

**W**elcome to **W**orship

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



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

*June 28, 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](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: *Paul Brooks*  
Assistant Worship Leader: *Jack Sterling*  
Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carol Williams*  
Ushers: *Jill Guy, Zach Stewart*  
Videographer: *Beth Williams*



### **To the Glory of God**

**July** Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: *Carol Williams*

### **Food Pantry Needs**

The **July** requests are **shampoo, body wash, deodorant, & toothpaste.**

# **Give Thanks!**

# Order of Worship

Sunday, June 28, 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.

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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 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 #807**      COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING  
(BULLETIN PAGE 13)

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **ALL: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Leader: Compassionate God,

**ALL: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, 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.

## \*CONFESSION RESPONSE

Leader: Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love.

**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.

1 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: Please join me in prayer, gracious God,

**ALL: you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING

LUKE 9:23-24

Reader: Then he said to them all, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.

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

### PSALM READING

*(responsively)*

PSALM 140:1-13

Reader: Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers; protect me from those who are violent, who plan evil things in their minds and stir up wars continually.

**ALL: They make their tongue sharp as a snake’s, and under their lips is the venom of vipers.**

Reader: Guard me, O Lord, from the hands of the wicked; protect me from the violent who have planned my downfall.

**ALL: The arrogant have hidden a trap for me, and with cords they have spread a net, along the road they have set snares for me.**

Reader: I say to the Lord, “You are my God; give ear, O Lord, to the voice of my supplications.”

**ALL: O Lord, my Lord, my strong deliverer, you have covered my head in the day of battle.**

Reader: Do not grant, O Lord, the desires of the wicked; do not further their evil plot.

**ALL: Those who surround me lift up their heads; let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them!**

Reader: Let burning coals fall on them! Let them be flung into pits, no more to rise!

**ALL: Do not let the slanderer be established in the land; let evil speedily hunt down the violent!**

Reader: I know that the Lord maintains the cause of the needy and executes justice for the poor.

**ALL: Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall live in your presence.**

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

**\*ACCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**LORD, LET MY HEART BE GOOD SOIL**



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## \*OLD TESTAMENT READING

ESTHER 4:1-17

Leader: When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; <sup>2</sup> he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. <sup>3</sup> In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

<sup>4</sup> When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. <sup>5</sup> Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. <sup>6</sup> Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, <sup>7</sup> and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. <sup>8</sup> Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and to entreat him for her people.

<sup>9</sup> Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. <sup>10</sup> Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: <sup>11</sup> "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that, if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days." <sup>12</sup> When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, <sup>13</sup> Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup> For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your

father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." <sup>15</sup> Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup> "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish." <sup>17</sup> Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

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

## **THE MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY #815**      I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT  
(BULLETIN PAGE 14)

### **\*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, you hear the cries of your people and deliver us from evil. We come before you today trusting in your steadfast love. Hear our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

## \*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, Charles, Dan, Heather, Granger, Owen, Mike, Diana, Sean, Judy, Christina, Mike, Riley, Dennis, Anita, 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.

Prayer leader: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your promise of life and salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. **ALL: Amen.**

## \*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 to God, let us remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us, and let us honor that sacrifice by giving generously with our whole heart.

## 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, loving God,

**ALL:** we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. 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.

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.

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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

## **DISTRIBUTION**

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Please join with me in prayer, Compassionate God,

**ALL**: through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. 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.

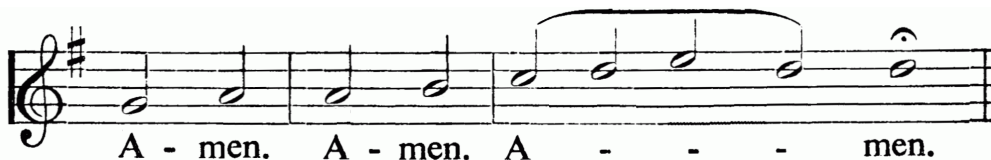


the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

## \*BLESSING

Leader: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

## \*The Amen



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

**\*SENDING HYMN #805**

LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL

(BULLETIN PAGE 15)

**\*DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace, love and serve the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

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*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.*

**Birthday**  
**PARTY**

100

join us to celebrate  
**Ruth McKee**

July 5th from 12-4pm at Bob and Ellen McKee's  
1283 Township Road 14 Van Buren Ohio 45889

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

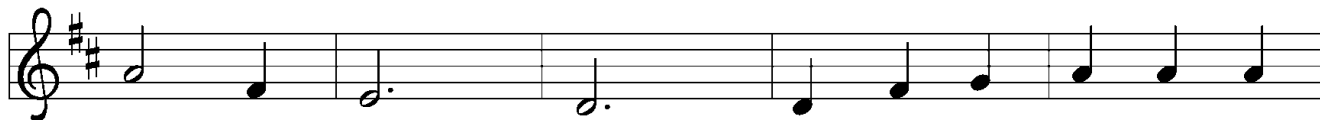
Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

## *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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## Lead On, O King Eternal!



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,  
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

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*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. MUSIC: J. Wyeth, *Repository of sacred Music, Part II, 1813*

*"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"* TEXT: Handt Hanson, b. 1950 MUSIC: Handt Hanson TEXT AND MUSIC © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc. admin. Augsburg Fortress (#512)

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

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* TEXT: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 MUSIC: Kathleen Thomerson TEXT AND MUSIC © 1970, 1975 Celebration

*"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)

*"Lead On, O King Eternal!"* TEXT: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

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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 those who participated in the community Vacation Bible School. With roughly 55 children, we had a great time celebrating Jesus' birthday. Thanks be to God!

**MEMBERS:** Ron Bean, 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, Cheryl Kruse, Bob Kelley, Caroline Lieser, Marilyn Ziegler, Barb Williams.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Charles Edens, Dan Lammers, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Granger, Owen, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Anita Roberts, 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.

## Life in Christ Includes Praise and Lament

Though we may prefer to think of God giving us lives of joy and ease, a full life in Christ also includes sorrow and grief. To the extent we are willing to acknowledge



God's presence in every circumstance, our faith becomes integrated and sustainable through a lifetime.

The texts for today offer a survey of faith-full moments for the people of God, from arguably the most disturbing story in all our scriptures (Genesis 22; semicontinuous series) to the proclamation of God's everlasting faithfulness (Psalms

89 and 13).

Does our worship avoid faithful lament?

Marked by transformation as clear and life and death (Romans 6), the disciple naturally embodies the gospel of Jesus Christ. Like it or not, this includes moments of sadness, grief, and betrayal that were very much a part of Jesus' faithful journey. If our lives are identified with Christ, disciples can name both joys and sorrows as dimensions of Christ's story and purpose.

The greatest challenge of faith for most Christians is the moment of suffering, so this day invites us to practice faithful lament. In an age of denial when difficult things are swept under the rug, we may resist the idea that God wants anything to do with suffering. Our scriptures, however, ensure we do not avoid earth-bound realities. The psalmist wails a prayer in faith that not only laments abandonment by God but also confesses God's steadfast love (Psalm 13; semicontinuous series). The story of Abraham and Isaac haunts our imaginations when we expect God to make life easy.

Worship calls us to faithfully lament as well as praise. Let today be a service of full-hearted proclamation of the depths of life in Christ.

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Church Office Hours M-F 9-1