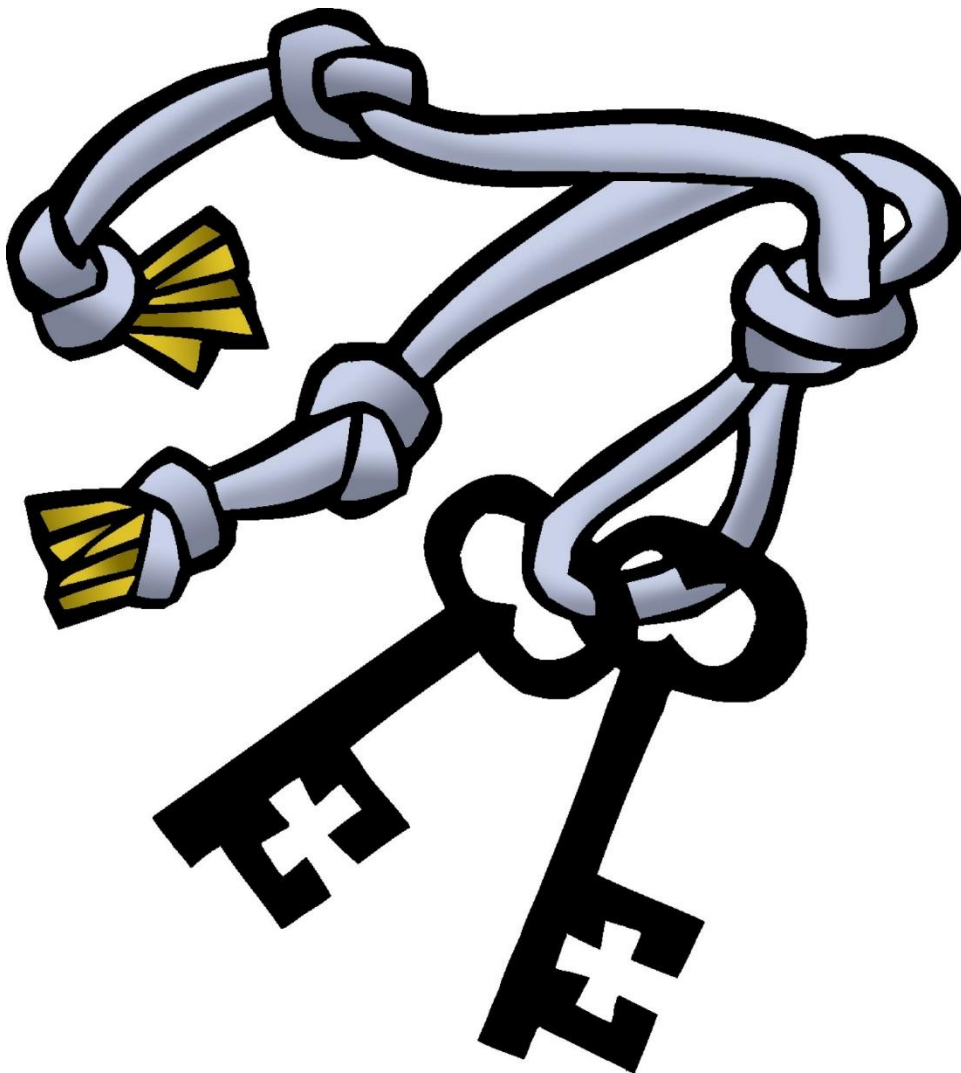




Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, August 22, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 23, 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.**

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, August 22, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 23, 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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Intermezzo in A, Op. 118, No. 2*

Johannes Brahms

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

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.

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.

Amen.



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms. . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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.



1 ¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
1 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre! ¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre!
To God be glo-ry for - ev - er! To God be glo-ry for - ev - er!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

- ¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- ² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
- ³ For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
- ⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
- ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
- ⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord.

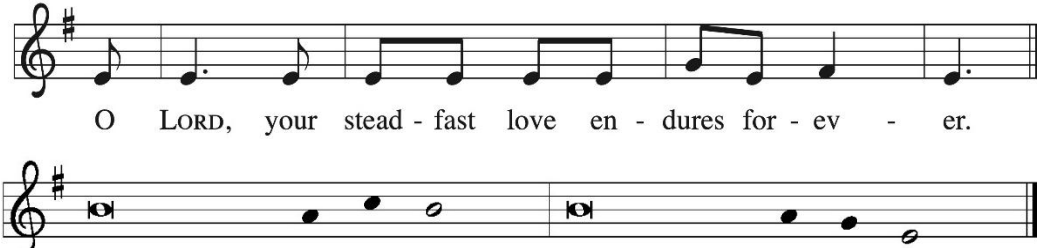
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 138

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.*



¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with [|] my whole heart;
before the gods I will [|] sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your
steadfast [|] love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- [|] bove all things.**

³ When I called, you [|] answered me;
you increased my [|] strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise [|] you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words [|] of your mouth. R**

⁵ They will sing of the ways [|] of the Lord,
that great is the glory [|] of the Lord.

⁶ **The Lord is high, yet cares [|] for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty [|] from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you [|] keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right [|] hand shall
save me.

⁸ **You will make good your pur- [|] pose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works [|] of
your hands. R**

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and

not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S LESSON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia*

Anne Krentz Organ



GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

SERMON

Pastor Hooper



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
 5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
 ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
 prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
 world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

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

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

PEACE

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

MEAL

OFFERING *Built on a Rock*

setting, Aaron David Miller

AUGUST MISSION: **Seminaries of the Church:** Luther Seminary and Wartburg Seminary

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

Loving God, 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.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

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.



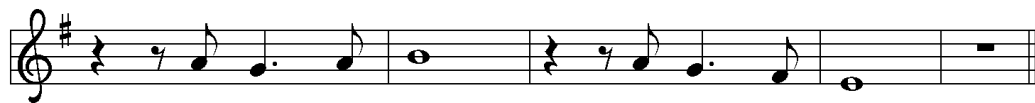
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



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.

Refrain/Estribillo

Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

Refrain/Estribillo

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you. We lift our
voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering, we are an offering.

TABLE BLESSING**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Compassionate God, 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.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

ELW 596



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *The Church's One Foundation*

setting, Anne Krentz Organ

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We Are An Offering

CCLI Song # 16220

Dwight Liles

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Sympathy: For the family of Shelby Hemauer.

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

For our partner churches in the Meru Diocese in Tanzania: For the rain and resources needed for their crops to grow; for strength in the challenges they face; for the upcoming general election in October; for the Maroni and Kilimamoja congregations; and 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.

Hospitality Thank You

August's Mt. Meru Coffee Hour is sponsored by Julie Doepke in honor of Hadfield School.

50+ Anniversary

We give thanks for Bill and Nancy Dixon celebrating their 61st wedding anniversary on Friday, August 28!

Worship Schedule Update

Over the past several months, our congregation has experienced the blessings of gathering together for one Sunday worship service. Worshiping as one community has provided more opportunities to connect, build relationships, and strengthen our life together as the body of Christ. Because of the positive experience and strong sense of community it has fostered, St. Luke's will continue offering one Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. indefinitely. Saturday worship will continue at 5:00 p.m. We give thanks for the many ways God brings us together and look forward to continuing to worship, learn, and grow in faith as one church family.

Blood Drive at Waukesha Public Library

Give the Gift of Life! The Waukesha Public Library will host a Versiti Blood Drive on Monday, August 24, from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. in their Community Room, 321 Wisconsin Ave. Waukesha. All attempting donors will receive a \$50 Wilderness Resort coupon, and those who schedule their next donation appointment will be entered into a drawing for a free Wilderness Resort stay. Please eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating. To schedule an appointment call (877) 232-4376 or visit the website Versiti.org/WI. Please consider donating and helping save lives in our community. Your gift of blood can make a difference for patients in need.

Help Support CLM by Not Cooking Dinner

On Wednesday, August 26, don't cook, help out CLM by ordering from Taco John's between 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. 25% of all proceeds raised will be donated to CLM. It's a win, win, you get dinner CLM gets a donation.

Saturday Social August 29

All are invited to join the Youth on Saturday, August 29, for dinner, conversation, and a little laughter following the Saturday service. August's theme is potluck! Assuming Mother Nature cooperates, we'll gather outside. Third time's the charm! Sign up at Sign Up Central.

Heading To School

Let us bless you and your backpack Saturday and Sunday, August 29 and 30. We will bless the backpacks, bookbags, and other school related items, at both services. If you are a student, an educator, or school staff member, let us pray for you and ask God's blessings on your educational journeys. No need to sign up, just participate in worship.

St. Luke's Musical Ensembles

Our St. Luke's musical ensembles will soon be starting, even though it seems like we just completed the last program year! If you are interested in joining any of our ensembles, talk to Michael Schaner, Director of Music Ministries.

Starting Wednesday, September 2:

Godsbells: adult handbells - 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. – sanctuary balcony.

Voices of Faith: high school – adult mixed choir - 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. – music room, lower level

Starting Sunday, September 13:

Men's Chorus: 10:40 a.m., after the Sunday service. Open to any men of the congregation. Rehearses the second Sunday of each month.

Starting Thursday, September 17:

Joyful Noise: ensembles for 4 years old - 6th grade - 4:30 p.m. Registration can be completed online at <https://stlukeslutheran.org/joyful-noise-registration/>

Women of Faith Bible Study

Women of Faith Bible Study meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Our first study will be Thursday, September 3, 2026. Join us on a journey as we meet Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna in *The Women of Christmas*. Beginning in February, we will be introducing Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth, and Mary Magdalene in *The Women of Easter*. Both studies are written by Liz Curtis Higgs. You've heard their names, but do you know their stories? Liz Curtis Higgs brings these women to life and helps us deepen our understanding of their relationship with Jesus. Both books are available in hardcover and Kindle editions through Amazon or your favorite bookseller. Join us and bring a friend. All are welcome! For more information, contact Laurie Rohrwasser (262) 542-4664, lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org. Our final study will be May 20, 2027.

Forever 40 Outing to the Domes

Join Forever 40 on Saturday, September 12, for a fun trip to the Mitchell Park Domes Orchid Show! We'll meet at 12:00 p.m. in the church parking lot to carpool to the Domes. General admission is \$10 per person. After enjoying the beautiful orchid display, we'll gather for dinner at a location to be determined. Please contact Vonda Bickett at (414) 416-0246, or the church office with questions and to RSVP by Monday, September 7. We hope you'll join us for this afternoon of fellowship, flowers, and fun!

Needle & Thimble

Please join Needle and Thimble starting again on Tuesday, September 8 at 8:30 a.m. They meet every Tuesday unless there is no school. Everyone is welcome. You don't need to be able to sew. There are other things that can be done. Please call Marilyn Olson if you have questions, (262) 844-2519.

Rally Weekend

The weekend of September 12/13, we rally for the fall, as we roll out our fall programming and celebrate Life-Changing Faith. We'll celebrate the weekend with a picnic in the parking lot, or in Hospitality if the weather doesn't cooperate. For questions about Rally Weekend, reach out to Wendy Bacon (262) 547-6221, or Julie Doepke (414) 750-4524 / doepkejulie1@gmail.com. Watch for more information about Sunday School, Bible Studies, and other activities for the fall.

Sunday School Registration & Rally Day

It's almost time for another exciting year of Sunday School at St. Luke's! Registration is now open for children in PreK through 5th Grade. Families can register online at stlukeslutheran.org/Sunday-School. Our Sunday School year kicks off on Rally Day, Sunday, September 13. Join us for worship at 9:30 a.m., followed by a parking lot picnic and an all-church service project as part of the ELCA's "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Together, we will assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. All ages are encouraged to participate. Beginning this fall, families will worship together at the 9:30 a.m. service. Following the "Change to Change the World" offering, children will head out for Sunday School and will be dismissed by 11:00 a.m. We will continue using the Spark curriculum and Spark Story Bible. Mark your calendars: August 30 – Blessing of Backpacks, September 20 – Bible Sunday. Questions? Contact Pastor Maren Hooper at pastormaren@stlukeslutheran.org or (262) 542-2545.

Introducing Theology Cracked Open

Join us Monday, September 14 at Raised Grain Brewery, 6:00 p.m. Kind of like Theology Uncorked or Theology on Tap...but with a bit of a revamp! We will gather in groups of three to six so that everyone has a chance to speak and be heard. Our first session is entitled, "**Listening 101: Can You Hear Me Now? Listening as the First Act of Love.**"

Schedule: 6:00-6:15 p.m. - Grab a beverage, find our tables on the patio, and settle in! If the weather is inclement, we'll move indoors. **6:15-7:15 p.m.** – Crafted Conversations. When our time is up, you're welcome to linger a while longer or head out. Each session will be a **stand-alone topic**, so if you miss a month, no worries. Just hop right back in when you can! Questions? Contact Pastor Maren Hooper.

Search Bible Study Resumes This Fall

If you'd like to be part of a group of Christians growing in faith, join our weekly Search Bible Study when it resumes September 16 at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome! There is no registration requirement. Bring a friend. All levels of experience with the Bible are welcome. We normally have been having 20-25 people. There is always room for you.

Forever 40 Mutts Gone Nuts Canine Cabaret

Join Forever 40 on Friday, October 2, for an evening of laughs and amazing canine talent at the Mutts Gone Nuts Canine Cabaret! We'll carpool from church at 4:30 p.m. for dinner at Olive Garden in Delafield before heading to the show at the Oconomowoc Arts Center. The show features eight world-class stunt dogs performing incredible tricks, athletic feats, and hilarious comedy. Tickets are \$33 per person. Please contact Vonda Bickett at (414) 416-0246 or the church office with questions and to RSVP by Friday, September 18.

Bible Sunday for Youth!

On Sunday, September 20, at the 9:30 a.m. worship service, we will celebrate God's Word and present Bibles to children and youth in the following age groups: Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will receive a Spark Story Bible. Children in 3rd grade will receive a Spark Bible. New Discipleship Training (DT) students will receive a Lutheran Study Bible. To confirm that you would like to receive a Bible, please call the church office at (262) 542-2545 or email, office@stlukeslutheran.org by Sunday, September 13.

Personal Care Kit Collection

Help us share Christ's love with people facing disasters, displacement, and hardship around the world. By donating items for a Personal Care Kit, you can provide basic hygiene supplies that restore comfort, health, and dignity to those in need. We will be collecting donations starting now through September 13. These gifts will provide essential care and encouragement to people in crisis. Stay tuned for the time we will be meeting on September 13, to assemble the kits, and volunteers are needed. If you can help or have any questions, please contact Julie Doepke (414)-750-4524. Thank you for supporting this important ministry and helping us extend God's love to those who need it most. Items Needed: cotton or cotton blend bath-size towel, 20" - 27" x 40" - 52" (dark color preferred,) individually wrapped bath-size bars of soap, 8-9 oz, adult toothbrushes, sturdy combs, and metal nail clippers. These items can be dropped off in the narthex.

Outreach for Hope 2026 Family Ride Run Walk

The 2026 Outreach for Hope Family Ride, Run, Walk, will be on Saturday, September 26. This is the Outreach for Hope's biggest fundraiser of the year. They are hoping to raise \$175K by October 31, for grants to ministries serving communities experiencing material poverty in the Greater Milwaukee Synod, ELCA. To register, volunteer, and/or donate, go to OFHRRW.ORG

Thanks to All Contributing to Roof and Van

It has been one of those summers when the projects of the church have taken some unexpected turns, and we have found ourselves working together to put things right. Drips from the sanctuary ceiling led to a roof replacement. Then, lights began falling in the sanctuary, moving us out of our regular worship space while repairs could be made. At the same time, one of our ministry vans gave up the ghost and could no longer serve CLM, our ministry to working families.

Through all of this, you have responded well. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so positively during this strange summer. Your flexibility has allowed us to continue worshipping well, even in tight quarters. You have volunteered in many ways to keep things moving toward repair and completion, and you have also responded generously to the financial needs these unexpected projects have created.

As of mid-August, you have donated almost \$25,000 toward the roof project. On top of that, you have given almost \$11,000 toward the purchase of our new van! That is nearly \$36,000 in additional giving to meet needs we did not anticipate a few months ago.

Thank you for these generous gifts and for the many other ways you have helped St. Luke's keep its ministries moving forward.

Prayer Ministry

How can our Prayer Team pray for you, a friend or loved one? We are ready to lift up prayers for you during the joys and trials of your life. If you or someone you know needs prayer for any reason, please contact Laurie Rohrwasser, lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org. Perhaps you know of someone who could use a note of encouragement or well wishes, please let her know.

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.

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!

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=FD CD7A8962586>



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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

August 23, 2026

LECTIONARY 21

Revealing God

Jesus came to earth as God *incarnate*, meaning “in or having bodily form.” This was no accident. The prophets of the past had used their bodies and their words so people could understand God. In Christ, God was revealed in flesh and blood, allowing us to know who God is and what God’s priorities are for creation.

Peter points this out to us, saying that Christ is “the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). As a *living* God, moving among us as Jesus Christ, God reveals Godself directly. God reveals the divine nature and priorities through Jesus’ earthly life. Jesus lives without possessions, sharing in the suffering of people who are poor and oppressed. On the Galilean coast he feeds thousands of people before teaching them. He befriends outcasts like Zacchaeus the tax collector and the Canaanite woman. He calls out the greed and misplaced priorities of the wealthy by flipping tables. Instead of merely telling us, Christ incarnate shows us that God has a serious concern for all people on the margins of society.

As the church is formed into the body of Christ, we too now reveal to the world who God is and what God’s priorities are. How does our ministry show God’s concern for those who are poor and marginalized today? Do we seek out and walk alongside people cast out by dominant society? Do we not only preach the word but make sure people are fed as well?

By accompanying our neighbors in their struggles for dignity, justice, and the right to flourish, we do the good work of followers of Jesus, striving with God for the end of all oppression and death, for a world made whole.

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This Week at St. Luke's

Sunday, August 23, 2026

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

Monday, August 24, 2026

8:00 a.m. Amigos
6:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

4:00 p.m. C.L.M. Taco John's Fundraiser
5:00 p.m. K4 Open House
7:00 p.m. N.A.
7:00 p.m. Square Dancers

Thursday, August 27, 2026

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

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Backpack Blessing Weekend
5:00 p.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Saturday Social

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Backpack Blessing Weekend
9:30 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

Serving this Weekend:

Preaching:	5:00 p.m. Pastor Hooper	9:30 a.m. Pastor Hooper
Presiding:	Pastor Hooper	Pastor Jordan
Music:	Michael Schaner	Michael Schaner
Assisting Minister:	Steve Wiley	Ben Shelley
Lector:	Martin Heis	Patti Walkowicz
Bread Baker:	Anna Kate Morris	Anna Kate Morris
Acolyte:		Colin Larson
Communion Asst:	Jody Geibl	Mark Bjerke
Ushers:	Harold Bloch	RJ Hildebran
	Kathy Fontaine	Kevin Thorstad
		Mark Perry
		Susan Perry
Altar Care:	Susan Klabunde	Jay and Kathy Fontaine
		Candy and Don Grossman