

Saint Luke Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 19, 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 Katherine Moore's birthday. They are placed with love from her husband, Bob.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"Near the Cross", William Doane, arr. J. Bert Carlson. Bud Esper, piano.
(c) 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "To God All Glory be Given", Rachel Sawyer. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 1995 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 ...We thank you for the waters that nourishes us. Blessed are you.

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

P ... Blessed are you.

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

P ...We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "Now, All the Vault of Heaven Resounds", #367

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)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WA Let us pray.

C **O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 116:1-4, 12-19

L ¹ I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

C ² **for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.**

L ³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

C ⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**

L ¹² How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

C ¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

L ¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people.

C ¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.**

L ¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

C ¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.**

L ¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people,

C ¹⁹ **in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia” S-151a (front of hymnal)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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: "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing", #389

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 God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Change My Heart, O God", Eddie Espinosa, arr. Joel Raney. St. Luke Voice Choir. (c) 2012 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing.

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.

P ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn: S-153



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.

P ...from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P ... 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

“I Come With Joy”, #482

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”, #494

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

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”, #393

DISMISSAL

W A 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: Sharon Tulio, Sue Dompkowski | AV Team: Rodney & Leigh Ann Stinson
Bulletin: Dawn Plyler ~ Cover Art: Lori Schneider | Cantor: Lori Pollard
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, Mike Applegate | Crucifer: Beverly Werner | Eucharistic Minister: Marie Keating | Greeters: Flo Asmund, Cindy Eaton | Lector: Beverly Dague
Ushers: Jim Drake, Dan Mardis, Bob Moore, Bob Regan
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 3,10,17 | June 7,21,28

PRAYER LIST APRIL 19, 2025

Cheryl Bates, Doris Peterson, Hugh & Becky Overcash, Bob Hart, Ray Smith,
the family of Doris Peterson

LUTHERAN LIFE



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

- ❖ **WOSL Annual Patriotic Charity Luncheon Benefiting Street Reach and Waves4Kids!** Tickets are still available for \$25! Join us Saturday, April 25 (*doors open 11am; lunch Noon*). We are also hosting special raffles in the fellowship area TODAY 4/19. Come by to see these incredible donations: ½ Day Pontoon Rental (\$470 value), Various Golf Outings (Foursomes), 2 Tickets to Carolina Opry, Special Prize Basket (Gift cards & fun items \$250+ value).
- ❖ All WOSL members are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall at 5pm on Monday, April 20. We will be finalizing preparations for our Patriotic Charity Lunch on Saturday the 25. We look forward to seeing you there as we prepare for this wonderful event!

- ❖ **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 21, 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.*
- ❖ We will receive new members on **Sunday, April 26**.
- ❖ **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 Athenet, 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 moving 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!’^{la} and they will lead many astray. (Matthew 24:4-5)

**St Luke Lutheran Church
Financial Summary**

Source of Information	St. Luke Financial Summary		
	March 2026		
		Month	Year to Date
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 1	Revenues	\$ 31,479	\$ 95,045
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 4	Expenditures	\$ 32,338	\$ 86,457
	Surplus (Deficit)	\$ -859	\$ 8,588
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage principal (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Principal	\$ 3,767	\$ 10,824
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage interest (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Interest	\$ 2,037	\$ 6,586
	Mortgage Balance	\$ 612,418	
Average Sunday Service Participation			
Attendance taken by Ushers, averaged monthly and year to date	Attendance	144	125
From YouTube, average monthly and year to date. Note: these are devices connected to YouTube, total people would be more dependent on household.	YouTube Views	66	74
NOTE: Income was slightly above the budgeted amount; Expenses include propane, Giving Envelopes and Wind & Hail insurance.			

This Week at Saint Luke ~ April 2026

Sunday, April 19	9am	Adult Sunday School
Third Sunday of Easter	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!
Monday, April 20	3pm	MexTrain
	5pm	WOSL Dinner & Meeting (<i>pre-set up for Luncheon</i>)
Tuesday, April 21	10:30am	Listening Group
	1pm	Bridge
Wednesday, April 22	10am	Morning Prayer
	6pm	Handbell Choir
	7pm	Voice Choir
Thursday, April 23	10am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Friday, April 24	9am	Bible & Bagels
		<i>Line Dancing cancelled</i>
		Charity Luncheon Set Up
Saturday, April 25	11am	WOSL 18 th Annual Community Outreach Chairty Luncheon
Sunday, April 26	9am	Adult Sunday School
Fourth Sunday of Easter	10am	Worship service with live streaming
Receive New Members	11am	Fellowship - All Are Welcome!

Scripture Readings ~ April 26, 2026 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47 | Psalm 23 | 1 Peter 2:19-25 | John 10:1-10