

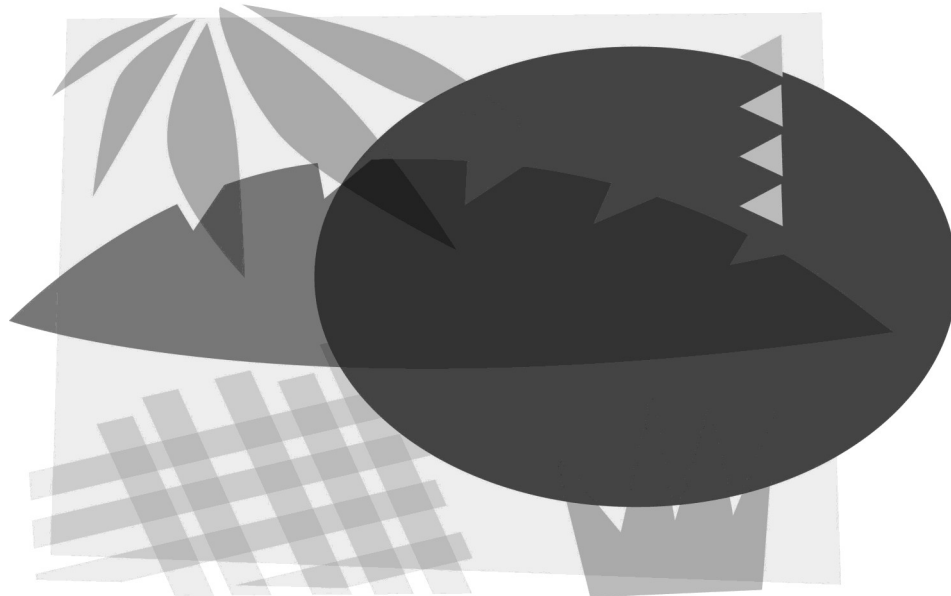
# St. Luke's Lutheran Church

"Saved by Grace. Reaching out in Faith."

Sunday, March 8, 2026

10:15 AM

# THIRD SUNDAY



# IN LENT

419-227-1961 • 209 W. North Street, Lima, Ohio 45801 • [www.StLukesLima.org](http://www.StLukesLima.org)

## Welcome to Worship

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026

**Welcome to St. Luke's.** Whether you are visiting the Lima area or looking for a church home, we hope you find St. Luke's Lutheran Church to be a people who reflect the joy and peace and love we have in Christ. More than that, we hope you hear, with us, the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen for the forgiveness of sins.

**Blue Welcome Cards** help us welcome visitors, inform us of changes in your contact information, and let us know your prayer concerns. Welcome Cards may be placed in the offering plate stationed on a table for drop-off before or after service.

**Holy Communion** All who are baptized and believe that with the bread and wine we receive the true body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins and salvation are encouraged to come to the Lord's Supper. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.

**Rest Rooms** are on the main floor at the south end of the office hallway.

**Ushers** and other members are here to help you if you need assistance.

Please stand, if able, for parts of the service marked †

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### WELCOME

#### PRELUDE

*“Open Now the Gates of Beauty”*

Broughton

*The organ chimes call us to worship.*

#### INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

#### INVOCATION †

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
Father, Son, and † Holy Spirit  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ††

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection. The congregation may kneel or sit.*

Gracious God,

**Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:**

**For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:**

**For failing to recognize your coming reign,**

**and for hindering the work of the Spirit:**

**For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,**

**and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:**

**For disregarding voices from the margin,**

**and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:**

**For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,**

**and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:**

**Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,

you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead

dwells in you,

pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

## PEACE ††

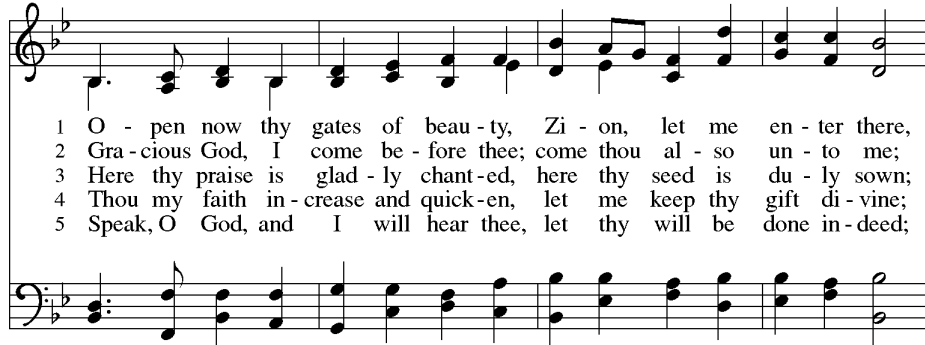
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.*

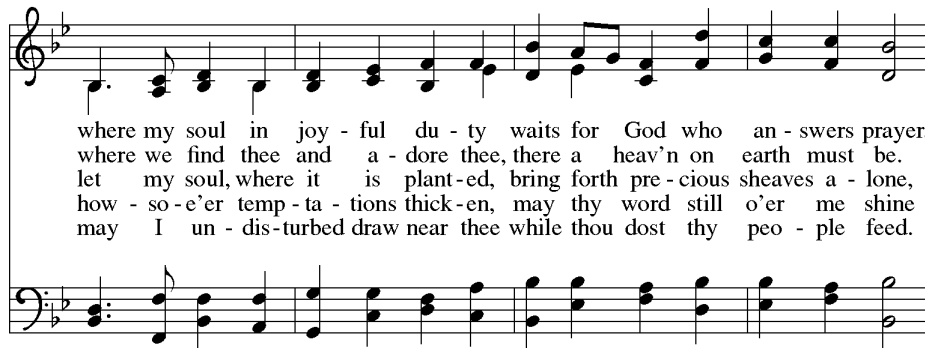
GATHERING HYMN †

*“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”*

#533



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

## GREETING ††

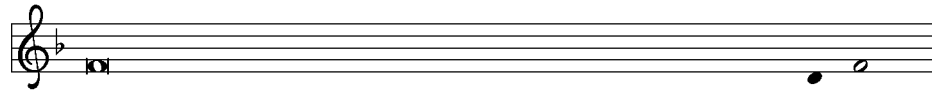
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE ††



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



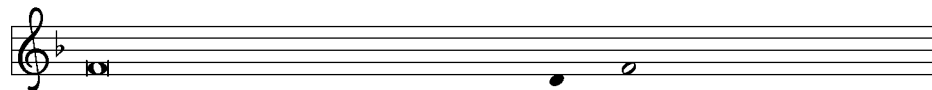
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



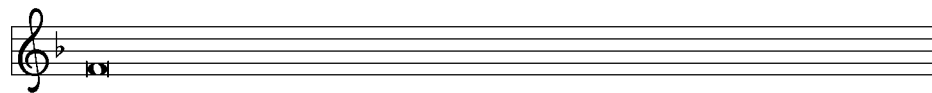
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



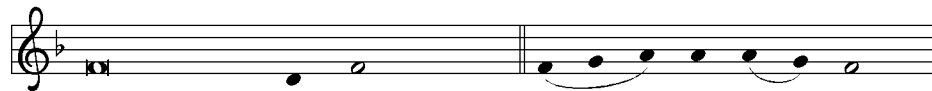
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



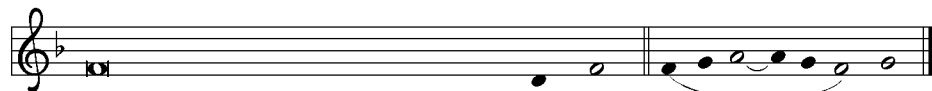
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY** ††

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NOISY OFFERING**

*On the second Sunday of each month, the children collect a special “noisy” offering of loose change (or dollar bills), typically designated to support Churches United Pantry (CUP).*

### **FIRST READING:**

### **Exodus 17:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

### **ANTHEM**

*“As the Deer”*

Wilson

### **SECOND READING:**

### **Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** †

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**HOLY GOSPEL:** † John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who

gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.”<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

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

**SERMON**

**Pastor Mick Althaus**

HYMN OF THE DAY †

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

#777

1 “Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.  
 2 “Come to me, all trav-’lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.  
 3 “Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.  
 4 “Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.

If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live.”  
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest.”  
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face.”  
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name.”

*Refrain*

Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.

In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

APOSTLES CREED †

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 THE CHURCH ¶

*Response after each petition:* Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

## OFFERING

Voluntary

*“I heard the Voice of Jesus Say”*

Redeemer

## OFFERTORY HYMN ¶

*“Change My Heart, O God”*

#801



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER ¶

O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.  
Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING †

### DIALOGUE †

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.

### PROPER PREFACE †

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY †

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER** †

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With all your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER** †

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 THE LORD'S SUPPER** ††

Come to the table.  
 Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*The assembly is seated.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

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.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*This morning communion is served continuously. Come forward down the center aisle as directed by the ushers and receive the bread—the body of Christ—from the pastor. Take a glass from the tray and move to the wine servers. (The pre-filled glasses are grape juice.) When finished, place the cup in the basket and return to your seat via the side aisles.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

*“Rock of Ages”*

#632

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

*“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”*

#332

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;

I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

**EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING** ††

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

**Amen**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER** ††

God of our salvation,  
 Thank you for this meal that restores our souls,  
 reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.  
 Through the body and blood of your Son,  
 may we become Christ's body in the world,  
 bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION †

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:  
God, who calls all things into existence,  
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
† bless you now and always.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN †

### “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

#618

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'er, strong de - liv - 'er,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

**DISMISSAL** †

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent prayer with chimes.*

**POSTLUDE**

**“Rock of Ages”**

Wood

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<b>WORSHIP ASSISTANTS</b>	<b>Today, SUNDAY 3/8</b>	<b>NEXT SUNDAY 3/15</b>
Worship Leader	Pastor Mick Althausser	Pastor Dave Westphal
Organist	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller
Acolyte	Julianna Lewis	Delaney Cardenas
Children’s Message	Noisy Offering	Dawn Arbeit
Lector	Lonnie Collins	Dale Laukhuf
Communion Servers	Sandy Gray, Linda Mann	Marcia Laukhuf, Mary Stepleton
Ushers	Mike Gray, Dick McCarty	Jack Williams, Dee Sherer
Altar Guild	Liz Ebbing	Liz Ebbing



Our Annual Spring Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, March 15, 2026. **For those of you that turn in reports for that meeting, please have them sent to Robin or given to me by Monday, March 9, 2026. that gives me time to get the packets ready.**

Also, we will be having a potato bar luncheon in the NLC. The sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Area for what is needed to bring. Thank you!

**Soup and Service on Wednesdays in Lent**

Each of the Wednesdays in Lent, join us for supper and service at St. Luke’s. A soup supper begins the evening at 6:00 pm. It is a time for fellowship, conversation, and sharing.

Join us at **7:00 pm**, for a service of music and study as we sing together “*Holden Evening Prayer*” and hear a message about God’s love from Pastor Dave. The theme is “***To Love as God Loves***”

- March 11      Gracious Discipline
- March 18      Hopeful Introspection
- March 25      Faithful Prayer



### **Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion Sunday, March 29, 10:15 am**



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The first day of Holy Week has traditionally been called Palm Sunday. Worship that day typically begins with a reading of the account of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem accompanied by a procession where people wave palm branches. This mirrors the events of Jesus' entry into the holy city to the shouts of "Hosanna to the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." The crowd that day sought to make him king. However, the glory of that day is soon replaced by the Passion of our Lord as he is betrayed, arrested, abused, and crucified.

This Sunday, then, carried us through both the celebration of the palm procession to the pain of Jesus' death on the cross. During the service, we first process with palms and shouts of "Hosanna" and the end the service by reading the Passion of Our Lord from Matthew's Gospel. From joy to sorrow, from palms to pain, from life to death. This is Palm Sunday, Sunday of the Passion.

### **Maundy Thursday**



**MAUNDY**

**Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.**, worship with us at St. Luke's as we gather with our sisters and brothers from Zion and St. Matthew to celebrate Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper. Pastors Deb, Sam, and Dave will be leading the service. Come, hear the Word, sing the praises, and receive the body and blood of our Lord. Hope to see you here!

### **Good Friday**

**Friday, April 3**, is Good Friday, the day we remember Jesus' Passion upon the cross. Folks from St. Luke's and St. Matthew's will gather with our friends at Zion Lutheran for a traditional service of Tenebrae (Shadows) at **7:00 p.m.** Be sure to plan to attend. (Zion Church 1300 Edgewood Dr Lima)



### **Easter Sunday**



**EASTER**  
*Sunday*

Come, let us celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on **Easter Sunday, April 5, 10:15 am**. Come, hear the Word, celebrate the music, receive the Sacrament, and gather with friends and family as we rejoice and give thanks for the new given us through Jesus Christ's resurrection.

## **WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A. (WELCA)**

They will meet on the 1st Thursday of the month, at 10:30 am in the Gathering Area

**Mary/Martha will be held on Tuesday, March 24th @ 11:00am**

### **March WELCA Projects**

From Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday WELCA is collecting donations to purchase a herd of animals for a Third World community through ELCA's "Gifts of Love". For \$715.00 we can purchase a "family farm" consisting of one cow, two piglets, two goats and several chicks. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to St. Luke's and in the memo "Gifts of Love".

On March 18, WELCA is serving cheesy broccoli soup for our Wednesday, Lenten Soup Supper.

On May 17, 2026 WELCA is sponsoring a luncheon in the NLC to support Samaritan House our local mission project. The WELCA board will provide the sandwiches, drinks and chips with congregation signing up for salads, casseroles, and desserts. Rachael Lewis will be providing entertainment. We hope to see you there.

### **FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**

Join us in the New Life Center for a hot, delicious meal of chili, crackers, bread, fruit cup, cookies, lemonade and coffee. This is a free meal for everyone!

**Saturday, March 14, 2026  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 209 W. North St. - Lima, OH 45801  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

St. Luke's will once again be sponsoring free community meals.

We will be serving food from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. We need volunteers to serve the meals and to set up and clean up the space. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Gathering Area for you to indicate the time you will be helping.

Donations of desserts such as cookies, brownies, cupcakes, etc. are needed to make the meals successful! Two weeks prior to each meal a sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Area. Please sign up and let us know you'll be bringing desserts. Then please bring these dessert donations to the church the day of the meal (or the day before).

Thank you in advance for your help!

If you have any questions, please contact Alison Williams (419) 303-8583

**MORE FREE COMMUNITY MEALS - April 11, 2026**

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
<b>Mon, 3/9</b>	1:00 pm	Worship Meeting
<b>Tues, 3/10</b>	6:00 pm	Council Meeting
<b>Wed, 3/11</b>	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup Suppers Holden Evening Prayer
<b>Sat, 3/14</b>	11a-1p	Free Community Meal NLC
<b>Sun, 3/15</b>	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am 11:30 am	Choir Christian Education Hour Liturgy of Holy Communion Congregational Meeting NLC

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Mennonite Home - Bonnie  
The Greens - Dorothy  
Lockhaven - Barb

Pat, Ida, Madison, Judy, Norman, Natalia,  
Elizabeth, Mark

#### Scripture readings for 3/15/2026

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41



The flowers in the chancel this morning were given by  
Mary Stepleton in memory of Terry Stepleton  
and  
Susia Cornell in memory of Kathy Rudolph

#### “NUMBERS” from Sunday, March 1, 2026”

Attendance: 49

Giving: \$4,782.75 given to the glory of God for the work of the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ in Lima and beyond.

<i>Staff</i>	<i>Congregational Leadership</i>
Interim Pastor – Dave Westphal (Cell:419-455-0513)	President - Rich Moritz
Interim Hospital Visitation Pastor - Samuel Payne (Cell:419-371-9774)	Vice President - James Williams
Organist – Sandy Miller	Secretary - Lois Kennedy
Choir Director – Brian Reeves	Treasurer - Alison Williams
Office Secretary – Robin Hefner	Tyler Arbeit      Susie Cornell
	Perry Luhn      Marcy Reeves
	Jane Williams
<i>E-Mail Addresses</i>	
Office Secretary – secretary@stlukeslima.org	