

Lamb of God ELW p. 146 (RED)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.

Communion Hymn *Around You, O Lord Jesus* ELW # 468 (RED)

\*Post Communion Canticle ELW # 538

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth a better place to live.

The angels are not sent into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today.

\*Prayer after Communion

Lord of life,  
in the gift of your body and blood  
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,  
bearing witness to the abundance of your love  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

\*Blessing

People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen**

\*Sending Hymn *Now Thank We all Our God* ELW # 840 (RED)

\*Sending

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Welcoming all and sharing God's love  
as active Lutheran believers



October 3, 2021  
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Liturgy Assistants & Worship Aides

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Susan Q. Claytor

Assisting: Jim Sheatsley

Organist: Annette Jennings

Before our service begins, please take time to read the  
"Welcome to St. Luke" on Page 2, which includes  
important information about our worship service.

# Welcome to St. Luke!

Welcome to all who have gathered for worship. When we gather, the fellowship we share invites the Holy Spirit mightily into our midst.

If you are new to our church, let us help introduce to the liturgy. Liturgy, translated from the Greek leitourgía, means *work of the people*. Our liturgy encourages vibrant participation in word and song of all who are worshipping together. This may be new to you, but we believe you will quickly find the engagement is uplifting and fulfilling. Together, the clergy, ministers and people share in the worship.

The majority of the liturgy is printed here in the bulletin so it is easy to follow. There are two types of music: service music, which is part of the liturgy sung by choir and/or congregation, and hymns. The music is in one of our two worship books, the Red ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) or the Blue WOV (With One Voice).

**Two helpful hints: a) the congregation speaks or sings those items in bold print in the bulletin  
b) we stand (if able) where there is an asterisk.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will guide you. There is grape juice available in the rack with the cups, if you prefer not to have wine. If you wish to receive a blessing in place of communion, please cross your arms over your chest at the altar.

Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Luke. Please do fill out a pew card or sign the guest book so we may know your name and welcome you properly. We do hope you will come again. If you have questions about the Lutheran Church or St. Luke, please feel free to contact our pastor or ask one of the parishioners. Also, please join us for coffee, goodies and fellowship immediately following the service.

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## St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church

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We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.  
**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Remembering his love for us on the way,  
at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal;  
among your people; throughout the world.  
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.  
**Amen**

### \*The Lord's Prayer

**ELW p. 145 (RED)**

**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

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

**\*Offertory Prayer**

God of abundance,  
you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

ELW p. 144 (RED)

The Lord be with you.  
**And also 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.**  
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*Sanctus**

ELW p. 144 (RED)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,**

**\*Eucharistic Prayer**

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.  
The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.  
**We praise you, O God.**  
  
Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day;  
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.  
**We bless you, O God.**

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**GATHERING**

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*Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?*

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

(✠ *All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism*)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.  
**Amen**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.  
*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

God our comforter:  
**like lost sheep, we have gone astray.  
We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.  
We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.  
We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.  
Free us from our sin, gracious God.  
Listen when we call out to you for help.  
Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.  
Amen**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.  
By the gift of grace in ✠ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.  
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.  
**Amen**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

***God Is Here!***

ELW # 526 (RED)

**\*Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie**

**ELW p. 138 (RED)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

**\*Canticle of Praise**

**ELW p. 139 (RED)**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you,**

**we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,**

**only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen**

**\*The Prayer of the Day**

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community  
with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast,  
and teach us to trust like little children,  
that we may reflect the image of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another.  
Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate  
and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any  
mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and  
environments that are accessible and hospitable.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those  
gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship  
with us and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You provide healing for all who are ill or mourning. We especially pray for  
those on our prayer list: Erma Byrd, Berenice and Waldon Dodd, Brian  
Dorsey, Gerri Jackson, Debbie May, Kathie Benton, Deb Moreland, Stan  
and Karen Wise, David Oglesby, Larry Frail, Charles Lacy, Amy Cecil, Mary  
Ann Berkey, Virginia Mow, Brenda Britt, Ellen Toler, Becky Turski, Helen  
Perry, Karol Radochio, Carolyn Holstein, Dorothy Moreland, Linda  
Sherwood, LaDorna Stephens, Abigail, Brittany, and all those in our hearts.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You protect all those serving in the armed forces. Guide all of them,  
especially Chris Scott, Chaz Naumann, RJ Perry, Zack Perry, Patrick  
Channell and Joseph. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith  
who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

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**THE MEAL**

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**\*The Passing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

Choir

**\*Offertory**

**Let the Vineyards be Fruitful**

**ELW # 182 (RED)**

stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of Our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily

Pastor Susan Q. Claytor

\*Hymn of the Day

*Bind Us Together*

**WOV # 748 (BLUE)**

\*The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(A brief silence)*

Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry and all seminarians, that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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## THE WORD

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**First Reading – Job 1:1-1; 2:1-10**

*This passage is part of the prologue of Job. The righteous man Job is severely afflicted as the result of a wager between God and the satan (here not the devil, but "the accuser"). Job responds at first with great patience, but the rest of the book will show him lamenting and protesting.*

<sup>1</sup>There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

<sup>2:1</sup>One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." <sup>3</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." <sup>4</sup>Then Satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. <sup>5</sup>But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." <sup>6</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

<sup>7</sup>So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.

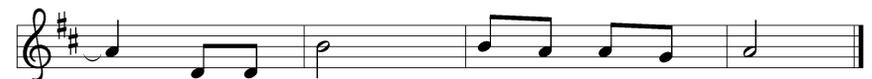
<sup>8</sup>Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

<sup>9</sup>Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." <sup>10</sup>But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 26**

*Your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)*



<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>Test me, O | LORD, and try me;  
examine my heart | and my mind.

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;  
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

<sup>4</sup>I have not sat | with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with | the deceitful. **(R)**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of | evildoers;  
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,  
that I may go in procession | round your altar,

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell  
and the place where your glo- | ry abides. **(R)**

<sup>9</sup>Do not sweep me a- | way with sinners,  
nor my life with those who | thirst for blood,

<sup>10</sup>whose hands are full of | evil plots,  
and their right hands | full of bribes.

<sup>11</sup>As for me, I will live | with integrity;  
redeem me, and be gra- | cious to me.

<sup>12</sup>I take my stand on | level ground;  
in the full assembly I will | bless the LORD. **(R)**

## **Second Reading – Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

*Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2:5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?"

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned them with glory and honor,  
<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**ELW p. 142 (RED)**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 10<sup>TH</sup> Chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **\*Gospel – Mark 10:2-16**

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.*

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not