

Welcome to Worship  
St. Luke's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church



Second Sunday in Lent  
February 25, 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](mailto: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: *SAM Bob Fett*

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Olivia Matthes*

Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*

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. Perhaps regular donations to the community food pantry could be one of your goals for Lent.

# Order of Worship

Second Sunday in Lent, February 25, 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.*

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## GOD GATHERS US

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### 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, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to listen."*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In this season of Lent, we make our way to the cross,

**ALL: we remember the steps that led Jesus there: betrayal and fear, but also trust in God and love for humanity.**

Leader: In this season of Lent, as we make our way to the cross, we thrive to follow Christ's example: to admit betrayal and fear that are part of life.

**ALL: To embrace trust in God and love for humanity.**

Leader: So that we may make our journey, let us worship God.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN #660

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

#### \*AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please take a moment for personal reflection.*

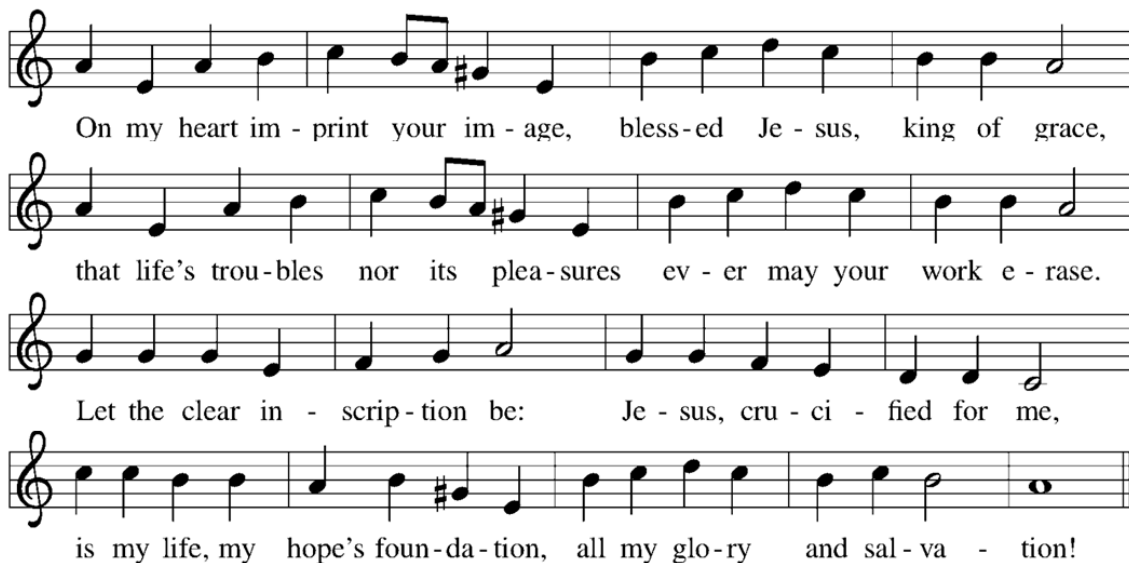
Leader: Holy God,

**ALL: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ. Amen.

### \* LENTEN CANTICLE

ELW HYMN 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, O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life.

**ALL: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our**

**Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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## **GOD SPEAKS TO US**

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### **FIRST READING**

GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader: When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

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

### **PSALM READING**

*(responsively)*

Psalm 22:23-31

Reader: You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

**ALL: For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD’s face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

Reader: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**ALL: The poor shall eat and be satisfied, let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

Reader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**ALL: For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

Reader: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**ALL: Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

Reader: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

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

## **SECOND READING**

ROMANS 4:13-25

Reader: The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many

nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

<sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

### \***LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

setting 3



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### \***GOSPEL READING**

MARK 8:31-38

*After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter’s response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel*

Leader: The holy gospel according to Mark. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the

scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.<sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?

<sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

## **THE MESSAGE**

### **\*HYMN OF THE DAY #335**

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

### **\*A LENTEN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: Please join me as we confess our faith for the journey ahead.

**ALL: We believe in God, creator and sustainer of all that is and all that is to come, the God of our living and our loving.**

**We believe in the cross of Christ, drenched in hatred and cruelty, yet overflowing with God’s unquenchable love that we might be free.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, poured into our hearts. We believe in the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, despised by the world, but our way of life.**



**We believe that, through faith our sins are forgiven, and that we will be with Christ, our Savior and Lord, our divine friend, in heavenly glory; life that never ends. Amen.**

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

Prayer Leader: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and the people of a world in need.

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God. **ALL: your mercy is great.**

We pray for 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, 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.

## **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: As we journey through Lent together, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL: and also with you.**

*"Please share God's peace."*

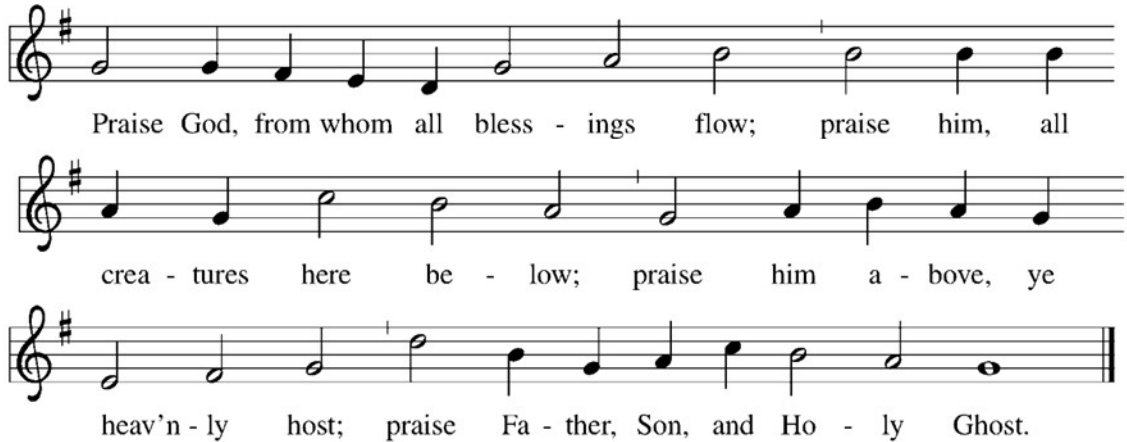
## **INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader: Heavenly Father, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the countless blessings you have bestowed upon us. As we give tithes and offerings today, we ask for your guidance and wisdom to help us understand that it's better to give than receive. Inspire us to embrace the joy and blessing that come from selfless giving, mirroring the generous spirit of our Savior.

## OFFERTORY

### \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen**

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## GOD NOURISHES US

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### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

**ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them unto the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly good, right.....evermore praising you and singing:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

*MELODY TUNE; ELW HYMN 666*



1. Ho - ly, most ho - ly God, ho - ly Lord God of hosts, your  
2. Blest be the One who bears God's blest name un - to us. Blest



glo - ry fills all heav - en and earth. "Ho - san - na!" an - gels cry.  
be the ho - ly name of our Lord. Let Je - sus' name be blest,



"Ho - san - na!" we re - ply. "Ho - san - na, God most high, Lord of  
by all the world con - fessed. Our high - est and our best prais - es



love, high a - bove. Ho - san - na, might - y Lord, God of love."  
ring, an - thems sing: "Ho - san - na, Christ our Lord, God and King!"

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Leader: 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**

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

**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Leader: As beloved children of God 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**

## \*LAMB OF GOD

SETTING 2 PG. 135



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come to the table where heaven and earth are joined as one!

## DISTRIBUTION

### \*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

(Verse 1)

### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me prayer,

**ALL: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

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## GOD SENDS US

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### \*BLESSING

Leader: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace.

### \*THE AMEN



### \*SENDING HYMN #798

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

### \*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* TEXT: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

*"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 (#313)

*"Will You Come and Follow Me"* TEXT: John L. Bell, b. 1949 © 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. MUSIC: Scottish traditional

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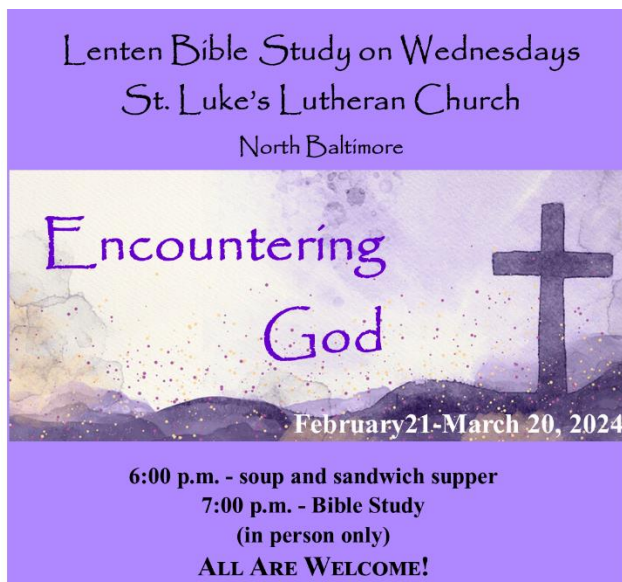
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Good News  Amen!

The Good News+Amen Team has once again accepted the opportunity to reach out and share the love of

Jesus through the Kairos Prison Ministry. You are invited to join us to bake cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry at the Allen/Oakwood Correctional Institution in Lima, Ohio. We will gather on Saturday, March 16, at 10:00 a.m. to bake and package cookies. We will purchase the ingredients and the packaging supplies. If you are unable to come and help bake, financial donations are welcome. Please join us for fun and fellowship and service on March 16.



Lenten Bible Study on Wednesdays  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
North Baltimore

Encountering  
God

February 21-March 20, 2024

6:00 p.m. - soup and sandwich supper  
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study  
(in person only)  
ALL ARE WELCOME!



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 encounter God in our daily lives. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Lorraine Ferguson, Sue & Dave Ebersole, 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:** Tony Matthes, Ron 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.

## Promises, Promises

The story of God's relationship with God's people is a story of promises fulfilled. We hear about God's covenant with Sarah and Abraham in today's Genesis reading and about its fulfillment in the New Testament texts. As Paul reminds us in Romans, we are the multitude of nations that were promised to Abraham; we are his descendants in faith. "Kings of peoples" (Gen. 17:16) descended from Sarah's offspring; Jesus Christ, the King of kings, is Lord of all through his death and resurrection.



From generation to generation, God is steadfast. No matter how often we turn away, This is the great hope of often we stray or how persists in loving us.

God through our baptism into his death. In worship—especially through confession, affirmation of baptism, and communion—we continually remember the lengths to which God goes to keep covenant with us. The promise of salvation extends even into the future, as the psalmist reminds us: Our children and our children's children will proclaim God's salvation to generations yet unborn.

generation, God is how many ages pass or God remains faithful. our faith—no matter how great our sin, God Jesus Christ binds us to

*<sup>13</sup>The PROMISE that he would inherit the world DID NOT COME to Abraham or to his descendants THROUGH THE LAW but THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF FAITH.*

*Romans 4:13*

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[Church Office Hours M-F 9-1](#)