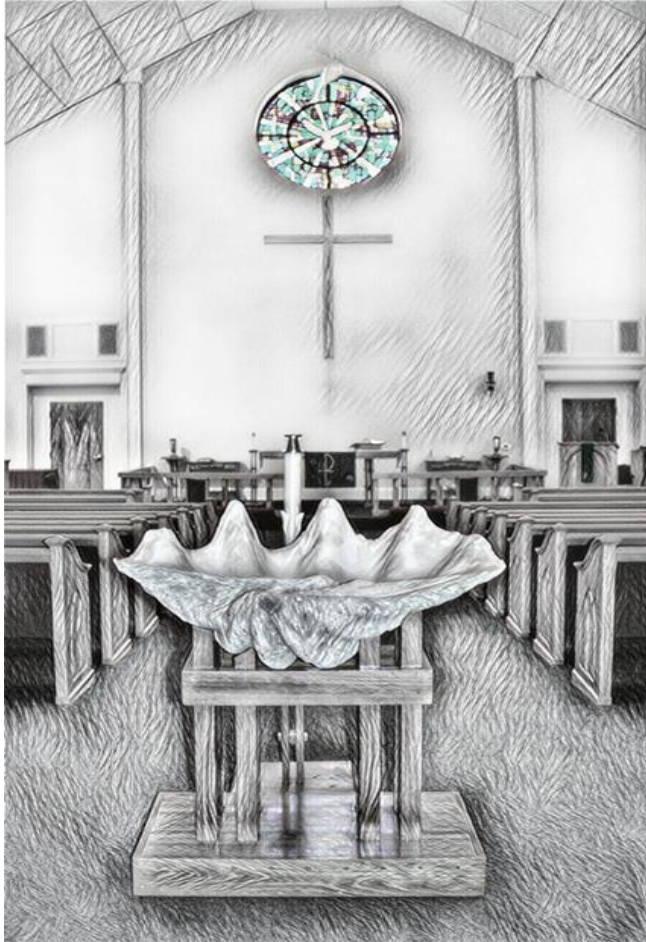


Saint Luke Lutheran Church

November 12, 2023; 10:00AM

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn Pastor



**Thank you for joining us today.
WE WELCOME ALL TO WORSHIP!**

In preparation for Worship: Please silence all electronic devices when entering the sanctuary in reverence to God and respect for others.

Masks and hand sanitizer gel continue to be available in the narthex for your use.

Members and Visitors: Please remember to sign in using the Friendship binders in your pew.

If you are a visitor and are looking for a church home: We invite you to worship with us again and consider being a part of this faith community. We ask you to sign in with your contact info so we can stay in touch.

**Altar Flowers are Dedicated to
the Glory of God
by Lori Schneider and Marty Krygiel**

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Medley, "More Love to Thee" with "More Love, More Power",

arr. Carol Tornquist.

Bud Esper, piano.

© 2000 Word Music.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Fantasy on 'Darwall's 148th':Aria" ("Rejoice the Lord Is King", John Darwall), John Dixon. Bud Esper, organ.

© 2019 Lorenz Publishing.

Congregation stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P 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 God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name", #634

Public Domain.

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
 on this terrestrial ball
 to him all majesty ascribe
 and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 we at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.

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



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

WA Let us pray.

C **O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Congregation sits

TEMPLE TALK ON STEWARDSHIP

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

L ... ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 70

L ¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

C **²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

L ³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

C **⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

L ⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

L ... ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S-151a



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 25:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

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

P ... ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

Congregation sits

+ SERMON + Christian Eichorn, Pastor +

Silence for meditation

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY “How Small Our Span of Life”, #636

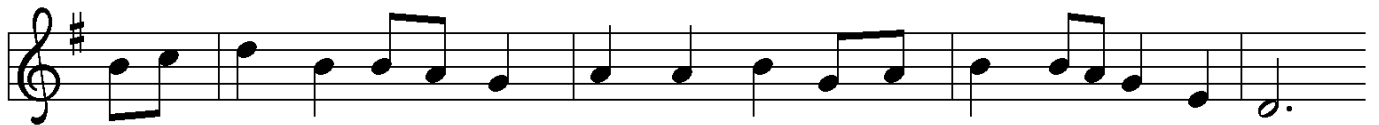
Text ©1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Public Domain.



1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch - ing of a breath,
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.
il - lu - min - ing our pil-grim-age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with-in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos - mic space,
You filled your cross-closed years with love; you loved us to the end
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass - ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans - cend.
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

APOSTLES' CREED

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 into hell. 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 Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

WA ... Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR OUR VETERANS

P Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for the men and women who have served and defended our country and the values of freedom and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of the sacrifices they made and the hardship endured by their families and friends, so that we never take for granted the privileges they have secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**



Without shaking hands, share the universal sign of peace with your neighbors.

Congregation sits

OFFERTORY

"What Does the Lord Require", Eric Nelson.

St. Luke Voice Choir.

© 2018 Birnamwood Publications.

Congregation stands

OFFERING SONG: "Let the Vineyards" #184,



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING S-152

P (Pastor)

C (Congregation)

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

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 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.

“Blessed Assurance”, #638

Public Domain.

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”, #949

Public Domain.

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your

lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps

trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain
Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

Congregation stands

TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

CANTICLE "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raised" #207



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



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



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.

P Let us pray.

C Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Jesus, Still Lead On", #624

Public Domain.

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

DISMISSAL

WA Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

+++ +++ +++

*We encourage you to join us for fellowship and hospitality.
Please join us in the Fellowship Hall.*

—Thank you for worshiping with us today—

The following members assisted with today's worship and live-streaming:

Altar Guild: Deanie Currey, Sharon Tulio

AV Team: Ed & Marie Keating

Bulletin: Diana Black; Cover Art, Lori Schneider

Cantor: Joan Eccard

Children's Time: Sue Dompkowski

Church Music: Bud Esper, Director of Church Music,
St Luke Voice Choir

Communion Assistants: Kathy Rose, Sharon Tulio

Crucifer: Emil Gnam

Eucharistic Minister: Karen Barnhart

Greeters: Lisa Severine, Bev Dague

Hospitality: Church Council

Lector: Katherine Moore

Sacristan: Emil Gnam

Ushers: Jim Meyer, Bob Regan, Sandra Abbondandolo, Wayne Huffman

NEW MEMBERS

Are you looking for a new church family? If you are thinking about joining our St. Luke faith community and have not yet done so, please contact Pastor Eichorn at 610-393-7622 or pceichorn@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

To sponsor one or both vases of altar flowers,
please contact the office. \$40/vase.

Upcoming availability:

December 3-24 (poinsettias); December 31 (2 vases)

Check with the office for future available dates

—New to Our Prayer List November 12, 2023—

*Please join with our Saint Luke family in prayer for those
newly added to our prayer list:*

Steve Jewell, Gary Reynolds

—For Your Information—

It's a busy time of the year: Dates to Remember!

*indicates information follows or is on bulletin boards in fellowship hall.

November 13: WOSL Dinner Meeting, 5:30PM*

November 18: LMM Breakfast meeting at 9AM (final meeting for 2023; future 2024 meetings will be held on the last Monday of the month at 5PM)

November 18: Brunswick Co Homeless Coalition Annual Hunger & Homeless Banquet and Soup Luncheon

December 3: Annual Congregational Meeting with Council Elections*

December 5, 2023: Christmas Show Matinee & Dinner*

December 11, 2023: WOSL Dinner Meeting*

December 17, 2023: Annual Christmas Luncheon (after Lessons & Carols Service)

December 24, 2023: 10AM Sunday Worship; 5PM Christmas Eve Service

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

In accordance with the St. Luke Constitution and By-Laws, the annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, December 3, 2022 immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service.

Also, in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, our agenda is as follows:

- A. Opening Prayer – Pastor Eichorn
- B. Opening Remarks – Marie Keating, Council President
- C. Reading/Approval of 2022 Minutes
- D. Election of 2024 Council Members (3)
- E. Approval of 2024 Budget
- F. Adjournment

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - Each year poinsettias are used to decorate the sanctuary and narthex for services in December leading up to Christmas. Order forms have been inserted in this week's bulletin. Orders for poinsettias will be accepted up to Sunday, November 26. Please complete an order form, attach check before dropping off at the church office. Make checks out to St Luke with "2023 Poinsettia" in the memo line. You'll be able to bring home your poinsettias on Christmas Eve day.

STARTS TODAY -- COAT DRIVE NOVEMBER 12TH thru DECEMBER 10TH As cooler weather approaches, our thoughts and hearts turn to those who need protection from the weather. St Luke will again support **The Coat Closet Outreach Ministry** at James The Fisherman Episcopal Church in Shallotte. There will be a bin for your contribution(s) outside our Church office. **The need is for clean, gently used or new coats. The greatest need is always for children but they accept all sizes.** This collection at St Luke will run from November 12th to Dec 10th. We will pick up periodically and take them to Shallotte. Please also ask your friends and

neighbors to donate; most people are happy to do so. Thank you in advance, Bob and Kathy Rose

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be held on Sunday, December 17th after the service. The Christmas Luncheon is one of the highlights of the St. Luke social season. Good friends, good food. What could be better! The luncheon will be catered by Jerome's in Shallotte. The buffet menu includes Fried Chicken, Pork BBQ, Baked Beans, Slaw, Flat Green Beans, Mac and Cheese, Fruit Cobbler, Sweet Tea, Unsweetened Tea, Hot Coffee and Tea. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin Board outside the Fellowship Hall. Deadline for signing up is Sunday, December 10th. A free will offering will be taken.

WOMEN OF ST LUKE: All women of the congregation are invited to join us for our dinner meeting tomorrow, Monday, November 13th at 5:30 pm. Note, due to the upcoming holidays the meetings for November and December will each be one week earlier than our usual time frame. Tomorrow, we will have a speaker from Home Instead. They are a company that provides services that help you remain at home when you have health issues. Please join us!

THE NURTURE AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE is looking for additional members. We are the church party people. We plan the congregation's social events and oversee after church fellowship on Sundays. We value new ideas for activities and sharing the planning and implementation of events at the church and off premises. If you would like more information, contact a committee member or Carolyn Gnam at 910-575-2702.

UPDATED CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY ON THE WEBSITE! The October 2023 edition of the Church Member Photo Directory is now posted on our website. You will find it under the Resources tab. All of our new members have been added! You need the password so refer to an old Epistle for it or call the church office to get it.

TREASURER TEAM -- Can you help? Would you like more information about this team? We have a great need for assistance with this position so if you could consider this, it would ensure that our financial system remains on solid ground. The concept of a Treasurer Team allows the workload of this very important position to be spread among several different people. Council would like to form this team immediately as we switch accounting programs so that everyone will be on the same page from the beginning. Training and support will be constantly available while you are involved. Please contact Beth Grunewalder (grunewalder@atmc.net) or Gerry Gehl (Gerrygehl@gmail.com) to learn more about how you can become part of this very important team.

NOVEMBER FOOD OF THE MONTH: CRANBERRY JELLY... if you'd like to contribute cans of Cranberry Jelly to the Lords Food Pantry, please place in the boxes outside church office.

FELLOWSHIP FUND As of 11/5/23 thanks to your generosity:

Funds donated to date: \$22,365; Balance remaining: \$8,635.

If you wish to contribute to the fund, please make your check payable to St. Luke Lutheran Church and put Fellowship Hall in the memo line. If you wish a memorial, please put Fellowship Hall (In memory of....) in the memo line.

SAVE THE DATE Alabama Theater Christmas Show and Dinner -- December 5, 2023. The time for the Christmas Show Matinee is 1:30PM, followed by an optional dinner at 4:30PM at the Chesapeake House. Important info follows:

- Ticket price for attending the show only is \$32.
- Ticket price for attending the show and optional dinner price is \$56.50.
- **Make out checks to Judy Pusey and place in her mailbox #54 no later than Sunday, November 26.**
- Sign up sheets and dinner menu are posted in fellowship hall.
- Tickets will be distributed on Sunday, December 3.

This Week at Saint Luke

OCTOBER 2023

Sunday <i>Stewardship Sunday</i>	Nov 12	9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Worship Service* with live-streaming 11AM Fellowship & Hospitality
Monday	Nov 13	3PM MexTrain Game Group, Fellowship Hall 5:30 WOSL Dinner Meeting
Tuesday	Nov 14	<i>Note: Finance Meeting & Bridge Cancelled</i> 10:30AM Listening Group (confirm with Katharine)
Wednesday	Nov 15	10AM Wednesday Morning Prayer 6PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7PM Voice Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	Nov 17	1PM Church Council
Friday	Nov 18	9-12 Friday Morning Office Volunteer: Cindy Hathaway
Saturday	Nov 18	9AM LMM Breakfast Meeting followed by Property Meeting
Sunday	Nov 19	9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Worship Service* with live-streaming 11AM Fellowship & Hospitality

**Children's Time Sunday School will be
available during the service when children
are present.*

Scripture for November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18

Psalm 90: 1-8, 12

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Matthew 25: 14-30

ST LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Contact Info: 910.579.0107; stlukeelca@stlukeoib.org; website: stlukeoib.org
Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm

The Reverend Dr. Christian Eichorn, Pastor
Contact Info: cell/text: 610.393.7622; email: pceichorn@gmail.com

Emil Gnam, Sacristan
Bud Esper, M.A., Director of Church Music
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