

W elcome to W orship

St. Luke's **E**vangelical
Lutheran **C**hurch



September 22, 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: *Tracey Pritts*
Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*
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*



North Baltimore Food Pantry September requested donations include: pastas and pasta sauces. **OUR TABLE IS EMPTY!!** Without our help, some families in our community will go without. Please give generously.



Order of Worship

Sunday, September 22, 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 #836**

JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

***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, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 11:18-20

Reader: It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹ But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

²⁰ But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

Psalm 54

Reader: Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

ALL: Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

Reader: For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

ALL: Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

Reader: Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

ALL: I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

Reader: For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

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

SECOND READING

JAMES 3:13-4:3, 7-8A


Reader: Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵ Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4:1 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**


LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.




Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



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 9:30-37

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

Leader: There is good news for us today and it comes from the gospel according to Mark chapter 9. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #781

CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

*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: Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise. The God of heaven and earth, of all of creation, holds each one of us in tender love and care. God is gracious and good, and no one is insignificant in God's eyes.

OFFERTORY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray together.

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 of your people in a world in need.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

We pray for Bryant, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Kelli, Mr. Doherty, Kristen,

Jennifer, Tony, Ron, Chase, Bob, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Deanna, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Chris, Arlene, Bob, Don, Ashley, Pat and Kelli.

***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,

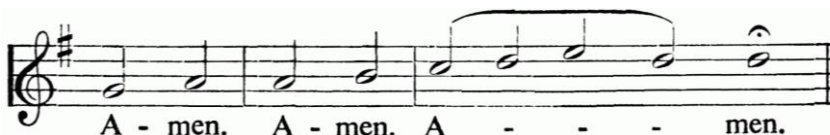
**ALL: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with
dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at
peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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 #705

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **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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# WELCA Fall Gathering Saturday, October 12, 2024



9:00AM — 1:00PM

St. Paul Lutheran in Jenera

Registration and Coffee: 9:00AM — 9:30AM

Devotion — Prayers — Communion — 9:45AM

Devotion by Christine Kemerley — Ephesians 4:32



*“Be kind and forgiving”*

Program — 10:15AM —

Information on “Bees” by Ken and Jessica Depuy

Cotton Candy ~ Bee Products ~ Maple Syrup can be purchased

Free Lunch — NOON

Closing Hymn and Dismissal — 1:00PM

Offering — ½ to Synodical Treasurer, ¼ to Conference Treasurer, and  
¼ to the Good Hope Church Food Pantry

In-Kind Offering for Good Hope Food Pantry —

Mac and Cheese, Cereal, Laundry Soap, Laundry Softeners,  
Body Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste

Registration: \$4.00 — Registration Deadline — Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

To Register, please call St. Paul Lutheran Church — 419-326-3535

Join us for FUN, FOOD, and FELLOWSHIP !!!

Spring Gathering will be at Good Hope Lutheran Church, Arlington



## *Christmas Poinsettias*

Yes – it is time to be thinking about Sanctuary decorations for Christmas. Hoens Garden Center in Holland, Ohio, will provide for our poinsettia needs. They will need to have our order by October 6, so please use the form below and place your order NOW. The cost this year is \$15.00 per 6-inch plant. Thank you!

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Your Name

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Designation for the church bulletin



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 farmers, the orchard growers, the vineyard growers, and all those who grow and raise that food that we eat. 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.

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



## The Most Challenging Spiritual Practice



The writers of today's readings express to God their fears about death and those who do evil. They rage against the cravings, coveting, envy, and selfish ambition that lead to disorder and war, within and around us. They describe one caught in this reality who is led to slaughter, tested with insult and torture, and faces a shameful death. Through our lenses we see Jesus. In fact, Jesus keeps describing what is going to happen to him, but his followers can't understand. They don't want to understand. Instead, they argue about who is greatest. Putting a quick end to that line of argument, Jesus brings a child into their circle. Embracing the child, Jesus invites disciples into humble service—this is how we draw near to God and God to us.

It is easy to be fearful in view of events outside us. It is easy to be thrown off course by feelings inside us or to work hardest for the wrong things. But Jesus invites us to practice what may be the most challenging spiritual practice of all. Jesus invites us to love our neighbor. Jesus asks that we look around for someone concrete to invest our time and energy in, someone who cannot necessarily return the favor. Jesus challenges us to receive others' ministry to us, since we are also little children in faith.

In real life, there is no way to avoid shame and death. At some point, it comes to each of us. However, for now, wherever we are, we can participate in God's way of life. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, disciples look where Jesus points and see those whom they can serve. They do not escape death but can know that resurrection is on the other side. Each day, God is with us through dying and rising.

215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105  
419-257-3253 [StLukesNB@gmail.com](mailto:StLukesNB@gmail.com)  
Church Office Hours M-F 9-1