

Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



June 16, 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 Leaders: *Bob Fett*
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



The flowers are given by Bob Kelley and families.

Thank You Dad poem:

Thank you for the laughter,
For the good times that we share,
Thanks for always listening,
For trying to be fair.
Thank you for your comfort,
When things are going bad,
Thank you for the shoulder,
To cry on when I'm sad.
This poem's a reminder that
All my life through,
I'll be thanking heaven
For a special dad like you.

Order of Worship

Sunday, June 16, 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, "Holy Spirit." When you exhale, pray, "guide my life."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Who are we?

ALL: We are the church!

Leader: Why are we here?

ALL: To be disciples!

Leader: What does the church say?

ALL: Jesus is our risen Lord!

Leader: What do we have to offer?

ALL: Hope for the world!

Leader: Let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN #660

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

*AN OFFERING OF CONFESSION

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **ALL: Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

Leader: God, our provider,

ALL: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. 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: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **ALL: Amen.**

*GLORY TO GOD

SETTING 2, HYMNAL PAGE 121



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



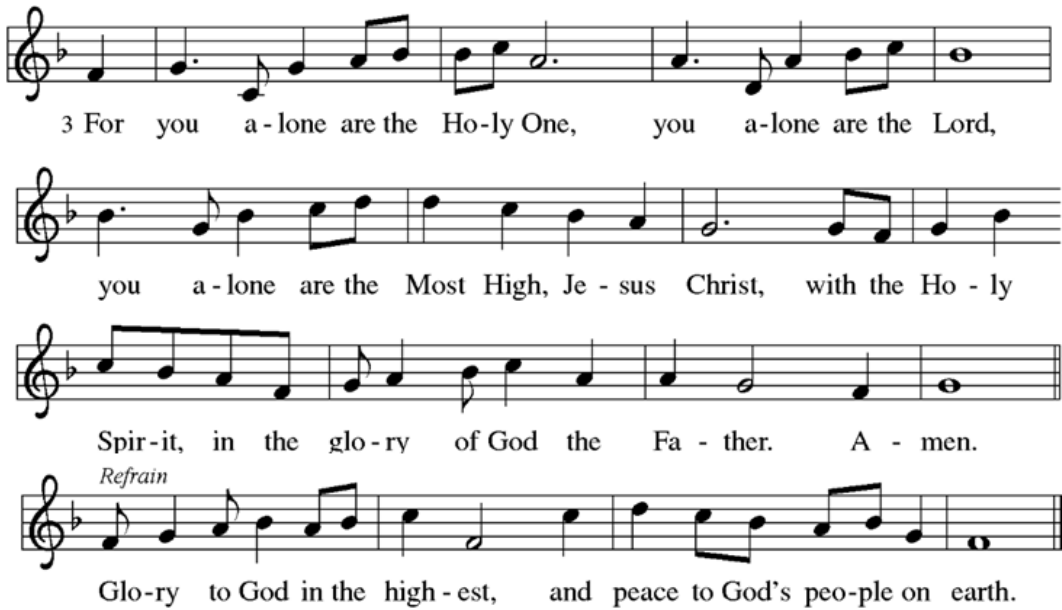
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray together:

ALL: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 17:22-24

Reader: Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of

bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

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

PSALM READING *(responsively)* Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Reader: It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

ALL: to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;

Reader: on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

ALL: For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

Reader: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

ALL: Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;

Reader: they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

ALL: that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

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

SECOND READING 2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10, 14-17

Reader: So, we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith,

not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore, all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 142



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: 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

Leader: There is good news for us today and it comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 4. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: ²⁶Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed

would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #696

JESUS CALLS US; O’ER THE TUMULT

***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: Trusting God's promise of new life, 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: 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, Kristen, Cobie, Jennifer, 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

Leader: 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

Leader: Holy Spirit, we invite your presence into our efforts to sow seeds in faith. Open our eyes, ears, and hearts to the mission of your church here in the community and worldwide. Empower us with the knowledge that our giving is an act of trust in your unfailing promises.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: Christ Jesus, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be seeds of hope for the world and signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world. Amen.

GOD NOURISHES US

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

SETTING 3 HYMNAL PAGE 144



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: 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: By the Spirit, we believe that Christ died for us.

By the Spirit, we affirm that Christ was raised.

By the Spirit, we proclaim that Christ will come again.

Leader: 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**

Leader: We break this bread and drink this cup, for it is the Holy Spirit who gathers us together around this table.

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

DISTRIBUTION

***TABLE BLESSING**

Leader: 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 with me in prayer,

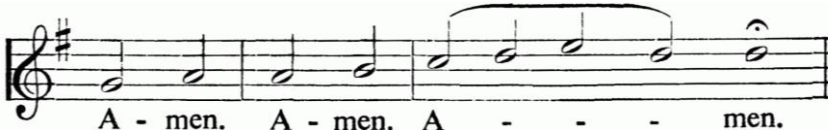
ALL: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

GOD SENDS US

***BLESSING**

Leader: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✚ be upon you now and forever.

***THE AMEN**



***SENDING HYMN #854**

BLESSING AND HONOR

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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Please check the bulletin insert for more important information.

Smile, God Loves You!

To the Glory of God

June Altar Candles: [available for sign-up](#)

June Bulletins: *Laura & Tony Damon*

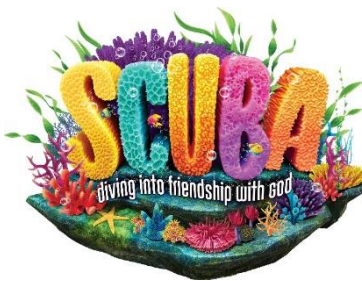
June Newsletters: *Laura & Tony Damon*

North Baltimore Food Pantry June requested donations include: instant potatoes and canned meats. Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.

Special Summer Mission Project requested donation for June is frosting in any flavor, in round containers. Looking ahead, July request is small packages of Birthday dessert plates and matching napkins (if possible).

Please stop by the Information Table and sign the greeting cards.

Vacation **B**ible **S**chool is coming
Registration is now open. Forms
Information Table and the main
Posters have been printed to be
around town. If you can help with
the list on the Information Table
with you. We are also seeking
assistance to print the materials needed, buy the craft supplies and the
food for the meals that we provide each day. Please use the Special
Offering Envelope in the bulletin and mark it for VBS. Thank you for your
support.



July 21-25.
are on the
bulletin board.
distributed
this, please see
and take some
financial



Next Sunday, June 23, 2024, we will be having hymn sing during worship. If you have a favorite hymn or two you would like to sing, please jot them down below and drop this sheet in the offering plate or leave it in the Church Secretary's mailbox.





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 fathers. 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.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Kristen, Cobie, 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.

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.


A.S.A.P.
always say a prayer

The Mystery of Growth

In elementary school, when children learn about plants they inevitably plant a small seed in a clear plastic cup and watch it grow. This helps as they learn the parts of plants: leaf, stem, roots. As we get older we get more sophisticated in our ability to explain the details of the plant and the growth we see, but on some level the growth itself remains a mystery. Why do some plants thrive and others fail? Was it the soil? Too much water? Too little? And what of those plants growing in the tiny cracks in between slabs of concrete?



The growth of faith is a similar mystery. We can do the best we can to provide good soil, in the form of teachers and mentors, parents and pastors. Still, the faith seems to take root and grow in some people and not in others. And then there are people raised in the worst conditions who grow to be strong people of faith.

Jesus reminds us that faith is a gift which comes to us from God. We cannot control it in ourselves, and we cannot control it in others. We can plant, we can water, and then we can sleep and wake until the plant grows. In the end it is God who brings the growth and the Holy Spirit who gives us faith. As people of God we are called to be good soil. As people of God we are called to trust that God will do what we cannot. Faith will grow, and the church will flourish, not because of our grand schemes and plans, but because God will have it no other way.

Happy Fathers' Day!

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1