

Welcome to
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



July 7, 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 Bill Schultz*
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *JoLynn Stewart*
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

July Altar Candles: *Beth & Clay McCartney*
July Bulletins: *Beth & Clay McCartney*
July Newsletters: *Beth & Clay McCartney*

North Baltimore Food Pantry July requested donations include: cereal and pork & beans. Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.

Special Summer Mission Project requested donations for July are sprinkles, Birthday candles, small packages of Birthday dessert plates and matching napkins (if possible).



Order of Worship

Sunday, July 7, 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: Children of God; Welcome!

ALL: Welcome to this place of love and grace.

Leader: Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

ALL: God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community.

Leader: God invites all of us to share in the good news.

ALL: We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

Leader: In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

*GATHERING HYMN #742

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

*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.

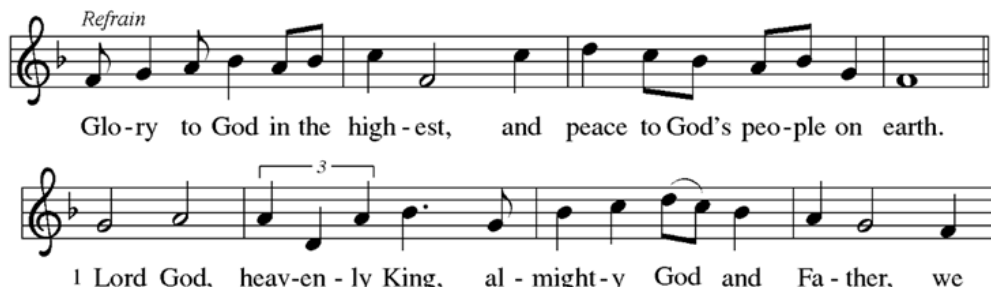
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

*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



Refrain

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.



Refrain
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.



Refrain
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: God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 2:1-5

Reader: A voice said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord God.” ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 123

Reader: To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

ALL: As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.

Reader: Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,

ALL: too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.

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

SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10

Reader: I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows - ⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

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 6:1-13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

Leader: There is good news for us today and it comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 6. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #598

FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED

***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: One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer for the church, the well-being of creation, our community, ourselves, and the people of a world in need.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: In your mercy, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

We pray for 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 another. The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: and also with you.

Please share God's peace.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: As we present our tithes and offerings today, we remember that everything we have comes from God. Let us give with gratitude for all we have received remembering the greatest gift of all, Christ Jesus.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray together.

ALL: Lord our God, we offer these gifts from the abundance you have entrusted to us. In the use of these and all your gifts, may be live dedicated lives of faith in Jesus. Guide us to be your instruments in our daily lives. 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..

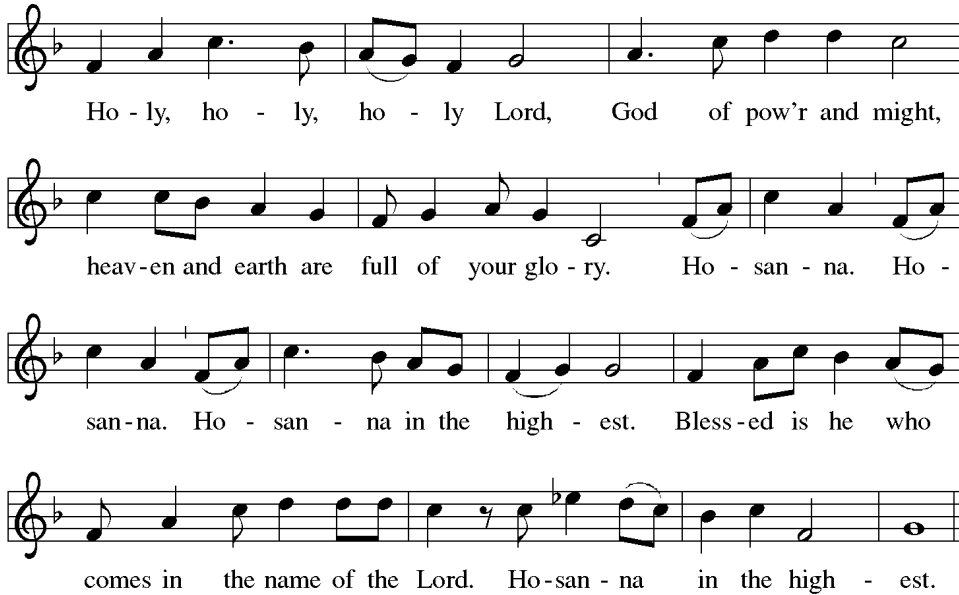
ALL: With our hearts lifted high, we give God thanks and praise.

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,

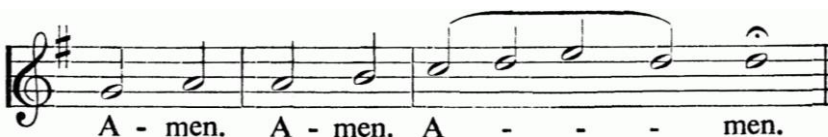
ALL: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

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 #891

GOD BLESS OUR NATIVE LAND

*DISMISSAL

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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*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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## TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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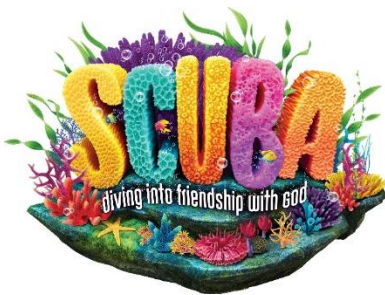
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*"Kyrie"* TEXT: Dinah Reindorf, b.c. 1927 MUSIC: 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
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The decorations have arrived. The crafts have been organized and ordered. The posters have been placed in the community and on social media. The only thing missing is YOU. Please prayerfully consider how you can lend a hand or two to make our



Vacation Bible School a whale of a success! We will need many hands on Saturday, July 13 to put the decorations up, and many hands the week of VBS to make the event a fun learning experience for the children of the community.

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Adult Vacation Bible School – July 16-18 – 6-8 p.m. – St. John’s Lutheran Church of McComb. This is a non-denominational community gathering. We will hear speakers from the Gideons and Kairos Prison Ministry. Registration is not required. Come when you can.



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 leadership of Pastor Bill Schultz. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** 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.

## Ready to Bear Witness

Where does power come from? The usual answers—family connections, reputation, possessions—are all rejected in this reading from Mark’s gospel. Jesus’ power is not only independent of his family connection—it is hindered by it. While it isn’t entirely clear why the people of Nazareth reject Jesus, the fact



that they do may sound familiar to us. How often do we find exactly what we expect when we encounter something new? How open are we, really, to the possibility that God’s power might come from an unexpected corner? The first part of today’s reading suggests that even miracles take two things: both divine power and willing witnesses.

Perhaps Jesus sends his disciples out stripped of their possession precisely so that *they* are ready to witness to God’s power in a new way. They go without any of the usual trappings of security or wealth, with no guarantee that their ministry will be received. In fact, Mark reminds us a few verses later (Mark 6:14-28) just how hostile the world can be to receiving the proclamation of the kingdom of God. John the Baptist will lose his life because of Herod’s resistance to repentance. Nevertheless, Jesus’ teaching continues to astound, and the word continues to spread.

The willingness to bear witness, even when we are not certain of answered prayer or mission success, is a theme that unites all this day’s readings. Even the Psalm, in its simple gaze of faith, invites us to let go of results in favor of relationship. Paul’s sometimes confusing logic about spiritual experiences becomes clear as he sums up God’s word to him: “My grace is sufficient for you . . . .” That is a powerful word, which can make almost any experience an opportunity to witness to Christ’s power.

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