

Welcome to Worship

St. Luke's Evangelical
Lutheran Church



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

August 30, 2026



Disciples and Ministers: *All the People*

Pastor: SAM Paul Brooks 419-722-8625

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*

Worship Assistant: *Jack Sterling*

Scripture Reader & Prayer Leader: *Carol Williams*

Ushers: *Pam & Rick Van Mooy*

Videographer: *Beth Williams*



To the Glory of God

September Altar Candles, Bulletins, & Newsletters: *available for sign-up*

Food Pantry Needs

The **September** requests are peanut butter, jellies, and cereals.



Order of Worship

Sunday, August 30, 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 #856

HOW GREAT THOU ART

(BULLETIN PAGE 12)

*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.

* **CONFSSIONAL HYMN #614**

THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

Refrain

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

* **CONFESSIOIN 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.

* **HYMN OF PRAISE #818**

O MASTER LET ME WALK WITH YOU

O Master, let me walk with you
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: Please join me in prayer, O God,

ALL: we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

MATTHEW 22:34-40

Reader: When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

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

PSALM READING

(responsively)

PSALM 16:1-11

Reader: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

ALL: I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”

Reader: As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.

ALL: Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.

Reader: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

ALL: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

Reader: I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me

ALL: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Reader: Therefore, my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

ALL: For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit.

Reader: You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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

***ACCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS

Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before.
Christ, the royal master,
leads against the foe;
forward into battle,
see, his banners go!

Refrain

Onward, Christian soldiers,
marching as to war,
with the cross of Jesus
going on before.

***OLD TESTAMENT READING**

EXODUS 20: 12-16

Leader: Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

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

THE MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #579

LORD, YOU GIVE THE GREAT COMMISSION

(BULLETIN PAGE 13)

***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**

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Prayer Leader: Hear us, O God. **ALL: Your mercy is great.**

We pray for Ruth, Mike, Ned, Lorraine, Pat, Rut, Steve, Lisa, Bertha, Eloise, Rose Marie, Mike, John, JoLynn, Emily, Carl, Jim, Ron, Cheryl, Bob, Caroline, Marilyn, Barb, Brianne, Delphia, Charles, Heather, Granger, Owen, Mike, Diana, Sean, Judy, Christina, Mike, Riley, Dennis, Nickie, Eli, Mr. Doherty, Ron, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery, Caroline, Ethan, Brent, Michael, Cindy, John, Sue, Carol, David, Betty, LuAnn, Colene, Teri, Eric, Lisa, Don, Ashley, Brandt, Mary, Pat, Vicki, Josh, and Ellery.

Prayer leader: **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: For the church where we come to worship and pray; for the fellowship of those around us here; for opportunities to serve God, our

church, our community, and the world, let us with thankful hearts, present our tithes and offerings to God and the church.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #264

PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY

Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!

*OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray, Loving God,

ALL: as we wait for the fulfillment of your reign, use these gifts and the gifts of our lives to bring justice to those who are oppressed, to set free those who are in prison, to lift up those who are bowed down, and to uphold those who are vulnerable. 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:

*HYMN #286

WHAT CHILD IS THIS

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,

whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

***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 #537

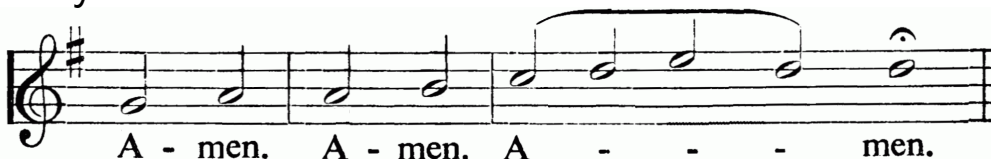
ON OUR WAY REJOICING

On our way rejoicing
gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered;
vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety;
Christ within, our joy;
who, if we be faithful,
can our hope destroy?

*BLESSING

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

*The Amen



*SENDING HYMN #588

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

(BULLETIN PAGE 14)

*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.

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“There is a Balm in Gilead” TEXT: African American Spiritual MUSIC: African American Spiritual

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You” Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt. Music: H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898 PUBLIC DOMAIN

“Onward Christian Soldiers” Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission” TEXT: Jeffrey Rowthorn, b. 1934 © 1978 Hope Publishing Company MUSIC: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991 © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

“Prepare the Royal Highway” TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* MUSIC: Swedish fold tune, 17<sup>th</sup> cent. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

“What Child is This” PUBLIC DOMAIN

“On Our Way Rejoicing” TEXT: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt. MUSIC: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

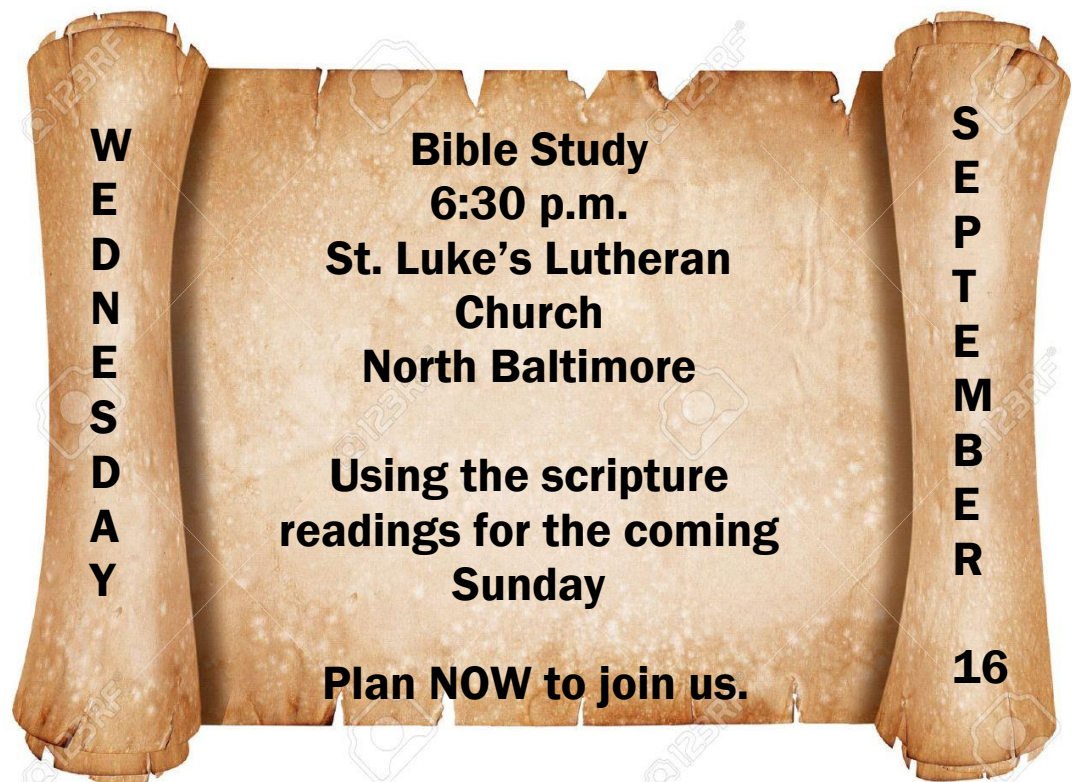
“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” TEXT: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt. Music: North American, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.

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### Beginning



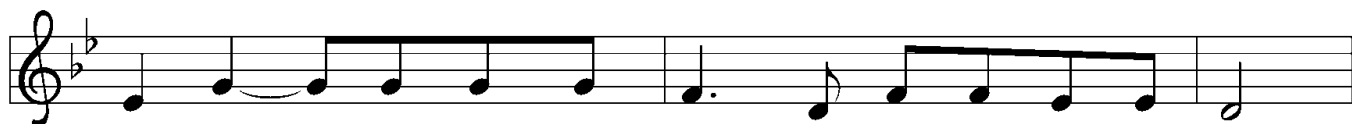
# How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er  
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

## *Refrain*



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989

Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine

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# Lord, You Give the Great Commission



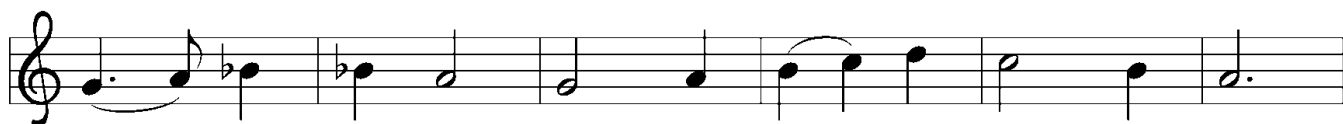
1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and  
2 Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name bap -  
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,  
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,  
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,  
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,  
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure  
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness  
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new  
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the  
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and  
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:  
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

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# There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.  
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.



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 life's blessings. Thanks be to God!

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

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Brianne Gott, Delphia Roberts, Charles Edens, Dennis Bauer, Heather Wymer, Granger, Owen, Diana, Sean Mills, Judy Sowards, Christina Webb, Mike, Riley Guy, Nickie Whitman, Eli Swartz, Mr. Doherty, Ron Stewart, Chase, Cheryl, A.J., Mavery Breece, Caroline, Ethan, Brent Bradley, 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.

# There Must Be Another Way

Peter may be the “rock” on which Christ will build the church (Matt. 16:18), but when Jesus reveals the suffering that will come first, Peter becomes a tempter and stumbling block. Assuming God must have a different way to save the world, Peter protests Jesus’ suffering and death. Jesus explains to Peter and all his disciples that, in fact, this is the way to life—losing one’s life in order to find it.



By tempting Jesus to an easier way than his journey through suffering to resurrection, Peter personifies a temptation common to all generations of Jesus’ disciples: seeking a way to avoid “losing oneself” instead of surrendering all to and with the one we follow. Rather than losing our lives—our selves, possessions, and time—we hold on more tightly, afraid of what will happen to our comfort, success, and identity if we let go. Those things we hold onto then become, like Peter, stumbling blocks along the way of self-giving love.

But while “saving one’s life” sounds sensible, those things also stand in the way of the new life into which Jesus beckons us to follow him. Perhaps Peter’s problem is that he sees only the suffering and death, without grasping the new life that comes through it. In times when we too are tempted by worldly ways of comfort and success, convinced that *surely* God must have an easier way than the way of self-giving love, this gospel reminds us that resurrection and life await on the other side of suffering and death.

*This* is the way of our God who becomes human in Jesus: emptying himself of power and dignity, losing his very own life for the sake of the world’s life. Seen through the lens of resurrection just ahead on the journey, what other way could there be?

SAM Paul Brooks 419-722-8625  
Church 419-257-3253 [StLukesNB@gmail.com](mailto:StLukesNB@gmail.com)  
Church Office Hours M-F 9-1