

Welcome to Worship
St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 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: *Paul Brooks*
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Tiffany Mika*
Ushers: *Nancy & Jim Wymer*
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

May Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: [available for signup](#)
June Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: [available for signup](#)

Food Pantry Needs

The **May** requests are canned meats, Kleenex, and paper towels. Thank you.

Feed the Children

For **May** we are asking you to bring Ramen Noodle Packages.

Give thanks!

Order of Worship

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 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 #668**

O ZION, HASTE

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Leader: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

ALL: Amen.

Leader: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Leader: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Leader: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

ALL: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

*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: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever. **ALL: Amen.**

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

THIS IS THE FEAST



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Please join me in prayer. God of the unknown,

ALL: Your mysteries are astounding. Give us knowledge where you see fit, and let us sit comfortably with that which we can never understand. Amen.

FIRST READING

JOHN 1:16-18

Reader: From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 115:1-8

Reader: Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness.

ALL: Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"

Reader: Our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases.

ALL: Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

Reader: They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see.

ALL: They have ears, but they do not hear; they have noses, but they do not smell.

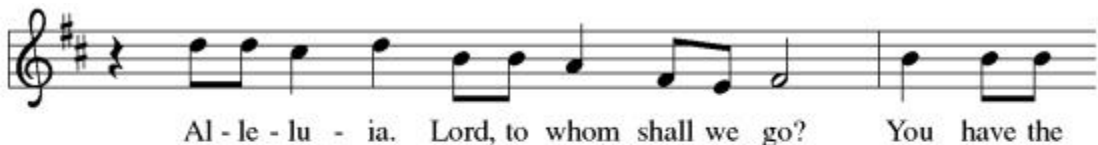
Reader: They have hands, but they do not feel; they have feet, but they do not walk; they make no sound in their throats.

ALL: Those who make them are like them; so are all who trust in them.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SETTING 3 #142



*NEW TESTAMENT READING

ACTS 17:16-31

Leader: There is good news for us this day and it comes to us from the book of Acts chapter 17. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader: While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, “What does this pretentious babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities.” (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹ So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #588

THERE’S A WIDENESS IN GOD’S MERCY

***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: Loving God, we come to you today with trusting hearts, just as Jesus taught his friends. He said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.” So, we bring our prayers to you now, confident that you hear us.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

We pray for Ned, Lorraine, Pat, Rut, Ruth, Steve, Lisa, Bertha, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, John, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Kolton, Ron, Cheryl, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Barb, Dan, Heather, Howard, Granger, Owen, Mike, Diana, 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, Sue, Carol, David, Betty, LuAnn, Colene, Teri, Eric, Lisa, Kris, Don, Ashley, Brandt, Mary, Pat, Gordon, Vicki, Josh, Linda, and Ellery.

***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: As we present our tithes and offerings today, we remember those who are hungry, those who are cold and homeless, those recovering from devastating storms, floods, and fires and those struggling in parts of the world that are in conflict. Let us give with gratitude for all that we have.

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. Merciful God,

ALL: accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, 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 of God. **ALL:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

DISTRIBUTION

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader: Please join with me in prayer. Holy One,

**ALL: through this meal you have made your home among us and are
making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious
hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus, amen**

*HYMN AFTER COMMUNION #376

THINE IS THE GLORY

(VERSE 1)

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
where thy bod - y lay. *Refrain* Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

*BLESSING

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

*The Amen

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

*SENDING HYMN #367

NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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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*“O Zion, Haste”* TEXT: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923 MUSIC: Janes Walch, 1837-1901

*“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”* TEXT: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt. MUSIC: North American, 19<sup>th</sup>. cent.

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

*“Thine Is the Glory”* Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939 MUSIC: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

*“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”* TEXT: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt. © 1958 Service book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesange Koln, 1623

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**Pentecost Sunday May 24**  
**On the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter, we**  
**celebrate the wondrous day the**  
**Holy Spirit came down to the**  
**apostles in a mighty wind and**  
**tongues of fire.**



**Wear something red!**



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 of God's creation!. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Ned Slaughterbeck, Lorraine Ferguson, Pat Wheeler, Rut Heilman, Ruth McKee, Steve Pritts, Lisa Claybaugh, Bertha Carter, Eloise Matthes, Rose Marie Hosley, Mike Wheeler, 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:** Dan Lammers, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Howard Till, Granger, Owen, Mike Thompson, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Anita Roberts, Amy Stewart, Nickie Whitman, 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.

**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 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.



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"The God who made the world and everything in it...does not live in shrines made by human hands."

—Acts 17:24

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

*As you read the stories for the week, ask yourself: **What is God doing in each story? What are the people doing?***

215  
North

|           |                         |                             |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday    | Acts 17:16-31           | Paul in Athens              |
| Monday    | Acts 17:32-34           | The Conversion of Dionysius |
| Tuesday   | Acts 18:1-17            | The Church at Corinth       |
| Wednesday | Acts 19:1-10            | The Church at Ephesus       |
| Thursday  | Acts 19:21-22; 20:17-28 | Paul Leaves Ephesus         |
| Friday    | Acts 22:1-11            | Paul Tells His Story        |
| Saturday  | Acts 22:12-21           | Paul Continues His Story    |
| Sunday    | Philippians 1:1-18a     | The Church in Philippi      |

*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.*

Paul was a master communicator. Call someone you have not spoken to in a while and ask how they are doing.

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1