

Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



*Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026*



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*
Pastor: *SAM Paul Brooks*
NWOS Bishop: *Daniel Beaudoin*
ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Yehiel Curry*
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: *Pastor Ken Pollitz*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tiffany Mika*
Ushers: *JoLynn & Don Stewart*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

March Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: [*available for signup*](#)

Food Pantry Needs

The **March** requests for the Food Pantry are non-refrigerated juices and cereals. Thank you.

Lent Bible Study – Wednesdays thru March 25, 6 p.m. for soup and sandwiches. It's not too late to join us. No reservation required.

Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 15, 2026

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 listen."

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 #696

JESUS CALLS US; O'ER THE TUMULT

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **ALL: Amen.**

Leader: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

ALL: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. Amen.

***KYRIE**

1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

***THANKSGIVING RESPONSE**

Leader: To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**


***GLORY TO GOD**

SETTING #2 HYMNAL PAGE 121

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

1 Lord God. heav-en - lv King. al - might - v 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: Please join me in the Prayer of the Day.

ALL: Too often we bend truth to fit our needs. Show us how to recognize and follow your truth, shown to us by the love and life of your son, Jesus. Amen.

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 145:10-13

Reader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

ALL: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Reader: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

ALL: The Lord is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds.

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

JOHN 18:28-40

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the Gospel of John chapter 18. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³² (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹ But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰ They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #805

LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL!

***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: Gracious and merciful God, on this Laetare (Lay-TAH-ray) Sunday we rejoice in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who opens blind eyes and leads us from darkness into marvelous light. Refresh our hearts with your grace as we journey toward Easter.

*(*Laetare Sunday is a mid-lent break for rejoicing in the midst of penitence.)*

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Lord, in your mercy. **ALL: hear our prayer.**

We pray for Rut, Ruth, Steve, Karen, Lisa, Bertha, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, Nancy, John, Becky, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Barb, Howard, Grange, Owen, Mike, Diana, Nina, Sean, Judy, Christina, Mike, Riley, Dennis, Anita, Amy, Nickie, Eli, Mr. Doherty, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Richard, Michael, Cindy, John, Gary, 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, we remember that everything we have comes from God. Let us give with gratitude for all we have been given and all that we have to give.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #188

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader: Let us pray.

ALL: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: Children of God, lift up your hearts. **ALL: Our hearts rejoice in the one who became one to us!**

Leader: We have beheld his glory, **ALL: the glory of the Father's only begotten Son.**

Leader: Holy are you, God of all creation! **ALL: Holy is Jesus Christ, your Son, who became servant to save us.**

Leader: Therefore, we celebrate his birth, his life, his death, and his resurrection. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life.

ALL: Born in the shadows of night, Christ is our light.

Dying on the cross, Christ is our life.

Rising from the tomb, Christ is our hope.

Returning to us once more, Christ is our promise.

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.

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Leader: In the unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

DISTRIBUTION

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader: Please join with me in prayer. God of our salvation,

**ALL: we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through
the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the
world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN AFTER COMMUNION** LAMB OF GOD Setting 2, hymnal pg. 235

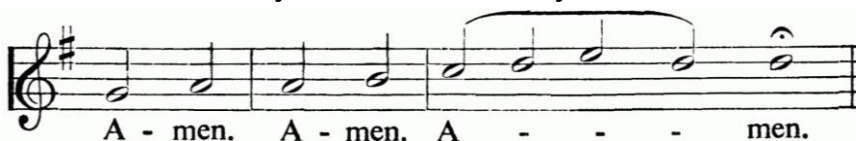


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

***BLESSING**

Leader: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

***The Amen**



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

***SENDING HYMN #484**

YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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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### TODAY’S WORSHIP COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS

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“Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult” TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1815-1895 Music: William H. Jude, 1851-1922 PUBLIC DOMAIN

“Lead On, O King Eternal!” TEXT: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917 Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

“Create in Me a Clean Heart” MUSIC: J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739 PUBLIC DOMAIN

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” TEXT: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997 Music: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-1996 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

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*Looking ahead:*

*Maundy Thursday Service, April 2 @ 7:00 p.m.*

*Easter Breakfast, April 5 @ 9:00 a.m.*

*Easter Worship, April 5 @ 10:15 a.m.*

*Save the Date - April 25, 2026*

*WELCA Central Conference Gathering*

*St. John’s Church in Findlay*





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 presence of our church building and ministry in the North Baltimore community. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Rut Heilman, Ruth McKee, Steve Pritts, Karen Krauss, Lisa Claybaugh, Bertha Carter, Eloise Matthes, Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, Nancy Wymer, John Stewart, JoLynn Stewart, Emily Meyerson, Carl Lieser, Jim Wymer, Kolton Williams, Ron Bean, Cheryl Kruse, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Barb Williams.

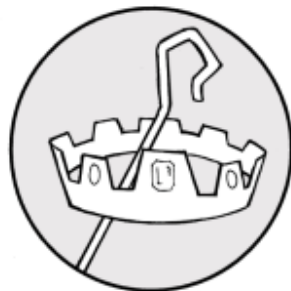
**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Howard Till, Granger, Owen, Mike Thompson, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Dennis Bauer, Anita Roberts, Amy Stewart, Nickie Whitman, Jo Mineo, Eli Swartz, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, 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 (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), our presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, 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.

**Pray with all your heart!**



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

[Jesus said] "For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."

—John 18:37

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*A question to ask as you read: This week's Scripture reminds us that we are important to Jesus. What ways can you show him this week that he is important to you?*

|           |               |                         |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday    | John 18:28-40 | Jesus before Pilate     |
| Monday    | John 15:8-11  | Abide in Jesus' Love    |
| Tuesday   | John 15:12-17 | Love One Another        |
| Wednesday | John 15:18-21 | You Will Be Persecuted  |
| Thursday  | John 15:22-27 | You Will Testify        |
| Friday    | John 16:1-4a  | Keep You from Stumbling |
| Saturday  | John 16:4b-7  | Jesus Is Going Away     |
| Sunday    | John 19:1-16a | Jesus Is Sentenced      |

*If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children's Bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!*

## SERVICE CHALLENGE

*SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.*

Spread more love. Together write letters of love and support to those in the armed services.

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