

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

"Saved by Grace. Reaching out in Faith."

Sunday, July 26, 2026

10:15 AM

**SO IT WILL BE AT THE
END OF THE AGE. THE
ANGELS WILL COME OUT
AND SEPARATE THE EVIL
FROM THE RIGHTEOUS.**

M A T T H E W 1 3 : 4 9

Welcome to Worship

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 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 †

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"God of Grace"

Manz

The organ chimes call us to worship.

INTRODUCTION

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS †

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 ,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.
Silence is kept for reflection. The congregation may kneel or sit.

Compassionate God,
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.

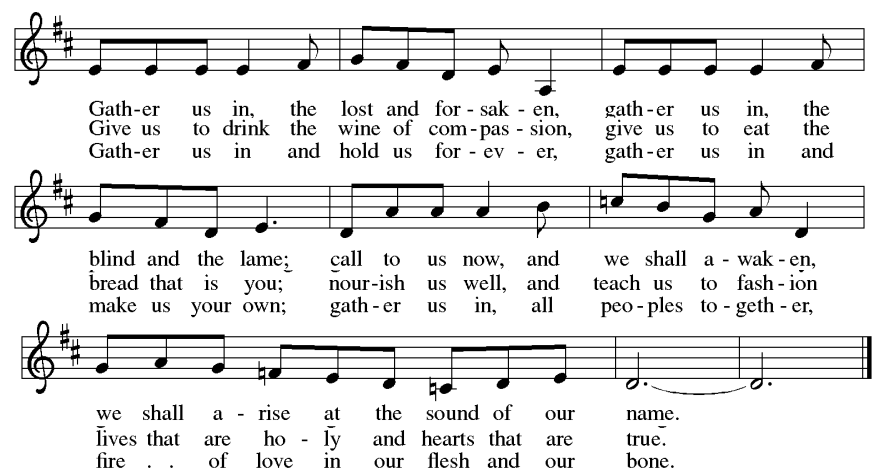
Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”
In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God’s love.
Amen.

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 ☩ **“Gather Us In”** #532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,
van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream - ings
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and
 blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,
 we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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



Refrain
 Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.
 Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-ry day.
 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the
 u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you →



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY ¶

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kathy Luhn

FIRST READING:

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Hearts of Gratitude”
Kim Howard & Sophia Howard, solo

Larson

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. →



HOLY GOSPEL: **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Bob Gibson

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

#775

1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be
Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al

faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;
saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;

no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.
yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

Wood

OFERTORY HYMN ¶

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#742

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

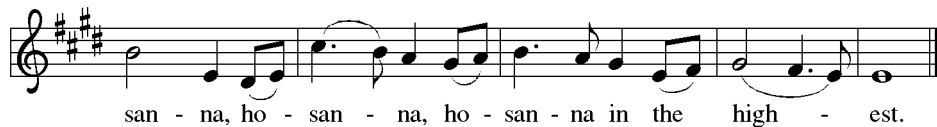
PROPER PREFACE

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, 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 -





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE $\frac{1}{2}$

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER $\frac{1}{2}$

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.**

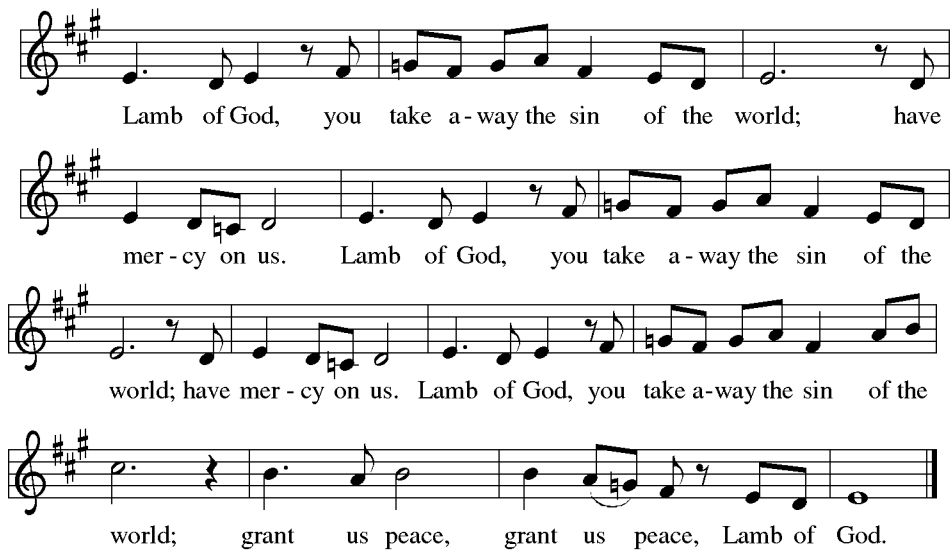
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER 𐌹𐌺

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

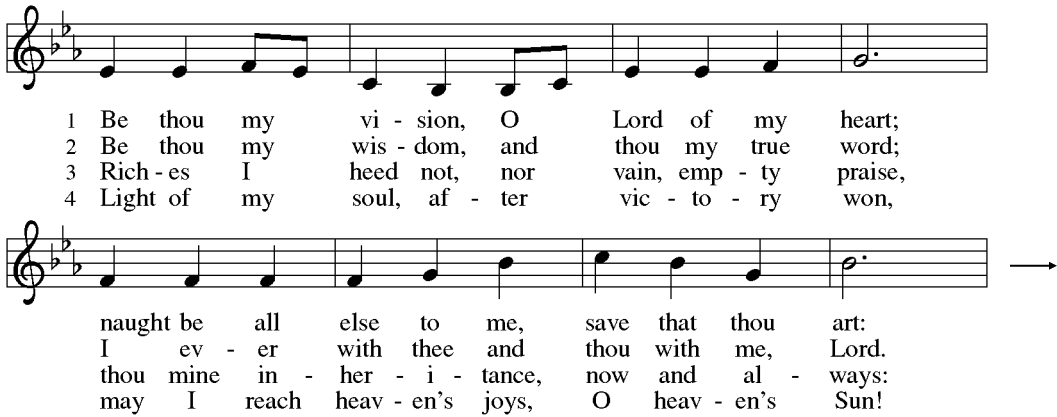
THE LORD’S SUPPER

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.

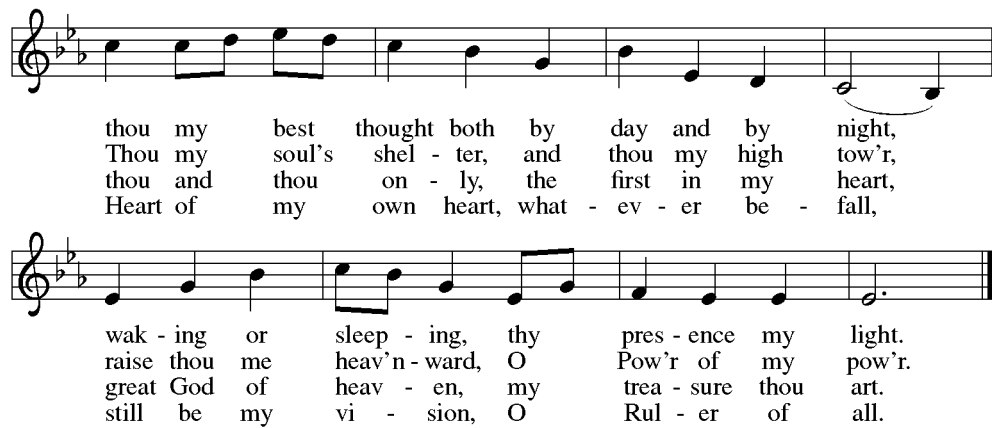
COMMUNION HYMNS

“Be Thou My Vision”

#793



1 Be thou my vi-sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis-dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich-es I heed not, nor vain, emp-ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af-ter vic-to-ry won,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev-er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in-her-i-tance, now and al-ways:
may I reach heav-en’s joys, O heav-en’s Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,
 wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

#515



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly
 broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live
 I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING ‡

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 ☩

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.

Amen.

BENEDICTION ‡

One God,
Father, Son, and  Holy Spirit,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

#705

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

DISMISSAL
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *“All My Hope on God is Founded”* Burkhardt

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	Today, SUNDAY 7/26	NEXT SUNDAY 8/2
Worship Leader	Pastor Bob Gibson	Pastor Don Pletcher
Organist	Sandy Miller	Sandy Miller
Acolyte	Delaney Cardenas	Julianna Lewis
Children's Message	Kathy Luhn	Megan Mulcahy
Lector	Dale Laukhuf	Ian Steinke
Communion Servers	Lee Moritz, Marcia Laukhuf	Lois Kennedy, Jane Williams
Ushers	Dick Fisher, Rich Moritz	Ian & Gus Steinke
Altar Guild	Jan Lochard	Altar Guild

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK		
Mon, 7/27	12-3 pm	CUP
Tues, 7/28	9:00 am 11:00 am	Herald Assembly Mary/Martha
Sun, 8/2	10:15 am	Liturgy of Holy Communion

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Meadows of Marion - Dorothy
Lockhaven - Barb

Pat, Ida, Madison, Judy, Norman, Natalia,
Dean, Mark, Mick, Andrew, Timothy

Scripture readings for 8/2/2026

Isaiah 55:1-5
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21



The flowers in the chancel this morning were given by
Lois Kennedy in celebration of Levi Shultz’s birthday
and
Beth Arheit McCarty in celebration of Dick & Beth’s anniversary

“NUMBERS” from July 19, 2026”

Attendance: 38
Giving: \$1,467.00 given to the glory of God for the work of the Gospel of
Jesus Christ in Lima and beyond.

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

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