

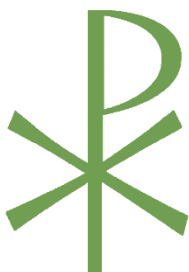
Welcome to Worship

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church



215 North Second Street, North Baltimore, Ohio 45872-1105

July 20, 2025



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Pastor: *SAM Paul Brooks*
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 Paul Brooks*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carl Lieser*
Ushers: *Bryant Matthes, Matt Matthes*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*

To the Glory of God

July Candles: *Carol Williams*
June Bulletins: *Carol Williams*
June Newsletters: [*available for signup*](#)



The North Baltimore Food Pantry

The requested donations for **JULY** are canned fruits, veggies, and soups. Please give joyously and generously so that no one goes without. Thank you.

Gods Work Our Hands Service Project

The requested items for **July** for our "Thanksgiving in a Bag" project are small/individual packages of **instant mashed potatoes** and **cans of corn**. See the July newsletter for full details. Thank you.

Order of Worship

Sunday, July 20, 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.*

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 #742

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Please take a moment for silent confession.

Leader: Merciful God,

ALL: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

Leader: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

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.**

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain



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




I 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.

Refrain



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.

Refrain



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: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 18:1-10A

Reader: The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ^{10a} Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 15

Reader: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

ALL: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

Reader: they do not slander with the tongue; they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

ALL: In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

Reader: They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

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

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 1:15-28

Reader: Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³ provided that

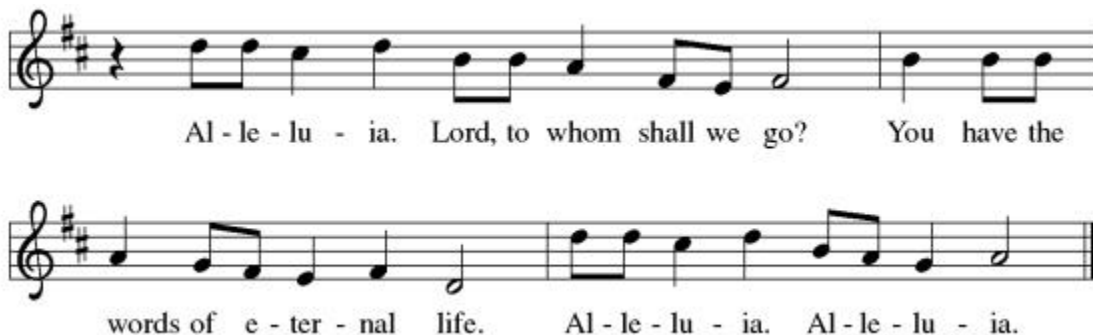
you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 3 #142



*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 10:38-42

During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of Luke chapter 10. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: ³⁸ Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴² there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #708

JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE

***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: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

We pray for Lisa, Bertha, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Rick, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, John, Shirley, Larry, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Barb, Anita, Amy, Nickie, Jo, Eli, Riley, Mr. Doherty, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, 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 worshiping around you.

INVITATION FOR OFFERINGS

Leader: Jesus set the ultimate example of sacrificial love by giving his life for our salvation. Let us give our tithes and offerings as a heartfelt response to his sacrifice and love.

OFFERTORY

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #186**

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts

of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

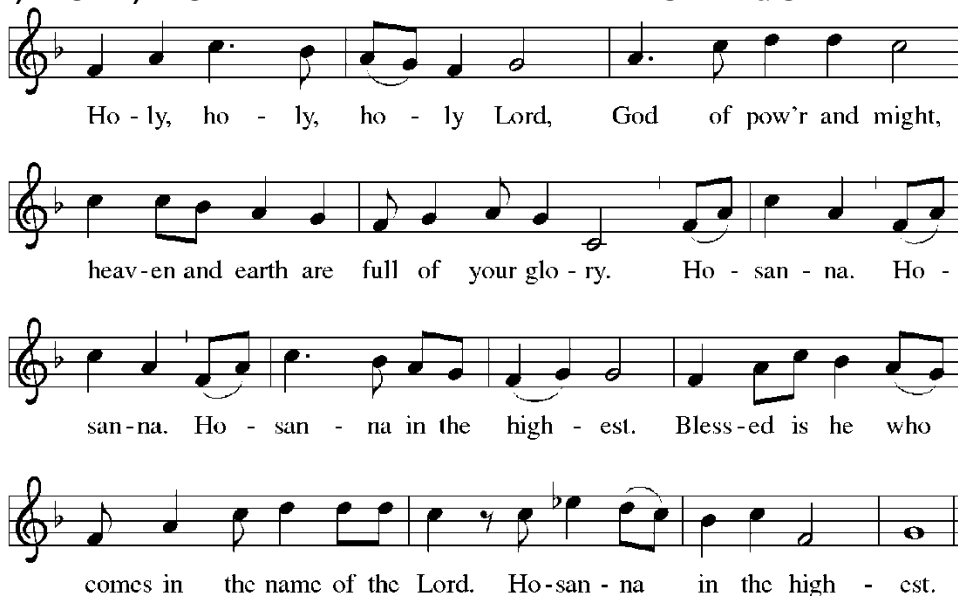
Leader: Lift up your hearts. **ALL:** We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us given 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.

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 kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

DISTRIBUTION

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION


Leader: Please join with me in prayer.

ALL: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #313

O LORD NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

(VERSE 1)

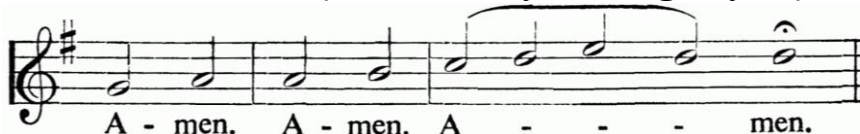


I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill.
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

*BLESSING

Leader: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

*The Amen



A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

*SENDING HYMN #335

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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### TODAY'S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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*"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"* TEXT: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt. Music: Gahanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

*"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)

*"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"* TEXT: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

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## Change in church office hours for next week.

Due to Vacation Bible School, Dana will be in the office Monday – Thursday from noon to 4. Friday will be 9-1.

## Let the bells ring out

In celebration of our 128<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, SAM Paul Brooks will ring the church bell 128 times beginning at noon on Friday, July 25. Please come and join him.

## Have a blessed day!



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 opportunities to share the Good News with our neighbors. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Lisa Claybaugh, Bertha Carter, Eloise Matthes, Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, Nancy Wymer, John Stewart, 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, Barb Williams.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Anita Roberts, Amy Stewart, Nickie Whitman, Jo Mineo, Eli Swartz, Riley Guy, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, Richard Roberts, 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.

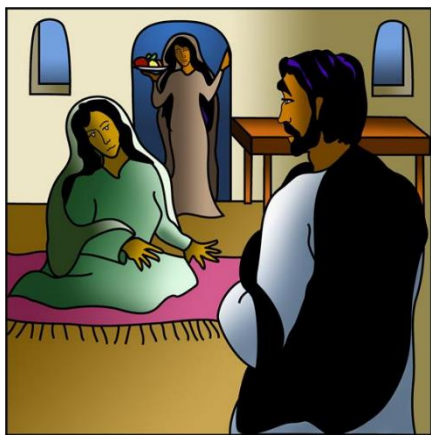
**WIDER CHURCH PRAYERS:** all ministries of the **ELCA** (**Evangeli**C**al **L**utheran **C**hurch in **A**merica), our presiding **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, all our bishops, pastors, and leaders of the congregations of the **NWOS** (**North**western **O**hio **S**ynod**), **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**, and our **15 Central Conference** congregations.****

**COMPANION CHURCH:** Mwanawotta Lutheran Church, of the Dodoma Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

**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.

**Just keep <sup>15</sup> praying!**

## Unexpected and Intentional Distraction



As digital tablets and smart phones keep us busy and on-the-go, today's gospel reminds us of a struggle: when are we to set aside our busy calendars, duties, and to-do lists and simply rest in God's presence, listening to what God has to say to us? This tension mounts in our gospel as Jesus addresses Martha's busyness, worry, and distraction, juxtaposed with Mary's contemplation, focus, and desire to sit at the feet of the great teacher. But is "quietly sitting" even possible

in our age of distractions? Perhaps we can find helpful advice in our first reading, as Abraham rests in the heat of the day. In that time of rest, he was ready to receive the three guests who came bearing the news that Sarah would have a son, fulfilling God's promise given years earlier. With the heat keeping him from moving on to other things, the guests had Abraham's undivided attention. These readings remind us how crucial it is to set aside time to spend with God. We might even wonder what sort of things Jesus was saying to Mary. Were they profound words, akin to the "mystery" the author of Colossians addresses in the epistle? Jesus was the person in whom God was pleased to dwell, that same one who is "the hope of glory."

**Sit quietly and listen.**

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1