

Welcome! We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers. Printed copies of the sermon are also available. For a personal preparation for Holy Communion, please see pages 295-296 in your hymnal.

Please note: the Sunday service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube. www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar

Our Lord teaches in his Word that in Communion we receive Jesus' true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine, and that participation is also a declaration that we believe what our fellow communicants believe. In obedience to God's Word, then, we ask that only those who agree on all points of teaching—those who belong to a WELS or ELS church—and are confirmed partake in the Lord's Supper today. If you are not a member of a WELS or ELS church but would like to pursue that unity of faith, or if you have questions, please speak with Pastor.

Setting 2, p. 172

Pentecost 17: September 15, 2024

The choir will sing stanzas 1 and 2

The congregation will sing stanzas 3 and 4

1 O Church, arise and put your armor on;
hear the call of Christ our captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold whose battle cry is love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

2 Our call to war—to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole
we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which he died—
an inheritance of nations.

3 Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
 as the Son of God is stricken;
then see his foes lie crushed beneath his feet,
 for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
 and Christ emerges from the grave,
this vict'ry march continues till the day
 ev'ry eye and heart shall see him.

Please stand for the final stanza

4 So Spirit come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
 give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize
 of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
 retelling triumphs of his grace,
we hear their calls and hunger for the day
 when with Christ we stand in glory.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count
against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**We have followed what we have devised and
desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your
holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not
have done,**

and we have not done those things that we

should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

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.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

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. Amen.

Refrain

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Be seated)

First Reading

1 Kings 18:21–39

²¹Then Elijah said to all the people, “How long will you stagger around on two crutches? If the LORD is God,

follow him. If Baal is God, follow him.” But the people did not answer him a single word.

²²Then Elijah said to the people, “I am the only one left of the LORD's prophets, but the prophets of Baal total four hundred fifty men. ²³Provide two bulls for us. Let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it up and place it on the firewood, but they are not to light the fire. I will prepare the other bull and place it on the firewood, but I will not light the fire. ²⁴Then you will call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers with fire, he is God.”

All the people said, “This proposal is good.”

²⁵Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose for yourselves one bull, and you go first because there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god. But do not light the fire.”

²⁶So they took the bull which had been given to them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, “Baal! Answer us!” But there was not a sound. No one answered. So they staggered around the altar which they had made.

²⁷When noon came, Elijah mocked them: “Shout louder! He is a god, isn't he? He may be deep in thought or busy or on a journey. Perhaps he is asleep and will wake up!” ²⁸So they cried out with a loud voice, and according to their practice they cut themselves with daggers and spears until their blood flowed. ²⁹After noon, they kept up a prophetic frenzy until the time of the evening sacrifice, but there was no sound. No one answered. There was no response.

³⁰Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” So they came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. ³¹Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come and had proclaimed, “Your name shall be Israel.” ³²He built the stones into an altar in the name of the LORD. Around it he made a trench big enough to hold twenty-five pounds of seed. ³³He arranged the wood, cut up the bull, and placed it on the wood.

Then he said, “Fill four jars with water and pour it on the sacrifice and on the wood.” ³⁴Then he said, “Do it

again.” So they did it again. Then he said, “Do it a third time.” So they did it a third time. ³⁵The water flowed all around the altar. It even filled the trench.

³⁶When the time of the evening sacrifice had arrived, Elijah the prophet stood up and said, “O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and that I have done all these things by your word.

³⁷Answer me, LORD! Answer me so that this people will know that you, O LORD, are God and that you are turning their hearts back to you.”

³⁸Fire from the LORD fell on the sacrifice and on the wood, the stones, and the dirt. It even licked up the water in the trench. ³⁹When all the people saw this, they fell on their knees and said, “The LORD, he is God! The LORD, he is God!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

46 The LORD Almighty Is with Us

Psalm 46

Refrain

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

God is our ref- / uge and strength,
an ever-present help in / trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the / earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart / of the sea,
though its waters / roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their / surging.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- / y of
God,
the holy place where the Most / High dwells.

God is within her, she / will not fall;
God will help her at / break of day.

“Be still, and know that / I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted /
in the earth.”


**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10–18



¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the Devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but

against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day and, after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand, then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness fastened in place, ¹⁵and with the readiness

that comes from the gospel of peace tied to your feet like sandals. ¹⁶At all times hold up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. ¹⁷Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸At every opportunity, pray in the Spirit with every kind of prayer and petition. Stay alert for the same reason, always persevering in your intercession for all the saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 31:1

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

deliver me in your righteousness.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

¹⁴When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some experts in the law were arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as all the people in the crowd saw Jesus, they were very excited and ran to greet him. ¹⁶He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?”

¹⁷One man from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.”

¹⁹“O unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied. “How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me.”

²⁰They brought the boy to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw him, it threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹Jesus asked the boy's father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

“From childhood,” he said. ²²“It has often thrown him into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

²³“If you can?!” Jesus said to him. “All things are possible for the one who believes.”

²⁴The child's father immediately cried out and said with tears, “I do believe. Help me with my unbelief!”

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit. “You mute and deaf spirit,” he said, “I command you to come out of him and never enter him again!”

²⁶The spirit screamed, shook the boy violently, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many of them said, “He's dead!” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him up, and he stood up.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

- 1 Praise the one who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light;
praise the one who frees the pris'ners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel,
healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the Father's word of peace.
- 2 Praise the one who blessed the children
with a strong, yet gentle, word;
praise the one who drove out demons
with the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,
 seeing what our God has done;
let us praise the true Redeemer,
 praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt.

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Sermon

(Stand)

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is,
 seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from
true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from
heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin
Mary,**

and became truly human.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate.**

He suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures.**

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,**

and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Be seated)

Prayer of the Church

Offering

THE SACRAMENT

(Stand)

Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right . . . and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a

cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

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

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

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

(Be seated)

Distribution

(As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:)

Take and eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, poured out for the forgiveness of your sins.

(As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:)

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

Amen.

670 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

CW 670

1 I come, O Savior, to your table,
for weak and weary is my soul;
O Jesus, you alone are able
to satisfy and make me whole. (Refrain)

Ref Lord, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.

2 O grant that I in manner worthy
may eat and drink and be restored,
and, dwelling on your boundless mercy,
look only unto you, O Lord. (Refrain)

3 I should not be your sheep, dear Savior;
I stray in sin's accursed terrain.

And yet you pardon my behavior;

my faithful Shepherd you remain. (Refrain)

4 O let me loathe all sin forever

as death and poison to my soul,

that I through willful sinning never

may see your judgment take its toll! (Refrain)

5 Your holy heart has one obsession,

one blessed thing it burns to do—

to cleanse the sinner from transgression;

so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)

6 My soul is burdened; Lord, relieve me,

by all this weight of sin oppressed!

Though sinful, yet, in grace receive me

and feed me as your grateful guest. (Refrain)

7 Within me, Lord, your vision traces

a heart of deep humility

that mourns its sin and yet embraces

the merit you have earned for me. (Refrain)

8 By faith I call your holy table

the testament of your deep love,

for by your gift I now am able

to know the heart of God above. (Refrain)

9 This meal with blessing is abounding:

to poor ones wealth, to weak ones pow'r,

to angels joy, to hell confounding,

and life for me in death's dark hour. (Refrain)

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

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(Stand)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament.

Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

670 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

CW 670

Ref Lord, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.

10 My heart has now become your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.

With angels I, your praises telling,
shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

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Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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HAPPENING SOON

Pastor Will Be Away: Pastor Arnold will be out of town from the 15th, after church, until the 23rd. Our guest preacher on the 22nd and 23rd will be Rev. em. David Kipfmiller. If you need pastoral assistance during this time, please contact Pastor Patrick Ernst in Frankenmuth at (612)845-9152.

Adult and Children's Library: In the fellowship hall is St. Luke's library, filled with Christian literature. There are many books that you may find interesting and educational. Please use your library, feed your soul, expand your faith-filled desire to learn and study our Lord's great message!

How Can We Help the Kids: Bring empty pop cans with you to church September 14 - October 5. The money will be used to purchase supplies, hotdogs, and chips for the Harvest Fest evening. Cash donations will be accepted as well.

Harvest Fest is Back!! Mark your calendar! **October 12, 3pm at St. Luke's Lutheran School.** Please plan to join us for a day full of family, fun, and fellowship. The CEO is hard at work planning the event to include hayrides,

bonfire, dessert baking contest, pickle eating contest, book fair, kick off to Operation Giving Thanks, family photo booth and so much more.

While the CEO is mighty, we are small so **how can you help?**

-Watch for a signup sheet for volunteer opportunities the day of the event

-Bring empty pop cans with you to church

September 14 - October 5. The money will be used to purchase supplies, hotdogs, and chips for the evening. Cash donations will be accepted as well.

-Start testing out your favorite dessert recipes and plan to enter the dessert contest...**keep in mind, the desserts will be judged by KIDS!**

-Reach out to Katie Denniston (989-302-2772) or Ashley Clinesmith (989-660-5742) if you're interested in helping.

HAPPENING SOON

Sunday 09/22	9:00 AM Worship Service
Monday 09/23	7:00 PM Worship Service
Sunday 09/29	9:00 AM Worship Service
Monday 09/30	7:00 PM Worship Service

September Servers

September Sunday Ushers: Ron Nichol, Justin Whitney, Jay Newcomer

September Monday Usher: Barry Mays

September Finance: Jeremy LaPratt, Nick Hubbard

September Altar Guild: Need altar guild members to split the month.

Organist: Olivia Marker

October Servers

October Sunday Ushers: Paul and Silas Schultz, Carter Korthals, Eric Korthals

October Communion Elder: Oct. 7th Phill Pellar, 20th Jacob Zieroff

October Monday Usher: Dave Atkins

October Finance: Gabe Fall, Ed Baldwin, Sam Korthals

October Altar Guild: Fran Emling and Theresa Atkins

Organist: Olivia Marker

EVENT ATTENDANCE

Sunday Service: 115

Monday Service: 20

Sunday School: 15

Bible Class: 44

STEWARDSHIP AT ST. LUKE'S

For 2024, the planned giving needed is \$7,910.00 per week to meet our ministry goals.

Last Week's Budgetary Offerings: \$4,900.00

Sunday School: \$14.00

Windows for Parsonage: \$200.00