

W elcome to W orship  
St. Luke's **E**vangelical  
**L**utheran **C**hurch



February 23, 2025



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](mailto: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 Paul Brooks*  
Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Tracey Pritts*  
Ushers: *Jace McCartney, Guy McCartney*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



## **To the Glory of God**

February Candles: [available for signup](#)  
February Bulletins: [available for signup](#)  
February Newsletter: [available for signup](#)

## **The North Baltimore Food Pantry**

The requested donations for February are mac 'n cheese, pastas and pasta sauces. Please give joyously and generously so the no one goes hungry.

**Greeting Cards** - Pleased stop by the Information Table and sign the greeting cards and check out the other information available.

# Order of Worship

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany, February 23, 2025

*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.*

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## 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, "Loving God." When you exhale, pray, "help me to love like Jesus."*

### THE 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.**

### \*GATHERING HYMN #414

HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Please take a moment for silent confession.*

Leader: Merciful God,

**ALL: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

Leader: God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In ✠ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **ALL: Amen.**

## \*KYRIE

Leader: In Peace let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **ALL: Amen.**

## \*GLORY TO GOD

*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.



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



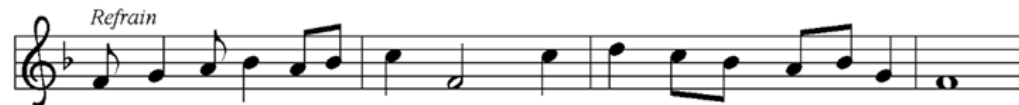
3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



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.



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

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us join our hearts and voices together in the Prayer of the Day.

**ALL: O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

Reader: Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

**PSALM READING** (responsively) PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40

Reader: Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**ALL: For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

Reader: Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**ALL: Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.**

Reader: Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.

**ALL: The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

Reader: Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

**ALL: Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

Reader: For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

**ALL: In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

Reader: But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

**ALL: But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

Reader: You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

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

## **SECOND READING**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50

Reader: But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” <sup>36</sup> Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. <sup>42</sup> So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup> What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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



## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #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

LUKE 6:27-38

*Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.*

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Luke chapter 6. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: "But I say to you, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

## **THE MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY #608**      SOFTLY AND TENDERLY, JESUS IS CALLING

### **\*THE NICENE' CREED**

**ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE INTRODUCTION**

Prayer Leader: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

## **\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: God of grace, **ALL: hear our prayer.**

We pray for Mike, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Bertha, Barb, Jo, Bobby, Frances, Eli, Riley, Kelli, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Breece, 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 Gordon.

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

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*Please share God's peace with those worshiping around you.*

## **INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader:

## **OFFERTORY**

## **\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL: it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: And so, with all creatures and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing:

## \*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.

## \*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and

for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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,  
and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

## \*THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

## DISTRIBUTION

## \*THE TABLE BLESSING

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **ALL: Amen**

## \*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #207

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

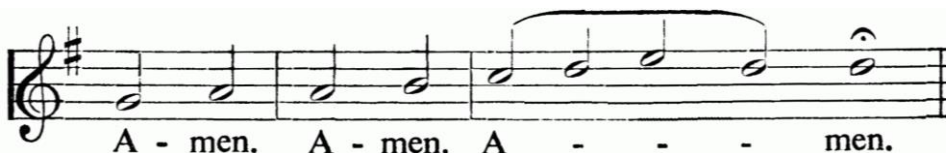
Leader: Please join with me in prayer.

**ALL: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

Leader: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. In the name of the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

## \*The Amen



## \*SENDING HYMN #617

WE COME TO YOU FOR HEALING, LORD

## \*DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

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*"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"* TEXT: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900 Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

*"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"* TEXT: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909 Music: Will L. Thompson

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"* TEXT: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music: © *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress PUBLIC DOMAIN

*"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"* MUSIC: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 TEXT AND MUSIC © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress

*"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"* Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., b. 1923 ©2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

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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 together for worship, to share the Word, to pray, to sing, and to praise our God. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Mike Wheeler, Nancy Wymer, John Stewart, Becky Bean, JoLynn Stewart, 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:** Jo Mineo, Bobby, Frances Bullock, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Kelli Sterling, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, 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.



St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

The Chosen

Beginning Wednesday, March 12

Meal of soup & sandwiches @ 6pm

Discussion @ 7pm

215 N. 2nd St.

North Baltimore, OH

**Lent is coming next month.  
Rather than giving up something, why not  
make an effort to attend worship regularly and  
participate in the Lenten Bible Study?**

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*2025 is the Year of Listening.*

For information about the booklet of monthly devotions written by pastors and members of NWOS churches and the eight-session Bible resource created by the NWOS staff, contact Dana in the church office. They have been downloaded on the church computer.

# EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

You are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for  
Easter Sunday, April 20

Flower choices are:

all plants are \$15.00 each

Easter Lilies \_\_\_\_\_

there are no color choices for tulips

Tulips \_\_\_\_\_

due to the weather conditions the  
maturity of the blooms on the tulips  
and daffodils cannot be guaranteed

Daffodils \_\_\_\_\_

Please note on this form the number of plants you wish to purchase, and  
return this form with payment and your bulletin designations below to the  
church office by

**March 2.**

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your order.

## Promise and Fulfillment

The promise and its fulfillment may not look at all alike, even though they are intimately connected. Paul speaks about seeds and plants as he tries to picture resurrection life. Joseph's brothers never thought they would see him alive again, so how shocking he must have appeared to them as an Egyptian leader! Jesus invites us to sow seeds of new life by loving enemies.



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