

# Saint Luke Lutheran Church *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Sunday, May 3, 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.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

### PRESERVICE MUSIC

Medley, "Amazing Grace" with "My Chains Are Gone", Tom Fettke. Bud Esper, piano.  
(c) 2006 WorshipTogether.com Songs.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** Pastorale on "Blessed Assurance" ("Assurance"), Robert Lau. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 2013 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** "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices", #833

## 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 Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Congregation sits*

**FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60**

L The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

L <sup>1</sup>In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

**C <sup>2</sup>Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

L <sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**C <sup>4</sup>Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

L <sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

**C <sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

L <sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

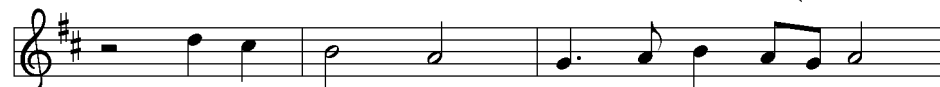
**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

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: John 14:1-14**

**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: "You Are Mine", #581**

**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 "Walk Worthy"**, Joseph Martin. St. Luke Voice Choir. (c) 1994 Timespan Music.

*Congregation stands*

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

### OFFERING PRAYER

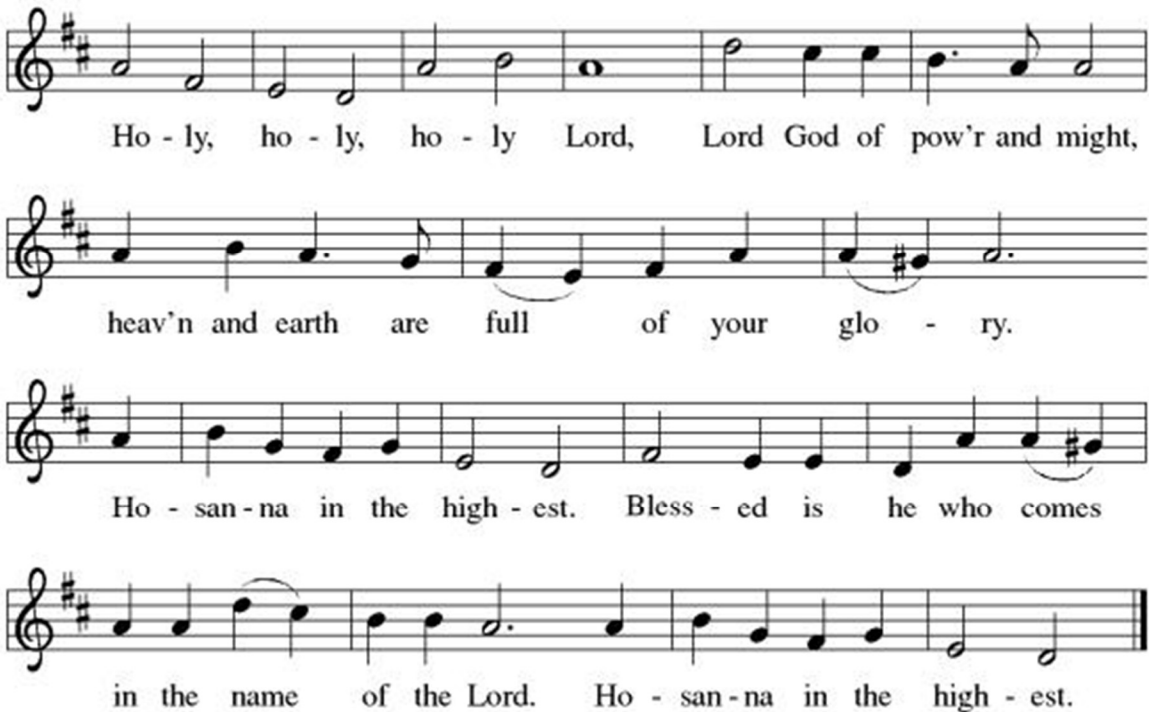
P Let us pray.

**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)



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 ...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. We will commune around the Altar.

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

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

“O God of Mercy, God of Light”, #714 (all verses)

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”, #767

*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**

“Amazing Grace”, #779

**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: Cindy Eaton, Sharon Tulio | AV Team: Gary & Karen Reynolds  
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, Kathy Rose | Crucifer: Doug Snively | Eucharistic Minister: Karen Barnhart | Greeters: Rob & Kathy Rose | Lector: Walt Eccard  
Ushers: Ron & Karen Clark, Steve Kirby, Bob Moore  
Worship Assistant: Kristen Killoran

**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](mailto:pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org) or the Church office.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Please contact the church office to sponsor Sunday altar flowers.  
Upcoming availability: May 10, 24 | June 7, 21, 28

**PRAYER LIST MAY 3, 2026**

Wyman Shaw, Walt Eccard


**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**

- ❖ **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 today to discuss the details, ask questions, input and approval (vote) to proceed with this proposal.
- ❖  **Stewardship Event - Sunday, May 3 - May Day for the Earth!** Today during fellowship! In the Garden of Eden, God entrusted us with taking care of His most precious creation; to respect and protect it. 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.
- ❖ **Pelican's Baseball Game:** Gates open at 6pm; game at 7pm. Deadline to sign up is TODAY!. 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.)

- ❖ **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 May 5, 12, and 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 cookies! Fellowship Cookies are running low – please bring your favorite treats to help feed the flock!
- ❖ **Update on Preschool/Children’s Room in the Administrative building:** We are currently refreshing and reorganizing the Preschool/Children’s room. During this process, items are being temporarily placed around the room to be sorted. If you have personal items, materials, or resources stored in this room, please take a moment to check it on Sundays to claim your belongings. Going forward, this space will be transitioning into a Ministerial and Committee Gathering Room, which will house information on committees, prayer shawls, and other ministry resources. If you have any questions regarding this cleanup or the relocation of items, please reach out to the Sharon Tulio or the Parish Administrator. Thank you!
- ❖ **National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 7:** Join the Greater Shallotte Ministerial Association for a special National Day of Prayer service! We are gathering on Thursday, May 7, at noon at Calvary Baptist Church in Shallotte for prayer and a provided lunch. An offering will be taken to support the vital work of The Lord’s Food Pantry. Everyone is welcome—please join us!
- ❖ **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](http://nclutheran.org).
- ❖ **More than just a Meeting – Join the Lutheran Men’s Ministry!** Looking for a place to hang out, grab a great meal, and enjoy yourself on a weekday? Our Men’s Ministry isn’t about formal agendas or sitting in pews – it’s about fellowship, food, and plenty of laughs. Whether we’re heading out to dinner, sharing a joke, or planning our next big adventure, this is a group where you can just be yourself. No pressure, no prep—just good company! Come see what we’re about at our next gathering on Monday, June 1 at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. We’d love to have you at the table! (May’s meeting falls on Memorial Day, so it has been changed to June 1.)

**This Week at Saint Luke ~ May, 2026**

<b>Sunday, May 3</b>	9am	Adult Sunday School
<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
<i>Special Congregation Meeting</i>		
	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!
<b>Monday, May 4</b>	2pm	German Club
	3pm	MexTrain
<b>Tuesday, May 5</b>	10:30am	Listening Group
	1pm	Bridge
<b>Wednesday, May 6</b>	10am	Morning Prayer
	6pm	Handbell Choir
	7pm	Voice Choir
<b>Thursday, May 7</b>	Noon	GSMA - National Day of Prayer
		Calvary Baptist Church in Shallotte - Prayer & Luncheon
<b>Friday, May 8</b>	9am	Bible & Bagels
	10am	Line Dancing
<b>Saturday, May 9</b>	9am-Noon	The Lord's Food Pantry
<b>Sunday, May 10</b>	9am	Adult Sunday School
<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	10am	Worship service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship - All Are Welcome!

**Scripture Readings ~ May 10, 2026 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
 Acts 17:22-31 | Psalm 66:8-20 | 1 Peter 3:13-22 | John 14:15-21



**SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

5869 Ocean Highway West, Ocean Isle Beach NC 28469  
 main: 910.579.0107 | email: [stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org)

**Kristen Killoran, Worship Assistant**

**Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Music** | [stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org](mailto:stlukemusic@stlukeoib.org)

**Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator**

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