



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 5, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Waukesha, WI

www.stlukeslutheran.org office@stlukeslutheran.org (262) 542-2545

**Helping people make life-changing connections with God
through Jesus Christ.**

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 5, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Notes for Worship

- Hymnals: ELW: cranberry ACS purple.
- Individually wrapped gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.
- We invite children of all ages to be in worship with us. Children are welcome to use the Pray-Ground in front of the church on the piano side as a comfortable space to experience worship. If you feel your child(ren) are being too disruptive, you are welcome to move into the Chapel.

About the Music in Today's Service

As we observe the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, today's music has been selected to fit with this observation, as well as highlight the colorful tapestry of American music. Much of our music has roots in European styles, but there are plenty of examples that have roots in American soil. Most hymns have multiple authors. The text and the tune usually are not written by the same people. The music in today's service is a perfect example of those pairings.

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens (ELW 771 – HOLY MANNA) and Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779 – NEW BRITAIN) both have tunes that come from the shape-note traditions, an early American style of music. All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (ELW 634 – CORONATION) is an Early American hymn tunes that come from the early 1800s. In Christ There Is No East or West (ELW 650 – MCKEE) is an African American spiritual. While you can combine text and tunes together in various ways, we often associate specific text and tune pairings together such as Amazing Grace and the tune NEW BRITAIN.

This Is My Song (ELW 887 – FINLANDIA) differs from the other hymns today as the tune was not written by an American composer, but the text was written by an American. The tune of FINLANDIA was written by Jean Sibelius, a Finish composer. The text of This Is My Song was written by Lloyd Stone and Georgia Harkness, both American writers.

GATHERING

PRELUDE Partita on *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

Anne Krentz Organ

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
source of hope in every nation,
rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,
**we have sinned against you,
our neighbors, and your creation.
Within ourselves and our communities,
our desire to do what is good
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.
We lament the evil that holds us captive.
We repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us
for lives of compassion and courage
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

All-merciful, Almighty God
forgive you all your sins
through the grace of + Jesus Christ,
and by the Spirit's power
strengthen you in doing what is good.
Amen.



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um-phiant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all!

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord.

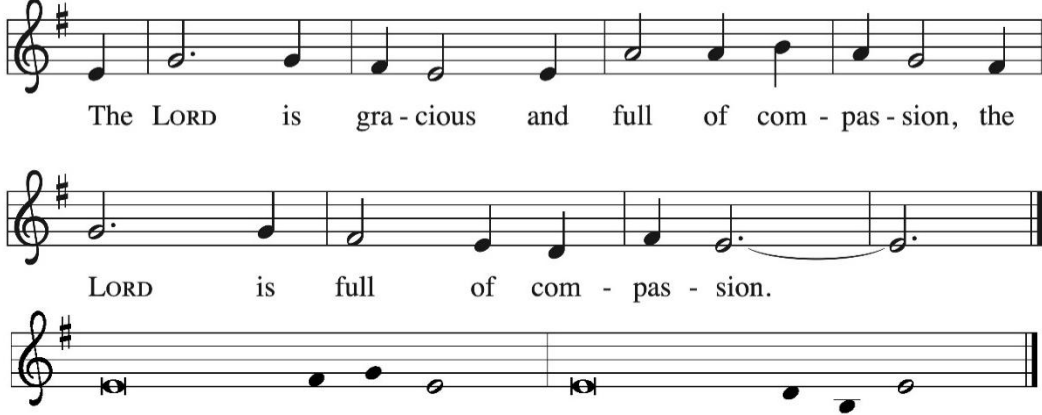
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 145:8-14

The cantor will sing the refrain first, then all are invited to sing the refrain.

*Congregation sings the bolded verses, and the **R** is the refrain sung by all.*



⁸ The Lord is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹ **Lord, you are | good to all,**
and your compassion is over | all your works. R

¹⁰ All your works shall praise | you, O Lord,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

¹¹ **They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom**
and speak | of your power,

¹² that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures**
through- | out all ages.

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia*

Anne Krentz Organ



GOSPEL

Matthew 11:28-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jordan



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

**God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you!**

MEAL

OFFERING *This Is My Song*

setting, Anne Krentz Organ

JULY MISSION: Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan

LSS empowers people to live their best lives by offering a path to recovery from addiction or mental illness, a home that's safe and affordable, a family to thrive in, independence and a life that is truly their own.

Two Options to Use Your Phone to Give



1. Point your QR reader at the left QR graphic where you can login and track your giving. Or visit stlukeslutheran.org and click the Online Giving tab on the right side of the page.
2. Point your QR reader at the right QR graphic to make an **online one-time** gift. Or visit omella.com/o/izfds.



OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, ... serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

you alone are Majesty,

you alone are Excellency,

you alone are Sovereign.

Within the vast reaches you splashed into being,

you formed our star and this planet:

purple mountains, fruited plains,

crystal waters, towering forests, gleaming mines.

Here you fashioned human beings

in our infinite variety and hue,

yet each one created equal,

to care for one another

and our earthly home.

In a time of peace

enforced by the cruelty of empire,

you came in Jesus to share our life.

Born under the rule of a merciless king,

Jesus revealed the merciful realm of God.
Moving across borders
to people broken and oppressed,
Jesus brought healing, restoration, and freedom.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
Christ's execution at the hands of a ruthless regime,
Christ's resurrection that buries death,
Christ's ascension to rule with love forever,
we declare the revolutionary mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God, shed your grace on us.
Shower your Holy Spirit
on these gifts of bread and wine
and on your people gathered this day.
Ignite in us the flame of freedom—
freedom from prejudice, from white supremacy, from fear;
freedom for acceptance, for welcome,
for the *shalom* that you have first shown to us.

Faithful God, loving God:
Your Majesty shines forth in weakness.
Your Excellency is revealed to infants.
Your Sovereignty reigns from a cross.
Yours, O God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
is the everlasting kingdom,

the peaceable power,
and the humble glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Citizens of the commonwealth of heaven:
Taste and know that God is good to all.

COMMUNION

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion, regardless of church affiliation. Receive our Lord in the bread and wine of this meal. Juice and individually wrapped, gluten-free wafers are available from the server by request.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 182



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



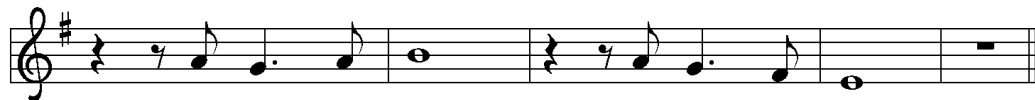
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



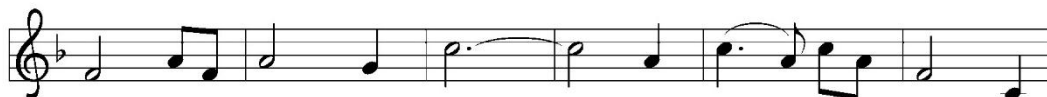
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

ELW 634



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, ... common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever.
Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTIAN VOCATION IN CIVIC LIFE

People of God are chosen and named as God's beloved.
You have received the gift of Christian vocation,
a holy calling lived out in various dimensions of your life,
your relationships and communities,
your work and your rest.

Daily and richly we live in the promises of holy baptism,
sustained by grace to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

I ask you, therefore:

Will you endeavor to pattern your life on Jesus Christ,
in gratitude to God and in service to others?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you strive to pursue the common good in public life,
nurturing mutual care among neighbors near and far?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you pledge to bear witness in word and action,
commending what is true and right,
renouncing what is unjust and harmful,
and working to mend what is flawed?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Sovereign God, your Son Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Give to your servants courage, patience, and vision in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Empower us all in our Christian vocation to be courageous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable, and respect for the common life we share, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Author of life, ... bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *In Christ There Is No East or West*

ELW 650



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.

Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress, 2006): prayers 125, 237, 289 (pp. 41, 63, 77); Affirmation of Christian Vocation (p. 84); Holy Baptism (p. 228).

All Creation Sings (Augsburg Fortress, 2020), prayer 1041 (p. 50).

Enriching Our Worship 1 (Church Publishing, 1998), p. 56.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

In Sympathy: For the families of Keith Jurkowski.

For needs to be met: For peace among nations, for our country, for those impacted by violence, for teachers, students, & parents, for first responders, for all who struggle with uncertainty, for caregivers, for the Hope Center, for all who are ill, Bishop Curry, Sarah M, Sue B, Sandy H, Gloria B, Gwen K, Sue O, Kathy J, Jillian R, Baby BK, Chris R, Brad S, Beth, Baby W, Baby Evelyn, Kathi, Tom, Terese, Kory B, Judy W, Karen R, Michael R, Dave M, Jamie F, PJ, Jim B, David L, Josh, Diane, Steve D, Greg C, Shane R, Kurt, Janice H, Sue C, Brian M, Laurie B, Mary S, Chris, Lisa S, April, Sarah E, James, Anthony Y, Isabella, Steve, Sai R, Joan B, Kenzie D, Rusty B, Tim M, Dakota, Dale R, Sally, Linda M, Joyce, Dan D, Kathi, Mary M, John F, Jan N, Dave M, Chris B, Katie L, Chuck, Andy S, Carey, Dave, Liz S, Terri I, Mark, Janet J, John K and Vi E.

For our partner churches in the Meru Diocese in Tanzania: For the challenges they face. For God's continued blessings on our partnership.

For those serving in the military: Gary Bjerke, Owen Hager, Jim Kieso Jr, Daniel Krueger, and Dmitriy Lando.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendship Pads

Please be sure to sign in on the friendship pads located in each pew.

90+ Birthdays

Elizabeth Ann Schuman turns 91 on Saturday, July 4!

50+ Anniversary

We give thanks for Herbert and Sherry Dahm celebrating their 61st wedding anniversary on Friday, July 10!

Hospitality Thank You

July's Mt. Meru Coffee Hour is sponsored by Diane Voit in honor of the St. Luke's Scholarship Award and recipients.

Summer Pick-Up Choir Returns

Our summer pick-up choir returns again this year! This is a time to just come and sing, try out singing at St. Luke's, or just keep your vocal skills up over the summer. We will gather at 8:45 a.m. to learn something to sing in worship at our 9:30 a.m. service. All ages are invited to join us and sing! We will gather on July 12, and August 16. For more information, contact Michael Schaner, Director of Music Ministries at mschaner@stlukeslutheran.org.

Tee Up for Hope

Join the Hope Center for their annual *Tee Up for Hope* golf outing at the Broadlands Golf Club on Monday, July 13. There will be team scramble events with prizes, hole events, raffles, auctions, lunch buffet and post-golf heavy hors d'oeuvres social. For tickets go to <https://hopecenterwi.org/event/tee-up-for-hope-golf-outing-2026/>

Saturday Social July 18

Join the Youth on Saturday, July 18, for dinner, conversation and a little laughter following the Saturday service. July's Theme is - It's summer, time to kick back and relax. We will have pulled pork and fixings with s'mores for dessert. Assuming Mother Nature cooperates, we will be outside. Sign up at Sign Up Central.

Are You Receiving Our Weekly *Connections* Email

Each week we send out an email called *Connections*. It includes announcements, links, information about worship schedules, community events, and so much more. If you are not receiving it, email the office (office@stlukeslutheran.org) to be added to the email list.

Plants & Pints Night for Young Adults (Ages 20–40)

Join us on Wednesday, July 22, from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at The Tap Yard in Waukesha for a creative evening as we make SoCuteLent at the succulent bar! Imagine relaxing in a beer garden, enjoying beverages, sharing laughter, and crafting a succulent planter while taking in the outdoors. You'll be guided step-by-step, starting with a 4" succulent, then customizing your planter with colorful gravel and a variety of decorative elements like stones, marbles, shells, and driftwood. Each participant will also receive exclusive wire leaves handcrafted by Two Mikes Art Factory, along with a bamboo or feather butterfly to complete the design. The succulent bar will be open from 6:30–8:30 p.m., and the cost is \$35 (plus tax). Please note this workshop is non-refundable, but if you're unable to attend, you may send someone in your place. You can reserve tickets in advance or pay at the door if space is available. To purchase advance tickets, search "Two Mikes Art Factory" on Facebook and visit the event registration page. For more information or to let someone know you plan to attend, please contact Pastor Maren.

Guest Preacher: Héctor Colón, President and CEO, Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan on July 26, at the 9:30 a.m. Service

Our Mission of the Month for July is Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. On Sunday, July 26 Héctor Colón, President and CEO of LSS, will be our guest preacher. Francesca Kempfer, Director of Advancement for LSS, will also join us that day. Héctor Colón has served as President and CEO of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan (LSS) since 2017. Under Colón's visionary and innovative leadership, LSS has adapted new models and business strategies to increase relevancy and operational efficiency. Colón recently was named the Nonprofit Executive of the Year by BizTimes Media and the Hispanic Man of the year by UMOS.

Your Help Is Needed: Roof and Van Campaign

This rainy spring has brought many leaks to our attention. Due to the age of the roof, now more than 20 years old, and the numerous issues, we are following the guidance to replace the pitched roof over both the sanctuary and the chapel. This will be an expensive, but necessary endeavor to maintain our beautiful worship spaces. In addition, our 21-year-old church and childcare van also needs replacement. We are faced with two large capital purchases at the same time. Your financial help is much needed. If you would like to help offset the cost of the new chapel and sanctuary roof, please indicate "New Roof" on your offering. If you would like to help fund the new church and childcare van, please indicate "New Van" on your offering. Any additional support you can give would be most appreciated. Thank you in advance for your faithful stewardship!

Flat Jesus Returns

Last year, Flat Jesus, based on Flat Stanley, traveled with us to many places around the world. He returns again this year to join us on our travels! You can pick up your own Flat Jesus to decorate at the Welcome Center. Take him with you on your trips, pose with him in photos, and then send your photos to Shari Higgins, at shigs@stlukeslutheran.org, to be shared with the congregation on Facebook and on the screens around the church.

Stay Connected with What's Ahead

Do you want to know what's happening in the days and weeks ahead at our church? Visit our Church Calendar on the church website! It's the best place to find upcoming events, ministry activities, service times, and special announcements. Simply go to our website and click on Calendar to stay updated and get involved. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Online Giving

To start giving electronically or make changes to your on-line giving, please log on to our website and click on "Online Giving" on the far right. You can also fill out the paper authorization form and return it to the church office. Paper authorization forms are available at the Welcome Center.

CLM Scrip Fundraiser

We have some exciting news! Our St. Luke's Child Life Ministries Scrip Account through RaiseRight is active! What is Scrip? It's a place where you can purchase gift cards and CLM will get a portion of your purchase kicked back! Going shopping? Get a gift card to pay for your purchase and donate to CLM at the same time, it's that easy! You can order your gift card and have it instantly available to use, right from your phone. There are two easy ways to sign up, follow this link OR scan the QR code. Share with your friends and relatives by sending them a text or email!

There's no cost or upcharge, just purchasing gift cards that helps CLM.

<https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=FD7A8962586>



Committing to Worship

We are encouraging each other all year long to commit/recommit to deeper engagement in worship. Perhaps you've drifted away from regular worship attendance. Come back and let God feed you in the Word and at the table of Holy Communion. Maybe while you're here, you might be called to participate more fully in the liturgies we speak and sing together. Commit yourself/yourselves to deeper engagement in worship. The more you engage God in worship, the deeper your relationship with Him grows.

Serving in Worship

There are a variety of ways to serve the community whenever we worship. Each of the ways is equally important to our weekly experience of God's grace. You can serve as a lector, an usher, a member of the altar guild, a communion assistant and more. We use "Ministry Scheduler Pro," an online tool, to help people schedule their worship ministry involvement. If you have an account on Ministry Scheduler Pro, you received an email inviting you to update your profile and involvement. That email also contained your credentials to log in. The spotlight section of our website's homepage also has a link to our Ministry Scheduler that you can follow. Our goal is to develop schedules that use the many gifts and talents present in our congregation. Please log on to Ministry Scheduler Pro, update your profile, and let us know any dates you are not available to serve.

Prayer Team

Scripture encourages us to bear one another's burdens. Lifting others up in prayer is a way to do that. The need for prayer and for people to pray grows daily! Please consider becoming a member of our Prayer Team. There are no meetings or phone calls to make. You will receive prayer requests via email and are asked to pray daily. No specific prayer, although suggestions are given in the email you receive. Simply ask God to guide you. Did you know you can pray any time and any place? How about while brushing your teeth or showering, during your kids' practices or games, while waiting for appointments? All that is asked is that you pray daily. Please consider joining this vital ministry. For information, contact Laurie Rohrwasser.

Extending Care for You

Our pastors make visits and calls to people in need of pastoral care. If you would like pastoral care, please call the church office at (262) 542-2545. This is especially important if you are going through life-transitions, illness, or trauma. If you change your address or enter a care facility or rehab center, please update the church office.

Communication is Important

Communicating when, where, what, why, and how is important. If there is something you would like communicated in the weekly bulletin, weekly *Connections* email, or the monthly Epistle newsletter, it's as easy as writing the announcement and emailing it to office@stlukeslutheran.org or stopping by the office with your article by the deadlines. The deadlines for the bulletin and *Connections* are 12:00 p.m. the Tuesday before the Thursday or the weekend you would want the information in *Connections* or bulletin. The deadline for the monthly Epistle newsletter is the 15th of the month unless the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday; then, the deadline is the Friday before. If you have any questions, please reach out either by email or call the church office at (262) 542-2545.

Support the Food Pantry

You can make monetary donations to the pantry through their website. Leaders of the pantry want us to know that canned fruits and veggies along with soups have been limited the last few months. When shopping for yourself, pick up some for our neighbors and drop them in the food pantry barrels as you leave the grocery store, or bring to church to drop in the cart by door.

Help For the Hope Center

There are many ways to help the Hope Center. Sorters are needed in the Clothing Shop, prep and serve breakfast and lunch, dates can vary. You can volunteer by contacting (262) 549-8726. Check out their website for their weekly donation request list at <https://hopecenterwi.org/donate-now/>. Hope Center address is 101 W Broadway, Waukesha 53186.

Epistle Online

Are you still receiving a paper copy of The Epistle in the mail? Reading The Epistle online saves paper and postage, allows you to print only the pages you want, and includes live links. If you would like to receive our weekly **Connections** email and our monthly newsletter, The Epistle, by email please contact the church office at (262) 542-2545 or office@stlukeslutheran.org.

Let Us Remember Those Who Served

Behind the Chapel is a "Memorial Wall" featuring our National Flag, the five Service Branch emblems for the Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Air Force and Coast Guard. We currently have thirty names of our Military Veterans, past and present, who have served our country. We know we have more members that have served. We would like to add their information to the wall. There is also a "Roll of Honor" for St. Luke's members who served in World War II. There are twenty-four veterans' names on this historic document found in our archives. We need the assistance of St Luke's members to provide us with additional names of members who served in the Military. Please provide the following information so that the names can be added to our Memorials: Full Name, Military Branch, Rank, Dates served, and location(s) stationed, brief description of actual job in the military service, birth date and date of passing (if applicable). Please email this information to Ed Raether, eraether@wi.rr.com or office@stlukeslutheran.org.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

July 5, 2026

LECTIONARY 14

Invited

Jesus offers a comforting invitation, “Come to me,” amid a reflection on the mystery of God’s wisdom and the failure by some to recognize it. Instead of making the search for wisdom into a game of hide-and-seek, Jesus sheds any presumption that God’s wisdom belongs only to the elite or adventurous. He declares that the gift of wisdom is accessible and available not just for the smart or those who have earned it in some way; it is for the willing, the burdened, and the heavy-laden. Do not worry about going to find secret knowledge. No need to try harder to figure it out. Just receive his invitation to come.

But in our culture, with so much energy and attention devoted to what we can earn, how do we hear this simple invitation from Jesus? When we find that the wise and intelligent are no closer to obtaining this gift from God, does that give us pause? Is all the effort to find the hidden things Jesus is speaking about part of the burden he asks us to lay down? How can we experience the rest Jesus gives?

The expression “come to Jesus” has varied usage in the broader culture, but our gatherings for the Lord’s supper reveal something about Jesus’ invitation and God’s gifts. When we receive the sacrament, we acknowledge a gift given—one that we need. When we come forward, we may not fully understand exactly how receiving those elements is “coming to Jesus,” but the space is made. We can accept Jesus’ invitation without knowing its full implications. And while the invitation is personal, it also helps us recognize that the community is united in a common response.

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This Week at St. Luke's

Sunday, July 5, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Executive Committee
6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

Monday, July 6, 2026

Church Office Closed

6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

6:00 p.m. CLM Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. N.A.

7:00 p.m. Square Dancers

Thursday, July 9, 2026

7:00 p.m. The Broad Highway A.A.

Saturday, July 11, 2026

5:00 p.m. Worship

Sunday, July 12, 2026

8:45 a.m. Summer Pick-Up Choir

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Mt. Meru Coffee

6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

Serving this Weekend:

Preaching:

Presiding:

Music:

Assisting Minister:

Lector:

Bread Baker:

Acolyte:

Communion Asst:

Ushers:

Altar Care:

Worship Tech:

9:30

Pastor Jordan

Pastor Hooper

Michael Schaner

Dan Jorvig

Tracy Craft

Debbie Kuechler

Jon Klawiter

Robbin Krueger

Wendy Bacon

Paul Pilon

Jay & Kathy Fontaine

Diana Lando

Jay & Kathy Fontaine

Susan Klabunde