

Saint Luke Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2025

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor



SAINT LUKE WELCOMES ALL TO WORSHIP!

We are grateful for your presence in today's worship! Your participation truly makes a difference. We hope you feel encouraged, blessed, and welcomed!

In preparation for worship, please silence all electronic devices when entering the sanctuary in reverence to God and respect for others.

Members and visitors ~
kindly remember to sign in using the
friendship binders in your pew.

The altar flowers are given to the
Glory of God and in celebration of
Herb Broughton's birthday!
Happy Birthday!

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"Kremser" ("We Gather Together"), A. Valerius, arr. Anne Krentz Organ. Bud Esper, piano.
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We are delighted to have The Reverend Dr. Beth Spitzner Neubauer with us today leading us in Worship. Please join us in extending a warm and heartfelt welcome!

WELCOME

PRELUDE "Beautiful Savior" (traditional), arr. Kathryn Jordahl Larson. St. Luke Handbell Choir. Kim Hawkins, conductor. ©1994 Augsburg Fortress.

Congregation stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P ...Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P ...name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come", #693

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "Kyrie" S-203 (*Front of hymnal, page S-203*)



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WA Let us pray.

C Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Congregation sits

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122

L ...“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

C ²Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

L ³Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

C ⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

L ...the thrones of the house of David.

C ⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

L ⁷Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

C ⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

L ...I will seek to do you good.”

SECOND READING Romans 13:11-14

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Congregation stands

“Alleluia” S-205a (*Front of hymnal, page #205a*)

GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation sits

+ SERMON +

+ THE REVEREND DR. BETH SPITZNER NEUBAUER, PASTOR +

Silence for reflection

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”, #241

“THE NICENE CREED” S-105 (*Front of hymnal, page #105*)

WA Let us confess the faith of the church.

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the he dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

WA God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

P ...through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C **Amen.**

PEACE & SHARE THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY

Congregation stands

OFFERING HYMN "Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful", #184

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Nourishing God,

C **Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.**

"THE GREAT THANKSGIVING" S-206 (*Front of hymnal, page #206*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" S-207 (*Front of hymnal, page #207*)

P ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P ...to share with us the great and promised feast.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P ...with all your saints in light.

C **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P ...victorious Lord of all.

C **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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

P Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation sits

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE Our communion is open to all who are baptized.

“LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)” S-208 (*Front of hymnal, page #208*)

COMMUNION HYMNS

“We Praise You, O God”, #870

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”, #257 (vv.1-3)

Congregation stands

TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

“POST COMMUNION CANTICLE”, S-113 (*Front of hymnal, page 113*)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P ...and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor, + and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God”, #840

DISMISSAL

WA Go in peace. Keep awake.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

--Thank you for worshipping with us today--

The following members assisted with today's worship service with live streaming:

Altar Guild: Cindy Eaton, Sue Dompkowski | AV Team: Dan & Deb Mardis
Bulletin: Dawn Plyler ~ Cover Art: Lori Schneider | Cantor: Alice Christiansen
Music: Bud Esper, Director of Church Music; Kim Hawkins, conductor, St. Luke
Handbell Choir; St. Luke Voice Choir and St. Luke Handbell Choir | Communion
Assistants: Deb Mardis, Cindy Eaton | Crucifer: Dan Mardis | Eucharistic Minister: The
Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor | Greeters: Terry & Debie Hildebrand | Lector:
Judy Pusey | Ushers: Ron & Karen Clark, Chris Hawkins, Becky Overcash
Worship Assistant: Emil Gnam

NEW MEMBERS

Are you looking for a new church family? We'd love to help you connect with others in the church and grow in our Faith Community together. If you are thinking about joining St. Luke, please contact Pastor Eichorn at 610.393.7622 or pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org or the Church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please contact the church office to sponsor Sunday altar flowers.

Upcoming availability: January 4,11,18,25, 2026

Prayer List November 30, 2025

Rudy Voit, Judy Arton, Sheryl Wisniewski, Gary Reynolds, Steve Jewell, Mary Lou Mills, Pat Meyer, the family of Bill Mealia, the family of Charter Member, Edith O. Wilckens

For Your Information

WELCOME VISITORS ~ We are delighted you visited St. Luke today. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship services for light refreshments and to say hello. We can't wait to meet you!

NOTES OF THANKS

On behalf of the dogs and cats of Brunswick County, I would like to thank the St. Luke congregation for your generous support. To date, you have donated 103 pounds of dog/puppy food, and 73 pounds of cat/kitten food. Your generosity is appreciated.

~Thank you, Jeanne Nelson.

BFA Gift Program: Thank you to all who participated! Your generosity is a blessing to our community! BFA had 1400 individuals who requested gifts. *~Joan Eccard.*

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS ~ On Saturday, December 6, at 10:30 am, the Altar Guild will lead the effort to prepare the church and fellowship hall for Advent and Christmas. All are welcome to join us! *~Thank you, Jim Hughes.*

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING ~ DECEMBER 7 ~ Copies of the Agenda, the 2026 Proposed Budget and Final 2025 Budget are available in the Narthex. If you have any questions on the proposal prior to the meeting, please contact Rodney Stinson or Ed Keating.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON FESTIVE SET UP ~ On Saturday, December 20, at 11am in the fellowship hall we will set up for the Christmas luncheon. All are welcome to join us!

~Thank you, Deb Mardis.

PROPERTY MEETING & LMM MEETING ~ The team will meet on December 1 due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday.

DEADLINES DUE BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- ∞ Luggage of Love ~ drop off your new comfort cases (suitcases/duffle bags/etc.) in the hallway of the Admin building. *~Thank you, Ann Morris.*

- ∞ Carolina Opry show & optional dinner ~ December 11 ~ Cost for show is \$35/pp and *optional* dinner cost is \$27/pp. RSVP with payment to Judy P. Tickets and directions will be handed out on Sunday, December 7. Any additional assistance after that time, please contact Patricia S. #702-277-9202.

DEADLINES DUE BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

- ∞ Christmas Luncheon ~ December 21 after worship services. Sign up by December 7 on the Fellowship Hall Community Board.

SUPPORTING ST. LUKE MINISTRIES

- ❖ New Hymnals ... The cost is \$35/each.
- ❖ Food Lion gift cards are available in the Fellowship Hall after worship services.
- ❖ Prayer Shawl Group ~ accepting donations of yarn. Drop off in the Fellowship Hall in the labeled box.
- ❖ WOSL sells books for 25 cents. Check the Fellowship Hall and Room 4. Place money in the basket in the Fellowship Hall Narthex.
- ❖ Commitment cards and Time & Talent forms may be returned to the Stewardship box in the Sanctuary Narthex.
- ❖ Stewardship ~ 2026 offering envelopes have been placed in your mailboxes in the Administrative building.
- ❖ *"I'm loving it!"* ~ Well, you guessed it! The LMM will bring back their scrumptious and delicious breakfast meal on Sunday, January 11, 8am-9:15am. The cost is \$10/per person. Make your plans to attend.

This Week at Saint Luke ~ November 2025

Sunday, November 30	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
First Sunday of Advent	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!
Giving Sunday, Extra Collection		
The Reverend Dr. Beth Spitzner Neubauer, Guest Pastor		
Monday, December 1	2pm	German Club
	3pm	MexTrain
	4:15pm	Property Meeting
	5pm	LMM Meeting
Tuesday, December 2	10:30am	Listening Group
	1pm	Bridge
Wednesday, December 3	10am	Prayer Service
	6pm	Handbell Choir
	7pm	Voice Choir
Saturday, December 6	10:30am	Advent Decorating the Sanctuary & FH ~ All are welcome!
Sunday, December 7	9am	Adult Sunday School
Second Sunday of Advent	10am	Worship service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!

Scripture Readings ~ December 7 ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 | Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 | Romans 15:4-13 | Matthew 3:1-12



SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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main: 910.579.0107 | email: stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org | website: stlukeoib.org

office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor | cell/text: 610.393.7622 | email: pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org

Kristen Killoran, Worship Assistant | Pam Eichorn, Worship Assistant

Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Music | stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org

Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator | main: 910.579.0107 | email: stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org

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