

# Saint Luke Lutheran Church

## *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

Sunday, May 17, 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 loving memory of Andy Roseman and Doris Peterson. They are placed by Andy's wife, Sherry and Doris's husband, Rod.

The single flower is in celebration of the birth of Harvey Webb Shelton born May 12, 2026. Proud parents are Grayson and Molly Shelton, and great-grandmother, Donna Cutsforth.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

### PRESERVICE MUSIC

"Rain Down" (Psalm 33), James Cortez.  
(c) 1991 OCP Publications.

"Le petites soeurs" ("Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"), arr. Anne Organ. Bud Esper, piano.  
(c) 2024 Augsburg Fortress.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE** "Thanks Be to Thee", G. F. Handel, ed. Gregory Cohn. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 1970 G. Schirmer Inc.

*Congregation stands*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. 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** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake. God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "All Hail the Power", #634

## 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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Congregation sits*

**FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14**

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

L <sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

**C <sup>2</sup>As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

L <sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

**C <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I Am is that name, rejoice before God!**

L <sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

**C <sup>6</sup>you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

L <sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

**C <sup>8</sup>the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

L <sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

**C <sup>10</sup>Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

L <sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

**C <sup>33</sup>You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

L <sup>34</sup> Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

C <sup>35</sup> **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

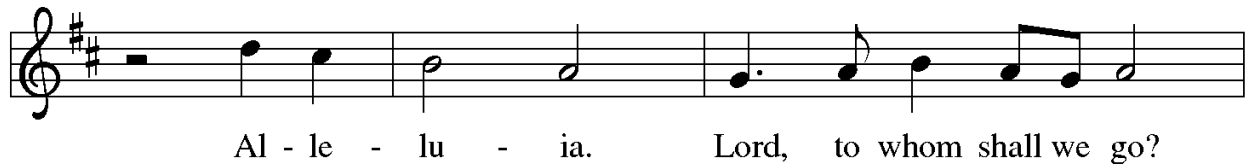
**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation stands*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia” S-151a**



**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

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: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”, #759**

**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** "He Looked Beyond My Faults" (trad.), Tom Fettke. St. Luke Voice Choir. (c) 1968 Design 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)

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 ...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.

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.

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



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, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

“My Hope Is Built (Solid Rock), #596

“O Christ, Our Hope”, #604

*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



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## 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 “O Christ Your Heart Compassionate”, #722

### DISMISSAL

WA Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

### POSTLUDE

*--Thank you for worshiping with us today--*

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

Altar Guild: Deb Mardis, Kathy Hand | AV Team: Rodney & Leigh Ann Stinson  
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: Dona Quinlan, Sherry Fitzsimmons | Crucifer: Bev Werner|  
Eucharistic Minister: Marie Keating | Greeters: Jim & Judy Drake | Lector: Karen Nelson  
Ushers: Wayne Huffman, Becky Overcash, Kenn Nelson, Bev Werner  
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](mailto:pastoreichorn@stlukeoib.org) or the Church office.

#### ALTAR FLOWERS

Please contact the church office to sponsor Sunday altar flowers.

Upcoming availability: May 24,31 | June 7,21,28 | July 5,12,19,26

#### PRAYER LIST MAY 17, 2026

Patrick McCarthy, the families of Constance Kocot and Doris Peterson,  
Gary Reynolds, Joyce Rivenburgh

### LUTHERAN LIFE

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

- ❖ The WOSL will be meeting on Monday May 18 at 5:00 in Fellowship Hall. After our meal, we will have a presentation concerning all the services available to us provided by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department. ~*Joyce Charity*.
- ❖ **LMM Spring Clean Up Project** – Saturday, May 23, 2026, 9am-Noon. We need you!!!!
- ❖ **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 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**.

- ❖ **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.)
- ❖ **File of Life:** Social Ministry is offering free “file of Life” kits for your refrigerator and wallet. These help first responders access your medical info quickly in an emergency. To receive yours, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

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

<b>Sunday, May 17</b>	9am	Adult Sunday School
<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship ~ All are welcome!
<b>Monday, May 18</b>	3pm	MexTrain
	5pm	WOSL Dinner & Meeting
<b>Tuesday, May 19</b>	10:30am	Listening Group
	1pm	Bridge
<b>Wednesday, May 20</b>	10am	Morning Prayer
	6pm	Handbell Choir
	7pm	Voice Choir
<b>Thursday, May 21</b>	1pm	Council Meeting - Library
<b>Friday, May 22</b>	9am	Bibles & Bagels
	10am	Line Dancing
<b>Saturday, May 23</b>	9am-Noon	Property Spring Clean Up Day Project – All are welcome!
<b>Sunday, May 24</b>	9am	Adult Sunday School
<b>Day of Pentecost</b>	10am	Worship service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship – All Are Welcome!

**Scripture Readings ~ May 24, 2026 ~ Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:1-21 | Numbers 11:24-30 | Psalm 104:24-32, 35b | 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 | John 20:19-23

**SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Kristen Killoran, Pam Eichorn** Worship Assistant

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

**Dawn Plyler, Parish Administrator**

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