

W elcome to W orship
St. Luke's E vangelical
Lutheran Church



September 15, 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: *SAM Bob Fett*
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Carl Lieser*
Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

September Altar Candles: [available for sign up](#)
September Bulletins: *Laura & Tony Damon*
September Newsletter: *Laura & Tony Damon*

The Flowers given by *Ruth & Dwight Patterson* in celebration of their 10th Wedding Anniversary on September 13. Congratulations!

North Baltimore Food Pantry September requested donations include: [pastas and pasta sauces](#). Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.

Order of Worship

Sunday, September 15, 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

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

PRELUDE WITH SILENT MEDITATIVE PRAYER

Use your breath as a form of prayer as you listen to the music. When you breathe in, pray, "Forgiving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to forgive."

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **ALL: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Please take a moment for personal reflection.

Leader: Gracious God,

ALL: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Leader: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **ALL: Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN #785**

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

***GREETING**

Leader: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: and also with you.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
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 join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

ALL: O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

Reader: The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷ The Lord God helps me; therefore, I have not been disgraced; therefore, I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸ he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a} It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 166:1-9

Reader: I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

ALL: for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

Reader: The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

ALL: Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”

Reader: Gracious is the LORD and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

ALL: The LORD watches over the innocent; I was brought low, and God saved me.

Reader: Turn again to your rest, O my soul, for the LORD has dealt well with you.

ALL: For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

Reader: I will walk in the presence of the LORD in the land of the living.

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

SECOND READING

JAMES 3: 1-12

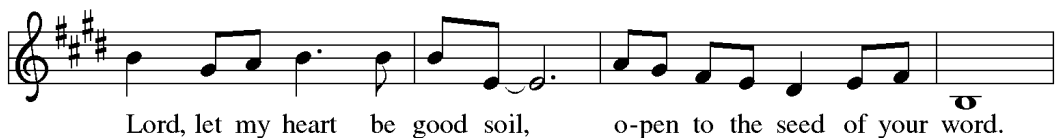
Reader: Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴ Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,
 warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
 Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

***GOSPEL READING**

MARK 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark’s gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

Leader: There is good news for us today and if comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 8. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸ And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹ He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he 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. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ 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.”

³⁴ 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. ³⁵ 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.
³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?
³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ 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 #324

IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

***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

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 join together in prayer.

ALL: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION

Prayer Leader: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you always.

ALL: and also with you.

Please feel free to shake hands as you share God's peace.

Leader: Let the peace of Christ reign among us.



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 God, 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: We believe that Christ died for us.
We affirm that Christ was raised.
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: Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

DISTRIBUTION

*TABLE BLESSING

Leader: Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **ALL: Amen**

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #182

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join with me in prayer,

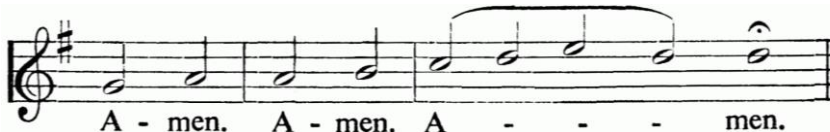
ALL: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD SENDS US

*BLESSING

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. In the name of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*THE AMEN



*SENDING HYMN #810

O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



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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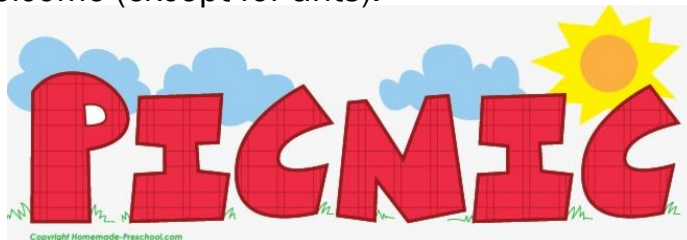
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“O Jesus, I Have Promised” TEXT: John E. Bode, 1816-1875, alt. MUSIC: *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meinngen, 1693 PUBLIC DOMAIN

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Next Sunday, September 22, **God’s Work. Our Hands.** celebration with assembling the 30 Birthday Bags for distribute to the local food pantry. Many hands are needed.

Quilt tying – St. John’s Church in McComb, invites you to a morning of fellowship and quilt tying on Wednesday, September 18 at 9am. Bring a sharp needle, a pair of scissors, and a thimble. Everything else will be supplied. Come join in the fun and fellowship of mission, even if you don’t quilt.

Come one, come all - St. John’s Annual Picnic is next Sunday, September 22, @ 12:30 at the home of Dave Sharninghouse, 5421 TR 136, in Findlay. Bring your favorite cover dish (with serving utensil) to share. All are welcome (except for ants)!





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 freedom to gather, the freedom to pray, and the freedom to worship. Thanks be to God!

MEMBERS: Bryant Matthes, 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: Kelli Sterling, Mr. Doherty (father of Caroline Lieser), Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Tony Matthes, Ron Stewart, Chase, Bob, 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.

An Unexpected Kind of Messiah

Today we hear from three teachers. The prophet Isaiah calls himself a teacher, one whose words sustain weary people. James warns about foolish and hurtful use of our tongues, which should be used to “bless the Lord and Father,” but often are used to “curse those who are made in the likeness of God.” The final voice in the trio is Jesus, the teacher, who keeps the disciples quiet about any Messiah identity but speaks openly about his own suffering, death, and resurrection. Peter tries to counsel Jesus that no one willingly chooses to go along with that kind of plan. Nobody likes a loser. But Jesus responds that Peter has lost sight of what is most important in life. Jesus teaches the disciples that they will lose their life for the sake of the gospel.



How does the Holy Spirit move in, through, before, and after worship to sustain weary people with the word and sacraments? How can we make spaces for silence, art, and song so that people living through suffering and facing death can breathe, see, and hear God’s presence with them? In what ways do we make the same mistake as the disciples did, expecting a Messiah but then setting our visions on human rather than on divine things?

Jesus invites people of faith and those who doubt Jesus’ way to engage rather than avoid, conquer, or escape. What practices will help worshipers today to imagine the ways they are being called to “lose” their life in order to save it? From what does Jesus want to free people so that they will be able to pick up a different kind of burden and follow him? Then and now, Jesus invites followers on the way of the cross—a path of daily learning, dying, and new life.

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1