

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Reception of New Members

Sunday, April 26, 2026
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 Jeffrey D'Angelo's birthday. They are placed with love from his mom, Diane.

Additional flowers are given in celebration of our new members by Pastor Eichorn, Church Council, and our parishioners.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"Kelvingrove" (trad. Scottish melody, "Will You Come and Follow Me"), arr. Kyle Haugin. Bud Esper, piano. (c) 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand" ("Solid Rock"), William Bradbury, arr. Adam Mason. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 1997 Lorenz.

Congregation stands

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C **Amen.**

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourishes us. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Jesus Christ you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C **You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "Rejoyce Ye Pure in Heart", #873

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.**

KYRIE S-147 (front of hymnal)

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Worthy" S-149 (front of hymnal)

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation sits

+ **SERMON + THE REVEREND DR. CHRISTIAN EICHORN, PASTOR**

Silence for reflection

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Will You Come and Follow Me", #798

NICENE CREED

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 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 Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

WA ...Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
P ...through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
C **Amen.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Diane D'Angelo
Sponsored by Tony & Judy Cosentino
The Reverend David & Sandra Trexler
Sponsored by Wayne & Judy Huffman

P And to you members of St. Luke church, will you support these new sisters and brothers? Will you pray for them, rejoice with them, and together share in the ministry of Jesus Christ? If so answer, yes by the help of God.

C **Yes, by the help of God.**

P Let us pray. We thank you Lord for these new members. By your life-giving power bind us to each other in you, strengthen us for service, support us each day, and bring us to the day when all your children will be one in you.

C **Amen.**

The Reception of New Members concludes as Church Council's Rich Wood presents a gift bag to each household joining our St. Luke family.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Shelter of Hope" (medley "Weary", "Wayfaring Stranger", trad. spirituals), arr. Joseph Martin.
St. Luke Voice Choir. (c) 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

Congregation stands

OFFERING HYMN "Create In Me a Clean Heart", #186

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish**

us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING S-152 (front of hymnal)

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving S-152' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff has 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

P ...and join their unending hymn: S-153 (front of hymnal)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for '...and join their unending hymn: S-153' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff has 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.' The third staff has 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff has 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

P ...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
P ...Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**
P ...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**
P ...O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
C **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 Come to the table of new life. Receive the Risen Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation sits

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Altar, is open to all baptized Christians who receive Communion in their home church. All others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. When served by standing rows from the center aisle, receive the wafer from Pastor (Gluten Free Wafers are available please let Pastor know at that time if you prefer) then move to the Communion Assistant to pick up a cup of wine or clear grape juice from the tray. Return to your pew using the side aisle. Communion will be brought to those who are uncomfortable navigating around the Sanctuary.

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei) S-154 (front of hymnal)

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us", #789
"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need", #782

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 “Thankful Hearts and Voices
Raised”, #204

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among
us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace
to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing
to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ,
the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art!”, #856

DISMISSAL

WA Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

--Thank you for worshipping with us today--

The following members assisted with today’s worship service with live streaming:
Altar Guild: Deb Mardis, Sara Hart | AV Team: Terry & Debra Hildebrand
Bulletin: Dawn Plyler ~ Cover Art: Lori Schneider | Cantor: John Grunewalder
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: Kathy Rose, Sara Hart | Crucifer: Dan Mardis | Eucharistic Minister: Sue
Heitmuller | Greeters: Rodney & Leigh Ann Stinson | Lector: Kim Hawkins | Ushers: John
& Anna Borchert, Karen Reynolds, Richard Wood | Worship Assistant: Pam Eichorn

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: May 3,10,24 | June 7,21,28

PRAYER LIST APRIL 26, 2025

Terry Hildebrand, Wyman Shaw, Walt Eccard

LUTHERAN LIFE

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY ~ APRIL 26, 2026



We will receive new members during the service today. We extend a warm welcome to each of you and are happy you are part of the St. Luke Faith Community! Please join us for light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the service to meet our new members.

WELCOME VISITORS ~ We are delighted you visited St. Luke today. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship services for refreshments.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Saint Luke members, please sign in so we can accurately report attendance to our synod and to our guests/visitors, we can show our appreciation to you. We love you and thank you for being a part of today's service!

SUPPORTING ST. LUKE MINISTRIES

- ❖ **SPRING NEWS from The Listening Group:** The "LISTENING GROUP" is utilizing the book, The Cup of Our Life, by Joyce Rupp. This group meets from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Tuesdays in room #3 of the Fellowship Building. Specific dates are April 28, May 5, 12, 19. We'd love to have you join us!
- ❖ **Help Us Extend Our Reach!**  We are seeking volunteers to join a rotational team responsible for uploading our Sunday livestream service to the website. Other website maintenance tasks are also available. Basic laptop navigation skills are required. To learn more or to volunteer, please contact **Lori Schneider (910) 232-7558**.
- ❖ **Cookie Emergency!** We need more cookies! Fellowship Cookies are running low - please bring your favorite treats to help feed the flock!
- ❖ **Pelican's Baseball Game:** Gates open at 6pm; game at 7pm. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, May 3. A signup sheet is on the community board. See Judy P for more information or to make payment. Don't forget the \$5 voucher to be used for anything you desire at the park (souvenirs, food, beverage, etc.)
- ❖  **Stewardship Event - Sunday, May 3 - May Day for the Earth!** In the Garden of Eden, God entrusted us with taking care of His most precious creation; to respect and protect it. Explore how we can be better stewards of this responsibility on Sunday, May 3rd during fellowship! Information on organic & native plants, water conservation, reducing chemical usage and more will be offered. There will also be some lovely native pollinator plants to jump start your garden this season. *~Come and grow with us! Joan Eccard & Karen Nelson.*
- ❖ **Come & See Go & Tell - NC Synod Gathering:** May 28-30, 2026 Lenoir-Rhyne University. Hear from NC Synod Bishop Emily Hartner! Learn about the life-giving things God is up to in congregations and ministries across the synod! Make new friends and catch up with old friends at the block party! Learn from experts or

experience spiritual renewal in workshops! Learn more and register by Tuesday, May 5. Log into the North Carolina Synod website: nclutheran.org.

- ❖ **Special Congregation Meeting:** St. Luke has been presented with an exciting opportunity to partner with Anthemnet, Inc. to install a cell tower on the back of our property (behind the shed). This project would provide a consistent revenue stream of \$14,400 per year. Please join us for a special meeting immediately following the service on Sunday, May 3, 2026, to discuss the details, ask questions, input and approval (vote) to proceed with this proposal.

⁴Jesus answered them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁵For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah!’^{1a} and they will lead many astray. (Matthew 24:4-5)

This Week at Saint Luke ~ April 2026		
Sunday, April 26	9am	Adult Sunday School
Fourth Sunday of Easter	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
<i>New Member Sunday!</i>	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!
Monday, April 27	3pm	MexTrain
	4:30pm	Property Committee Meeting
	5pm	LMM
Tuesday, April 28	10:30am	Listening Group
	1pm	Bridge
Wednesday, April 29	10am	Morning Prayer
	6pm	Handbell Choir
	7pm	Voice Choir
Sunday, May 3	9am	Adult Sunday School
Fifth Sunday of Easter	10am	Worship service with live streaming
		Special Congregational Meeting - Anthemnet, Inc.
	11am	Fellowship - All Are Welcome!
Scripture Readings ~ May 3, 2026 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter		
Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14		



SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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 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
Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Music | stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org
Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator

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