# elcome to Porship St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Coly Crinity Sunday
May 26, 2024



Disciples and Ministers: All the People

Pastor:

NWOS Bishop: Daniel Beaudoin

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Elizabeth Eaton* Companion Church: *Mwanawotta, Tanzania* 

Web Page: <a href="http://www.stlukesnb.org">http://www.stlukesnb.org</a>

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: Beth Williams

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: Janet Goldner

Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart* Videographer: *Beth Williams* 

#### To the Glory of God

May Altar Candles: Carol Williams
May Bulletins: Laura & Tony Damon
May Newsletters: Laura & Tony Damon

**The flowers** are given by Arica & Matt Matthes and family in celebration of Eloise's birthday, which was May 22.

**North Baltimore Food Pantry May** requested donations include: <u>peanut butter</u>, <u>jellies and jams</u>. Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.

# Order of Worship

#### The Holy Trinity Sunday, May 26, 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**

#### **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, "Holy Spirit." When you exhale, pray, "guide my life."

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

<u>Leader</u>: We gather in the name of the Father, Creator of the world.

ALL: We praise and worship God, the Father.

<u>Leader</u>: We gather in the name of Jesus, the Son, who saved the world.

ALL: We praise and worship God, the Son.

<u>Leader</u>: We gather in the name of the Spirit, blessing our lives with

holiness.

ALL: We praise and worship God, the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Let us worship the Triune God.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN #412

COME. JOIN THE DANCE OF TRINITY

#### \*AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

<u>Leader</u>: Blessed be the Holy Trinity Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives our sins, and whose mercy endures forever. Let us approach

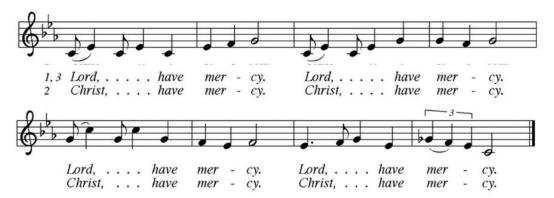
God's throne of grace with boldness, confessing our sin and trusting in God's mercy.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

Leader: God of truth,

ALL: we have all sinned and fallen short of your glory. We have turned away from you and have not kept your commandments. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, and have neglected the poor. We have not welcomed all people in your name. You know the fullness of our sin. Forgive us, and turn us again to you, so that we may receive the fullness of your mercy. Amen.

#### **\*KYRIE HYMN #151**



#### \*CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE

<u>Leader</u>: Jesus Christ sacrificed himself for us and for our sins. Therefore, in Jesus Christ, God frees you from your sins and gives you a place in God's household forever, in the name of the Father,  $\maltese$  Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.



#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray together:

ALL: Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **GOD SPEAKS TO US**

FIRST READING ISAIAH 6:1-8

<u>Reader</u>: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

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

<u>Reader</u>: Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

ALL: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

<u>Reader</u>: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

ALL: The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

<u>Reader</u>: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

ALL: the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

Reader: The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

ALL: The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<u>Reader</u>: The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

**ALL:** The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

<u>Reader</u>: O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

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

#### SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:12-17

<u>Reader</u>: Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - <sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For

all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 142





#### \*GOSPEL READING

JOHN: 3:1-17 Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the

Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

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

Leader: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" 5Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6What is born of the flesh is flesh,

and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

#### THE MESSAGE

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY #574

HERE I AM, LORD

#### \*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

<u>Prayer Leader</u>: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

#### \*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Leader: Merciful God, ALL: receive our prayer.

We pray for Lorraine, Sue, Dave, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Tony, Ron, Chase, Bob, Emelyn, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, Donnis, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Bob, Don, Beth, Ashley, and Pat.

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

<u>Leader</u>: Let the Holy Spirit bring peace to your heart and let us share that peace with one other. The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you.

Please share God's peace."

#### Invitation for Offerings

<u>Leader</u>: Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, we ask for the grace to be vessels of your love, compassion and truth. Impart a spirit of generosity, compassion and love to those entrusted to our care. May our words and actions be a reflection of your grace, inspiring those gathered here to experience the transformative power of your love through generous giving.

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray together,

ALL: Holy God, we remember with gratitude the many ways you touch and bless our lives, to make us more holy and more loving. We offer these gifts, and our whole lives, in thankfulness for all you have done, are doing, and will do in our lives. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **GOD NOURISHES US**

#### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

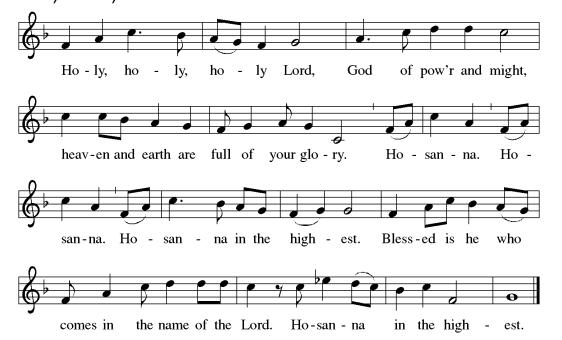
<u>Leader</u>: God's love binds us together. Grace comes to us through Christ Jesus. The Spirit moves among us giving us life.

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, 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 and life;

ALL: Christ died, to defeat sin and death.

Christ was raised, to forgive us, heal us, and give us life.

Christ will come again, to unite us with God forever.

<u>Leader</u>: Blessing, honor, and glory be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

#### \*Invitation to Communion

Come to the banquet. Receive the living God.

**ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!** 

#### DISTRIBUTION

#### \*TABLE BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: Through the body, blood, and spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. This is God's promise to us. May his love and mercy strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **ALL: Amen** 

#### \*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #204

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join me prayer,

ALL: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have poured your Holy Spirit into our hearts, and nourished us with the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ our Lord. As we confess our faith in you, grant that we may attain the fullness of eternal life, by your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **GOD SENDS US**

#### \*BLESSING

<u>Leader</u>: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  $\pm$  be upon you now and forever.

#### **\*THE AMEN**



#### \*SENDING HYMN #888

O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES

#### \*DISMISSAL

<u>Leader</u>: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.** 

#### **Postlude**

Change in office hours this week – the church office will be open on Monday, May 27, and closed on Wednesday, May 29. Thank you.



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**Prayers Requested** – for Janet Goldner and Carol Williams as they attend the Synod Assembly in Bowling Green on this Saturday, June 1, as voting representatives of St. Luke's Church, and for all those attending the Assembly.

The Pictorial Directories have been printed. If you had your photo taken (or submitted one), your copy is on the table in Luther Hall with your name on it. If you did not have your picture taken or submitted a photo but would like a directory, stop by the church and pick one up or have someone pick one up for you. The committee has decided not to go to the expense of mailing them.



The **<u>RED</u> <u>GERANIUMS</u>** are available for purchase. The cost is \$5.00. Drop a note with your check or cash in the offering plate if you are interested.

### Have a safe and happy Memorial Day!





Planning meeting scheduled Tuesday, June 4, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. in Luther Hall

Come, discover what the theme is all about and where you can dive in.



**Help is needed** – if you have not been personally impacted by the tornadoes ripping through our country, give thanks to God. Lutheran Disaster Response is out and about helping to assess damages and begin reaching out to those in need. With the number of communities devasted money and volunteers are greatly needed. If you would like to make a

financial donation you may do so through the church. Make you check out to St. Luke's Church, mark it for tornado assistance (or "where need most") and put it in the offering plate. If you would like to volunteer to physically help in the storm torn communities contact Lutheran Disaster Response.

https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response

# Include God in everything you do.

# Invitation to Lutheran Summer Music 2024

Lutheran Summer Music announces its 42nd season, offering over 30 free and open-to-the-public concerts and recitals. All events take place this July at Valparaiso University, and most will be livestreamed. Performances and services are shared by over 250 students, faculty, fellows, worship staff, and guest artists who come together to create a vibrant community of music-makers. The LSM 2024 season will culminate during Festival Week (July 21-28), featuring the LSM Festival Band, Choir, and Orchestra, a Festival of Hymns, and closing each day with sung Evening Prayer. Of special note, the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) will join the LSM community and offer an intergenerational performance of J.S. Bach's St. John Passion. Visit LSMacademy.org/2024 for a full list of events and to access the livestream.



## Sermon Notes

Write 3 teachings or ideas you heard in today's sermon:
1.
2.
3.
Something I might do to put this sermon into practice.
Write a brief prayer relating to the sermon.



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 those who gave their lives in service to our country and all the saints who guided us on our journeys and are now resting in God's arms. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Lorraine Ferguson, Sue & Dave Ebersole, 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>: Jennifer Dochod, Tony Matthes, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, Emelyn, 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.

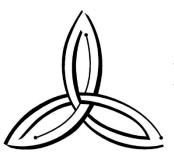
<u>WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS</u>: all ministries of the ELCA (<u>E</u>vangelical <u>L</u>utheran <u>C</u>hurch in <u>A</u>merica), our presiding <u>Bishop Elizabeth Eaton</u>, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the <u>NWOS</u> (<u>Northwestern Ohio Synod</u>), <u>Bishop Daniel Beaudoin</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.



#### Our Amazing Life through Fearsome Peath

Holy. Glory. These words in the first reading and psalm testify to awe at



God's transcendent sovereignty, fearsome majesty, and infinite mystery. No mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live. The fear expressed in these readings is *personal*—a living mortal in awe of the living God. In our age, awe at transcendent mystery tends toward the *impersonal*—at the invisibly small (in physics, quarks and strings) and the unimaginably large (space and time). Does anyone in

our age still cultivate the fear of an unmanageable transcendent God, or is the notion too connected to images of a heavenly bully to be useful? Besides, Paul and Jesus each offer a picture of God's immanence. Paul invites us to revel in God's approachability, affirming that we can cry, "Abba! Father!" Jesus proclaims the most famous Bible verse of all, telling of God's great love and desire to save.

But both Jesus and Paul testify that any presumption of easy friendship and comfortable intimacy with the triune God is as out of place now as ever. The immanent God is still the transcendent God! And it is still true: no mortal can see God's face or hear God's voice and live—even if the face and voice belong to Jesus through the Holy Spirit. The life God desires for us is accomplished through Jesus' death—and through our own through baptism. Those deaths are as utterly terrifying as death always is, but with this grace: the death leads to our holy birth from above into a life where "we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him" (Rom. 8:17).