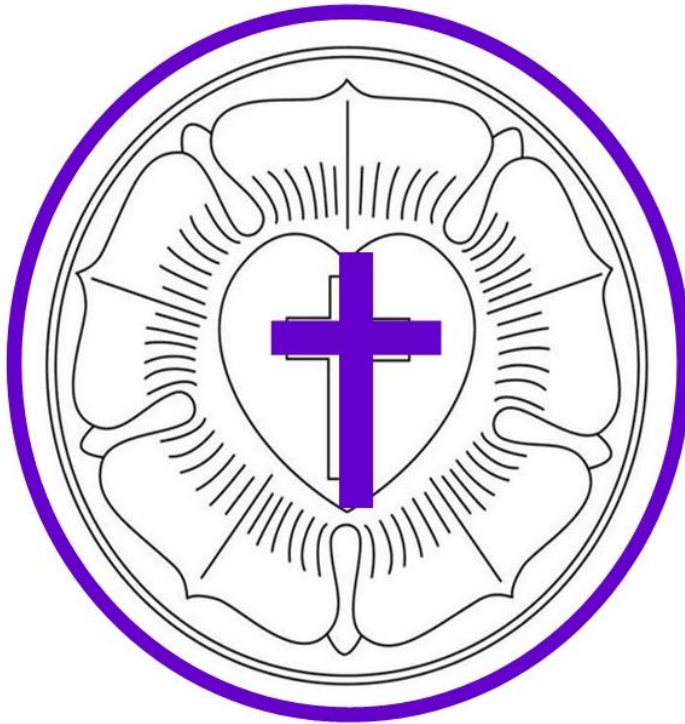


W elcome to W orship

**St. Luke's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

*March 30, 2025*



The Fourth Sunday in Lent



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: *JoLynn Stewart*  
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

## **To the Glory of God**

March: [available for signup](#)  
March: [available for signup](#)  
March: [available for signup](#)



## **The North Baltimore Food Pantry**

The requested donations for APRIL are laundry detergent, dish soap, and toilet paper. Please give joyously and generously so the no one goes hungry.

## **The Lenten Wednesday Bible Study**

Will continue this Wednesday, April 2, with soup and sandwiches at 6pm and *The Chosen* at 7pm. All are welcome.

# Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 30, 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.*

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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 #779** AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Please take a moment for silent confession.*

Leader: Compassionate One,

**ALL: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again**



## FIRST READING

JOSHUA 5:9-12

Reader: The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

## PSALM READING

*(responsively)*

PSALM 32

Reader: Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**ALL: Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

Reader: While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

**ALL: For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Reader: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**ALL: Therefore, all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

Reader: You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**ALL: “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

Reader: Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

**ALL: Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

Reader: Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

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

## SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

Reader: From 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. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg 142 Setting 3



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## \*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Luke chapter 15. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.” ’ <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat

and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

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

## **THE MESSAGE**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY #763**

MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN ENDLESS SONG

### **\*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: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

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

Prayer Leader: God in your mercy, **ALL: receive 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, Frances, Eli, Riley, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Laura, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, Paul, Sue, Betty, David, LuAnn, Colene, Eva, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Mary, Pat, Gordon, Ellery, Ari, and Josh..

## **\*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 worshipping around you.*

## **INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader: As we present our tithes and offerings today, and we remember those less fortunate and those recovering from devastating storms and fires, let us give with gratitude for all we have received and remember that everything we have comes from God.

## **OFFERTORY**

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

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

**ALL:** Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

**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 #313** O LORD NOW LET YOUR SERVANT  
(VERSE 1)

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant



I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

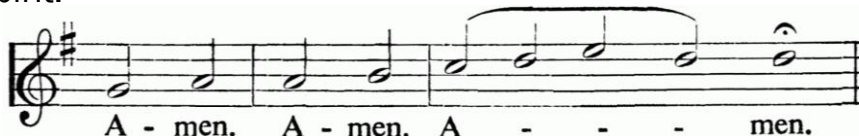
Leader: Please join with me in prayer.

**ALL: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## \*BLESSING

Leader: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, bless you now and forever, in the name of the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

## \*The Amen



## \*SENDING HYMN #733

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

## \*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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*Looking ahead.....*

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 13, worship @ 10:15 a.m.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be combined services on Thursday, April 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Preparing the church for Easter, Saturday, April 19 @ 9a.m.

Easter Sunday Celebration of the Resurrection, April 20

Breakfast @ 9:00 a.m. and worship @ 10:15 a.m.

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*"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"* TEXT: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt. sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5 MUSIC: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, at..

*"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"* TEXT: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899 MUSIC: Robert Lowry. alt.

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"* PUBLIC DOMAIN

*"O Lord, Now Let Your Servant"* TEXT: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886-1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis MUSIC: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version TEXT © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress (#313)

*"Great is Thy Faithfulness"* TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957 TEXT & MUSIC © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

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St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

The Chosen

Continuing Wednesday, April 2  
Meal of soup & sandwiches @ 6pm  
Discussion @ 7pm

215 N. 2nd St.  
North Baltimore, OH



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 family and friends with whom to share the journey of Lent. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Rose Marie Hosley, 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, Frances Bullock, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Mr. Doherty, Kristen, Jennifer Dochod, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, 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.

## Less Grumbling, More Humbling



Grumbling! The crowd around Jesus—the “in” crowd, that is—was grumbling. Grumbling because Jesus welcomed those who traditionally had been set apart: tax collectors and sinners. Who are those who cause us to grumble? Whose seemingly undeserved handout or unearned status change filled our hearts with resentment this week? Jesus speaks to us today because we too often see life as a game with winners and losers, points

and playbooks, offense and defense. Can we open our hearts and minds to hear today’s humbling good news? God’s love is freely shared with all: we cannot earn it, we cannot deserve it. When we attend worship, we do so out of thanksgiving and praise for God’s glory, hunger and thirst for God’s word and sacrament. We do not attend worship to achieve some status within God’s kingdom. When we help a neighbor, share with a stranger, assist the afflicted, or acknowledge the overlooked we do so because Christ first did the same for us. We respond to God’s grace and mercy with our own feeble attempts to emulate God’s perfect love. It is challenging, exhausting, never-ending, perspective-altering, radically humbling work. It’s work that is impossible to do without the inspiration of Christ, the nourishment of wine and bread, and the strength of the saints who have gone before us and with whom we walk Christ’s path today. Let us find those in our world who teach us about Christ’s unending reconciliation, so that we can all celebrate and rejoice as the family of God.

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