



Feast of Creation

Saturday, September 5, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 6, 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.**

Feast of Creation

Saturday, September 5, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 6, 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.

INTRODUCTION

Since the seventh century, September 1 has symbolized the day of the creation of the world in the Byzantine tradition and has been the opening feast of its liturgical year (known as the Feast of the Indiction), in parallel with Rosh Hashanah marking the Jewish New Year. Creation in Christ celebrates the ongoing creation of the world in and through Christ, who sustains, unites, and holds all created things. We hear today of the triune God who creates all things: sun and moon, shining stars, sea monsters, creeping things and flying birds—and, yes, even human beings. God-in-Christ still takes care of all things and invites us to join in as caretakers of God's good creation.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*

Thomas Pavlechko

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water—the Fox River, Pewaukee Lake, and Lake Michigan, the rain that nourishes animals and plants, the water for drinking and bathing. We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—a flood that cleansed the earth, the sea that drowned the enemy, a river that healed leprosy. We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus—baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee, drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda, washing the disciples' feet. We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font, for through this water you have birthed us into the family of Christ, bathed us in forgiveness, and enlivened us in the Spirit. We praise you, O God, for baptism.

We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth. O God, you are the River, saving us from death. O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being. We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever.

Amen, and amen.

Amen, and amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom*

ACS 1064



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound-ing God's de - light-ed laugh,
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.
Ev - 'ry crea-ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum-ble - bee.
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won-der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice
Spi-der, hu - man, red - wood, geck-o, mon-key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring-ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.
live with-in a sin-gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.
born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

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.

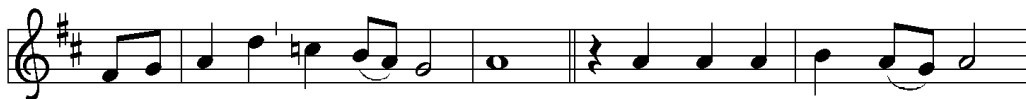
CANTICLE OF PRAISE *This is the Feast*

ELW pg. 140

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

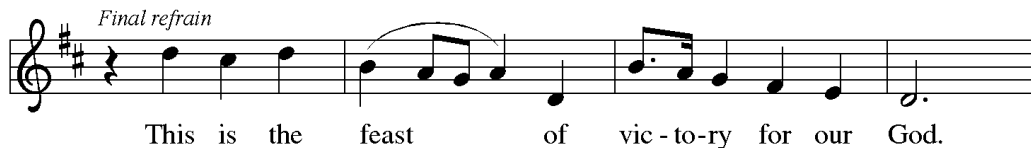
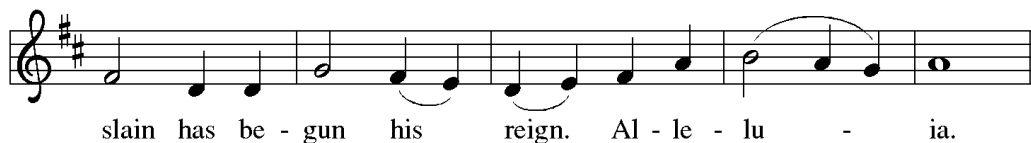
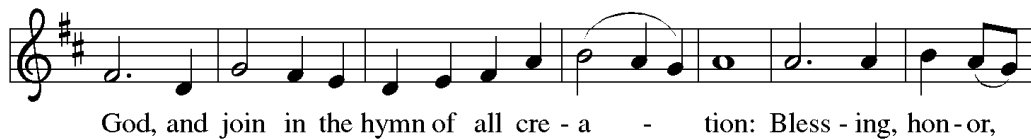


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, in Christ you created the worlds, and your Spirit breathes life into the universe. We praise you for your wondrous creation. Bless us and all your handiwork with your infinite light and direct our lives to the care of this good earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

¹When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the

earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 148

*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 Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.
- ² **Praise the LORD,**¹ **all you angels;**
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.
- ³ Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav-¹ en of heavens,**
and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away. R
- ⁷ Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail,**¹ **snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;
- ⁹ mountains¹ and all hills,
fruit trees¹ and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ **wild beasts¹ and all cattle,**
creeping things and¹ flying birds;
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers¹ of the world;
- ¹² **young¹ men and maidens,**
old and¹ young together. R
- ¹³ Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over¹ earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all ¹ faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. ¹ Hallelujah! R**

SECOND READING

Acts 17:22a, 24-28

^{22a} Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ²⁴ “The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S LESSON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia*

Anne Krentz Organ



GOSPEL

John 1:1-5

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *Christ Is the Life*

ACS 927



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive
 2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning
 3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing
 4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the
 tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to
 fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as
 End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all
 dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing
 kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y
 form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
 down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
 days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
 love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
 in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
 fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
 ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

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

Each portion of the prayers ends with these or similar words

Hear us, O God, ...

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always!

And also with you!

MEAL

OFFERING *Tranquilly*

C. Hubert H. Parry

SEPTEMBER MISSION: Hadfield Elementary School Partnership: St. Luke's has a relationship with Hadfield Elementary School. People from St. Luke's volunteer in the school building regularly. We also provide for students who have special needs.

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

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

The gifts of creation for God's beloved creatures.
Come and share.

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. 146

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

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for - get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God our Mother root you deep in grace. God our Neighbor stand with you in strength.
 God our Nourishment sustain you in hope and bless you unto evergreen life.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*

ELW 835

st. 1 - all; st 2 - treble voices; st. 3 - low voices; st. 4-6 - all



- 1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
- 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
- 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
- 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.
- 6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Flourish with creation.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Festive Gloria*

Aaron David Miller

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IN OUR PRAYERS

For needs to be met: for teachers, students, and parents; for peace among nations; for our country; for those impacted by violence; for first responders; for all who struggle with uncertainty; for the Hope Center; for caregivers, for all who are ill, Bishop Curry, Sandy H, Sarah M, Liz S, Sue C, Shane R, Joe, Jerry R, Gary Z, Dawn TW, Marlene N, Kenzie D, Sue O, Baby BK, Cheri S, Glenn, Jacque L, Debby B, Joanne H, Karen R, Gloria B, Kathy J, Jillian R, Chris R, Brad S, Baby W, Baby Evelyn, Kathi, Tom, Terese, Beth, Kory B, Michael R, Sai R, Dave M, Jamie F, Jim B, David L, Josh, Diane, Steve D, Greg C, Janice H, 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 rainfall and resources needed for their crops to grow, and for blessings upon all people. For strength and guidance as they face daily challenges. For the 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

September Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Lopez Family. In honor of all the students, teachers, and staff as they start the new school year. Along with wishing Amy Lopez a happy birthday on September 2!

50+ Anniversary

We give thanks for Ralph and Mary Klass who celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Friday, September 4!

90+ Birthdays

Jan Scherer turns 91 on Sunday, September 6!

Ambo Flowers

This weekend's flowers are given in honor of John and Marilyn Christiansen's 50th Wedding Anniversary celebrated on Friday, August 7!

Music & Fine Arts at St. Luke's

Join us on Sunday, September 6, at 4:00 p.m., for the Wisconsin Wind Orchestra concert. The ensemble is made up of 11 accomplished wind players, conducted by founder and music director, Lawrence Dale Harper. The program presents outstanding and varied works from both France and Italy on this concert. The centerpiece of the performance will be the wonderful Petite Suite by famed French Impressionist composer, Claude Debussy, originally written for piano 4-hands. In addition, audiences will delight in the performance of Amilcare Ponchielli's tuneful and familiar "Dance of the Hours" from his opera, La Gioconda. A freewill offering will be collected at the concert.

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.

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!

Come For Fellowship, Sarah Circle Bible Study

Sarah Circle, a Bible Study group, will meet on Tuesday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Debby Brockington-2116 Grayfox Ct, Waukesha (262) 424-3792. All women are welcome to come. For more information or questions, please call Debby.

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.

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.

Started 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/>

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.

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.

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.

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 for September 20 - Bible Sunday. Questions? Contact Pastor Maren Hooper at pastormaren@stlukeslutheran.org or (262) 542-2545.

Personal Care Kit Collection

This will be the final weekend to collect basic hygiene supplies for the Personal Care Kits. These gifts will provide essential care and encouragement to people around the world facing displacement, disasters, and other hardships.

On Sunday, September 13, before our Rally Day picnic meal, each of us will assemble a kit. It takes less than 5 minutes, and we look forward to supporting this important ministry and helping extend God's love to those who need it most.

If you still wish to bring donations to church, we need the following: Cotton or cotton blend bath-size towels, 20"- 27" x 40"- 52" (dark color preferred); individually wrapped bath-size bars of soap (8-9 oz. preferred); adult toothbrushes, sturdy combs, and metal nail clippers. Thank you for the love you have shared.

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.

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 worshiping 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.

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=FD7CD7A8962586>



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!

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.

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.

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.

This Week at St. Luke's

Sunday, September 6, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Executive Committee
4:00 p.m. M&FAS WWO Concert
6:00 p.m. Men's A.A.

Monday, September 7, 2026

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

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

8:30 a.m. Needle and Thimble
6:30 p.m. Welcome to the Font

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

5:00 p.m. Generosity Team Meeting
6:00 p.m. CLM Board Meeting
6:00 p.m. Godsbells
7:00 p.m. N.A.
7:00 p.m. SquareDancers
7:15 p.m. Voices of Faith

Thursday, September 10, 2026

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

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Rally Weekend / God's Work, Our Hands

12:00 p.m. Forever 40 to the Domes
5:00 p.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Youth Group Get Together

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Rally Weekend / God's Work, Our Hands

9:30 a.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Mt. Meru Coffee
10:40 a.m. Men's Chorus Rehearsal
10:45 a.m. Discipleship Training
Affirmation of Baptism
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 Hooper
Music:	Michael Schaner	Michael Schaner
Assisting Minister:	James Larson	Teresa Jahn
Lector:	Dawn Thompson-Weber	Robbin Krueger
Bread Baker:	Eli Larson	Eli Larson
Acolyte:	Jon Klawiter	Kylie Smith
Communion Asst:	Dan Jorvig	Kathy Pederson
		Jim Kieso
Ushers:	Kathy Fontaine	Wendy Bacon
	Janet Steinquist	Kathy Fontaine
		Jay Fontaine
		Trudy Staffeldt
Altar Care:	Susan Klabunde	Kathy Fontaine
		Jay Fontaine
		Diana Lando
Worship Tech:		Braden Davis