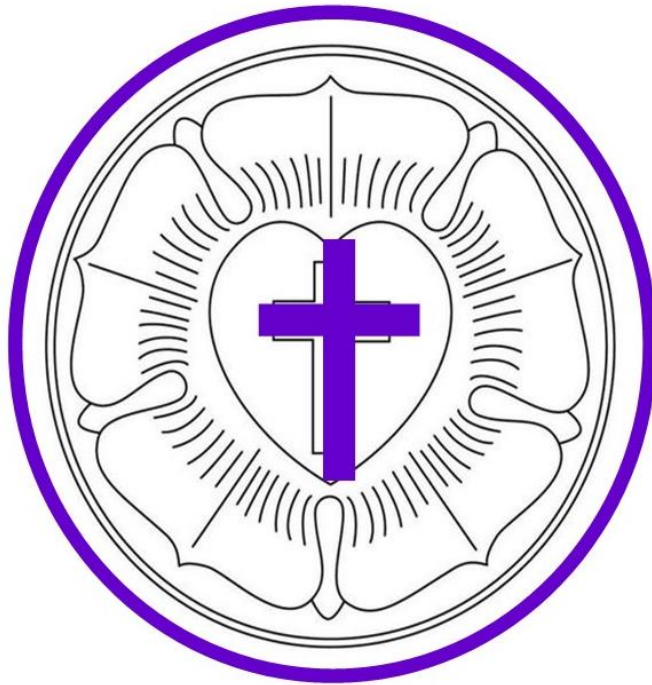


W elcome to W orship

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

*April 6, 2025*



*The Fifth 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: *Linda Ross*

Worship Leader: *SAM Paul Brooks*

Scripture Reader and Prayer Leader: *Karen Krauss*

Ushers: *Guy McCartney, Jace McCartney*

Videographer: *Beth Williams*

## To the Glory of God

April Candles: [available for signup](#)

April Bulletins: [available for signup](#)

April Newsletters: [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 without.

## The Lenten Wednesday Bible Study

Will conclude this Wednesday, April 9, with soup and sandwiches at 6pm and *The Chosen* at 7pm. All are welcome.

# Order of Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 6, 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 #660

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

### \*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.*

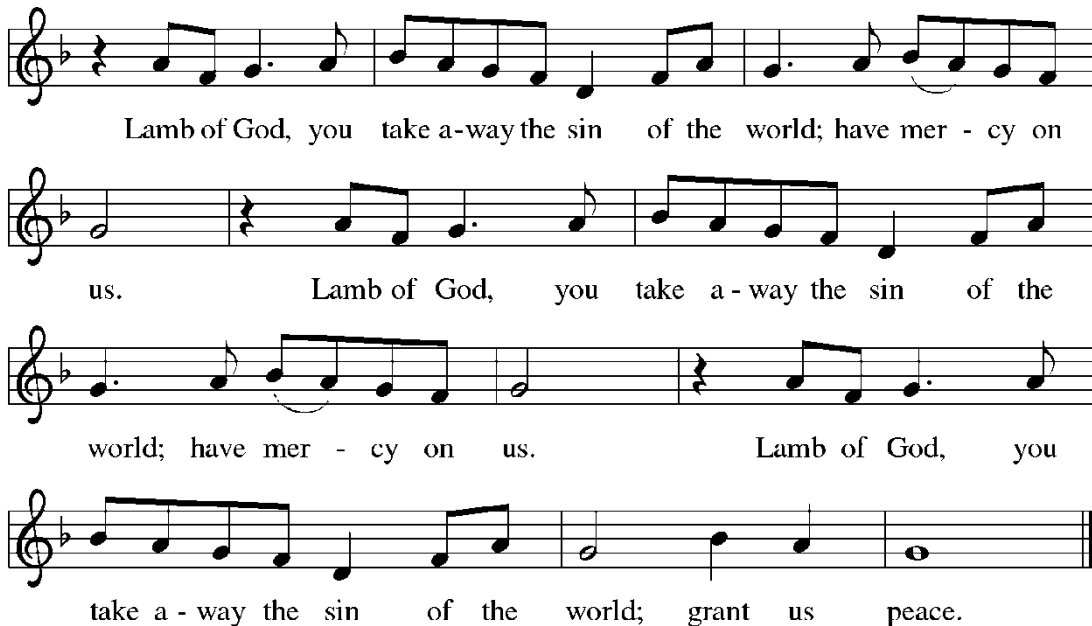
Leader: Compassionate One,

**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 and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Leader: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ✠ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **ALL: Amen.**

## **\*LAMB OF GOD**

SETTING 2 PG. 135



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

**ALL: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

ISAIAH 43:16-21

Reader: Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: <sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

## PSALM READING

*(responsively)*

PSALM 126

Reader: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion then were we like those who dream.

**ALL: Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

Reader: The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

**ALL: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

Reader: Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

**ALL: Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

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

## SECOND READING

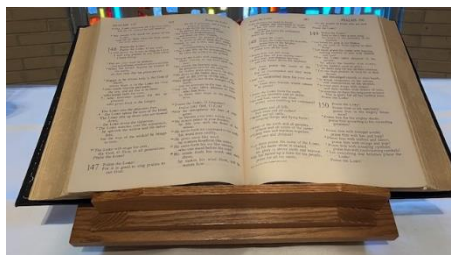
PHILIPPIANS 3:4b-14

Reader: Paul writes: <sup>4b</sup> If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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



## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg 142 Setting 3



## \*GOSPEL READING

JOHN 12:1-8

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of John chapter 12. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

## THE MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY #661

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

### \*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 Rose Marie, 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, 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 worshiping around you.*

## **INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS**

Leader: Trusting in the almighty power of our God, let us present our tithes and offerings to the God who can take them and mold them and turn them into amazing signs of love and mercy through us.

## **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.**

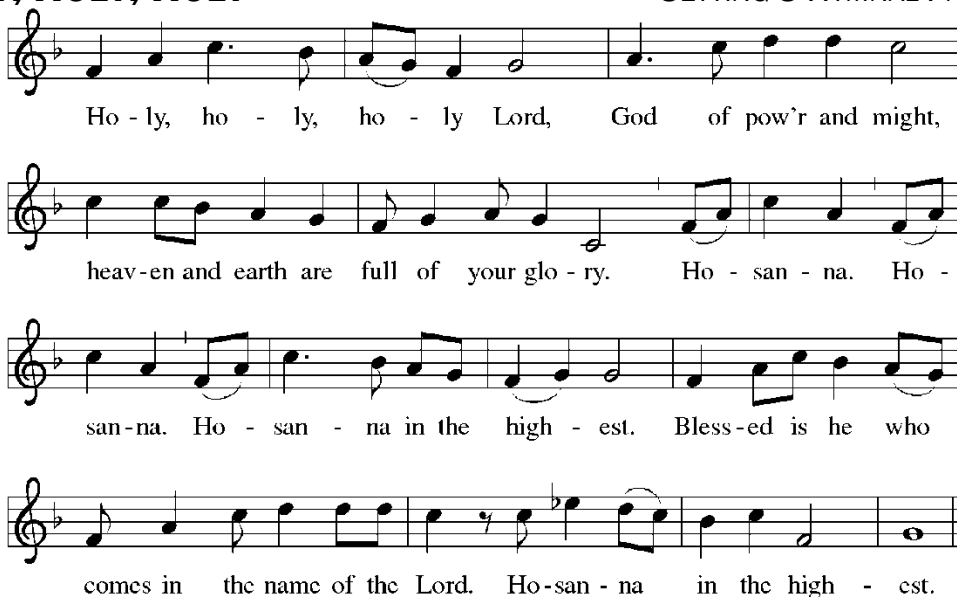
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **ALL: it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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



1 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 #638

BLESSED ASSURANCE

## \*DISMISSAL

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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*"I Love to Tell the Story"* TEXT: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911 MUSIC: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

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

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*"Blessed Assurance"* TEXT: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1815 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830-1908

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*Enjoy your day, resting in the promises of God!*

# St. Luke's Lutheran Church Wednesday Lenten Bible Study

## The Chosen

Concluding on Wednesday, April 9  
Meal of soup & sandwiches @ 6pm

Discussion @ 7pm

215 N. 2nd St.  
North Baltimore, OH

## ***HOLY WEEK***

St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
North Baltimore

Palm Sunday, April 13

Morning Worship @ 10:15 am

Maundy Thursday/Good Friday,

Thursday, April 17

A combined worship service @ 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 20

9 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:15 a.m. Celebration of the Resurrection



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 all who reach out and help those recovering from devastating storms and wildfires. 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.

# Facing Death



Mary of Bethany recognizes Jesus' mission: he has come to die. Perceiving the new thing God is doing, she embraces his death and pours out her devotion to Jesus in an extravagant act. The prophet beseeches the Israelites to forget the old pattern of salvation—the dry way through the Red Sea. Now God will make a new way, a wet way, in a dry, barren, and death-filled place.

On this Sunday in Lent, salvation lies not behind us but before us, through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Mary's action in the face of death is bold. She anoints a corpse, and in so doing honors Jesus' vulnerability and his life. She models love for the other disciples and for us.

By honestly facing the reality of death, we are more fully able to live honoring our own vulnerability and the humanity of others. We live with gratitude. We are more able to love one another and God extravagantly. However, in our culture, mortality is often avoided. The stench of death is removed through chemicals, and deceased bodies are cosmetically enhanced to appear as life-like as possible.

Each day, we the baptized boldly face death, trusting that God has made a new way, a wet way, to travel from death to life. God in Christ has honored human vulnerability by becoming flesh and by laying down his own life. He is the new way through a dry, barren, and death-filled place. Because Christ Jesus has made them his own, the baptized walk wet through the desert places of this life, pouring out the whole of their lives, down to the very last hair, in extravagant love for God and for the people God has formed.

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