liturgical and music texts, Prayers of the People, back-page devotions are from *Sundays and Seasons.com* © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS18497. All rights reserved.

Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-717176:

"*There Is a Balm in Gilead*" TEXT: African American spiritual MUSIC: African American spiritual

"*Kyrie*" TEXT: Dinah Reindorf, b.c. 1927 MUSIC: 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

"*Christ, Be Our Light*" TEXT: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 MUSIC: Bernadette Farrell Text and Music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin OCP Publications

"*Create In Me a Clean Heart*" TEXT: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 MUSIC: © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

"*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*" TEXT: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 TEXT AND MUSIC © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress

"*Blessed Assurance*" TEXT: FANNY J. CROSBY, 1820-1915 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1907

All Scripture Readings: New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



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 participate in Bible studies and for those who create them for our use. Thanks be to God!

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Ronnie Stewart, Chase, Bob, Cali, Howard Till, Emelyn, Isabella, Keven Bickle, Shirley Hollowell, 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, and 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.

Transfiguration: Amazing Then and Now

Imagine what would happen if someone from the days of Jesus were suddenly transported to our present. How would someone accustomed to walking everywhere respond to driving in a car at top speed, let alone flying in a jet? How would someone who spends their life depending on—at best—oil lamps for light respond to electric lights? It is fun to muse at how people might respond, as we reflect on how sophisticated we are.

Now imagine if the scene were reversed. How would someone accustomed to understanding much in the world around them respond to an event as otherworldly as the transfiguration? We understand volcanoes and the northern lights. We can explain lightning and thunder. We know about germs and disease transmission. So what would we do when confronted with something so amazing, awesome, and unexplainable?



The transfiguration is one of those ancient events that still puzzle us. What really happened to Jesus that day? Since we cannot go back to that time, we are left to speculate. We take stabs in the dark and make educated guesses, but at the end of the day we are left with a holy mystery to ponder.

Whatever happened that day, there is a timeless spiritual reality behind the physical details Mark gives us. God sometimes uses extreme and amazing methods to transform us when we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit. God's spirit transfigured Jesus then. That same Spirit is still transforming people today. We don't have to explain first-century miracles to trust that God's transforming Spirit is timeless and at work within each of us today. We do not have to understand everything to see the beauty of God at work in the world, continually transfiguring us into the people we were created to be.

215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105
419-257-3253 StLukesNB@gmail.com
[Church Office Hours M-F 9-1](#)