

Saint Luke Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 12, 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

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"For the Beauty of the Earth" ("Dix"), Conrad Kocher, arr. Tom Fettke. Bud Esper, piano.
(c) 2021 Lorenz.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "CWM Rhondda" ("Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"), John Hughes, set. Hal Hopson. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 2016 Hope Publishing.

Congregation stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness", #733

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: "Gloria" S-148 (front of hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WA Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13

- L ¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be fulfilled.
- C ²**To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.**
- L ³Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.
- C ⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!**
- L They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
- C ⁵**Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.**
- L ⁶You make firm the mountains by your power; you are girded about with might.
- C ⁷**You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.**
- L ⁸Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.]
- C ⁹**You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.**
- L ¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- C ¹¹**You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.**
- L ¹²May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.
- C ¹³**May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

- L The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia" S-151a (Music on next page)



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



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

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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. CHRISTIAN EICHORN, PASTOR+

Silence for reflection

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant", #659

THE APOSTLE'S CREED S-105 (*Front of hymnal, page #105*)

WA Let us confess the faith of the church.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

WA ...God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Ave Verum" (Word of God incarnate), W. A. Mozart, tr. Gregory P. Cohn. Bud Esper, organ. (c) 1970 G. Schirmer, Inc.

Congregation stands

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

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING S-152

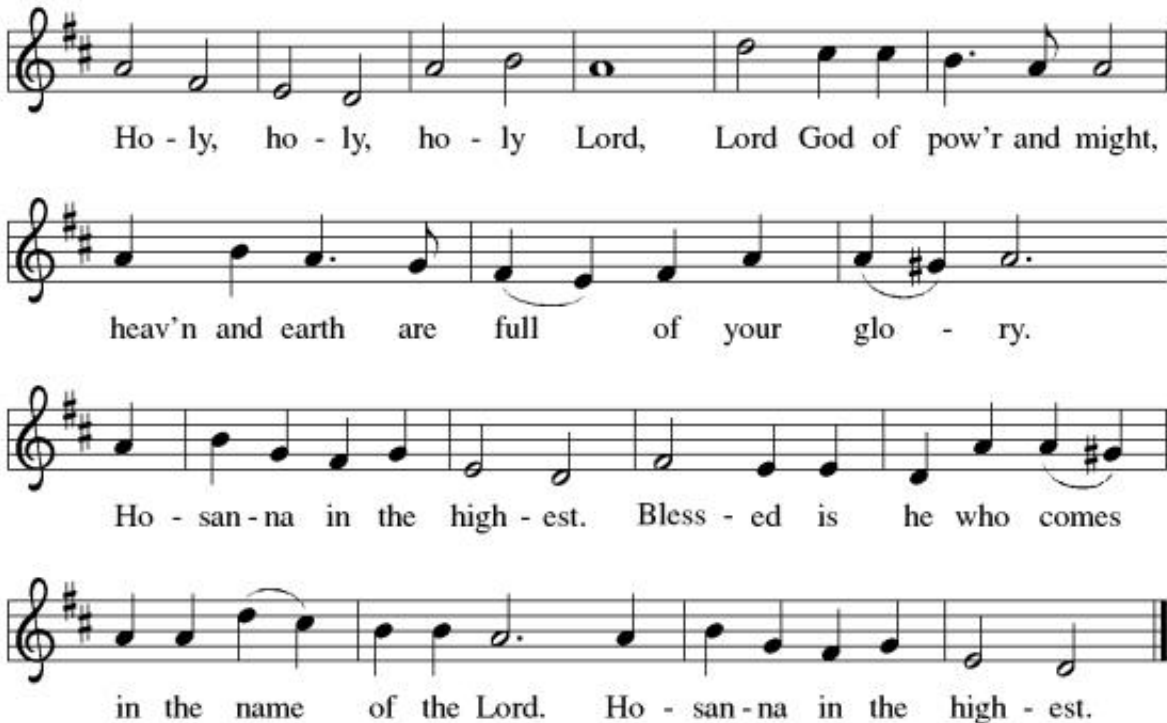
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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



P ...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P ...be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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 Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

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)

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Take My Life, That I May Be”, #685

“Dearest Jesus At Your Word”, #520

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 Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “Rise, Shine, You People”, #665

DISMISSAL

WA Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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 Hathaway, Faye Arvonio | AV Team: Dan & Deb Mardis
Cantor: Joan Eccard | 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, Dona Quinlan | Crucifer: Dan Mardis
Eucharistic Minister: Karen Barnhart | Greeters: Tony & Judy Cosentino
Lector: Rod Meadows | Ushers: Ray & Cindy Eaton, 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 or the Church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please contact the church office to sponsor Sunday altar flowers.

Upcoming availability: July 19 (1vase)

PRAYER LIST July 12, 2026

Walt Eccard, Jacqueline Eichorn, Sara Hart, Woody Taylor,
David Cloninger, Mary Vittorio and the family of Ken Spencer

LUTHERAN LIFE

WELCOME VISITORS ~ We are delighted you chose to worship with us at St. Luke today. You are family here! Please join us in the Fellowship Hall right after worship for light refreshment. We cannot wait to fellowship with you!

SUPPORTING ST. LUKE MINISTRIES

- ❖ The **Listening Group** will gather informally on Tuesdays in July (**July 14, 21, and 28**) from **10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.** We do not have a specific topic or program; instead, our focus is simply staying in contact throughout the summer. We will share scripture, pray, and get to know one another on a deeper, more personal level. Both regular attendees and new participants are warmly welcome—just show up! If you have any questions, please call *Katherine Moore at 336-687-1008*.
- ❖ **Worship & Music Committee:** As many of you know, our church organ is showing its age after many faithful years of service. It has developed internal performance issues that will soon require extensive maintenance, including a disabled amplifier section and a main computer board that needs replacement. To ensure our music continues to thrive, we established the Beth Grunewalder Memorial Organ Fund late last year to fund a replacement. Memorials for Doris Peterson will also go toward this organ fund. Bud has been actively consulting with several organ manufacturers, and we expect to present a formal recommendation to the church council within the next few months. Contributions to this fund are warmly welcomed as we work toward this goal. ~*Thank you, Rusty Grunewalder*.
- ❖ **File of Life:** If you signed up to receive the File of Life, please pick them up from your church mailbox. If you haven't signed up and would like one for yourself or a loved one, call or stop by the church office to request one.
- ❖ **Pantry Staple of the Month is rice.**

- ❖ **New Member Reception ~ Sunday, August 2nd.** If you have been worshipping with us and feel called to make St. Luke your official church home, we would love to welcome you! If you have not yet spoken with the Pastor, please call the church office or the Pastor to set up a time to meet. We are excited to see our church family grow and may God bless you as you step out on faith to take this next step!!

St Luke Lutheran Church
Financial Summary

Source of Information	St. Luke Financial Summary		
	May 2026		
		Month	Year to Date
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 1	Revenues	\$ 31,538	\$ 154,524
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 4	Expenditures	\$ 26,496	\$ 137,316
	Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 5,042	\$ 17,208
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage principal (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Principal	\$ 3,647	\$ 18,033
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage interest (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Interest	\$ 2,156	\$ 10,983
	Mortgage Balance	\$ 605,209	
	Average Sunday Service Participation		
Attendance taken by Ushers, averaged monthly and year to date	Attendance	128	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	58	70
	Doris Pederson	102 (attend.)	67 (YouTube)
	NOTE: Income was above the budgeted amount; Expenses were slightly below budget and includes USLI Liability Insurance at \$863.		

St Luke Lutheran Church
Financial Summary

Source of Information	St. Luke Financial Summary		
	June 2026		
		Month	Year to Date
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 1	Revenues	\$ 28,186	\$ 182,710
Monthly and annual from the Budget Performance Report pg. 3	Expenditures	\$ 34,359	\$ 171,675
	Surplus (Deficit)	\$ -6,173	\$ 11,035
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage principal (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Principal	\$ 3,588	\$ 21,622
Total of the monthly/annual mortgage interest (included in Expenditures above)	Mortgage Interest	\$ 2,215	\$ 13,198
	Mortgage Balance	\$ 601,620	
	Average Sunday Service Participation		
Attendance taken by Ushers, averaged monthly and year to date	Attendance	130	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	65	72
	NOTE: Income was slightly below the budgeted amount; Expenses include Liability Insurance at \$555 and Wind and Hail insurance at \$7,458.		

This Week at Saint Luke ~ July, 2026

Sunday, July 12	9am	Adult Sunday School
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship - All Are Welcome!
Monday, July 13	3pm	MexTrain
Tuesday, July 14	10:30am	Listening Group
	11am	Social Committee Meeting - Library
	1pm	Bridge
Wednesday, July 15	10am	Morning Prayer
		<i>Voice & Handbell Choir ~ Summer Hiatus</i>
Thursday, July 16	1pm	Council Meeting - Library
Sunday, July 19	9am	Adult Sunday School
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	10am	Worship Service with live streaming
	11am	Fellowship - All Are Welcome!

Scripture Readings ~ July 19, 2026 ~ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a | Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 | Romans 8:12-25 | Matthew 13:24-30,36-43



SAINT LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5869 Ocean Highway West, Ocean Isle Beach NC 28469

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, Pam Eichorn, Worship Assistant

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

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