



RALLY DAY

**SEASON OF CREATION: LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING
LAND AND PRAIRIE SUNDAY**

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 10, 2023

9:00 AM

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Monte Peterson, Pastor
Heather May, Youth & Family Minister
Carol Peterson, Music Director
Cari Terry, Office Manager

St. Augustine (354-430), De Civit. Dei, Book XVI :

Some people, in order to discover God, read books. But there is a great book: the very appearance of created things. Look above you! Look below you! Read it. God, whom you want to discover, never wrote that book with ink. Instead, He set before your eyes the things that He had made. Can you ask for a louder voice than that?



*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,
Reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world.*

Welcome to Worship! All words will be displayed on the screen.

Kids, don't forget your Praise Packs!

PLEASE ENJOY THE SUMMERTIME JESUS VIDEO

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Monte

OPENING LITANY

P: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

C: The Holy One's love is new every morning.

P: This is the day the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.



PRELUDE

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

#835

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring.

C: Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.

P: Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you.

C: Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well.

P: The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock.

C: Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

P: At this font, holy God, we pray:

C: Praise to you for the water of baptism and for the Word that saves us in this water.

P: Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation.

C: Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.

P: Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen



OPENING HYMN

"God of Wonders"

Byrd & Hindalong

¹⁴The Lord GOD said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life."¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."¹⁶To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."¹⁷And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field."¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

R: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Monte

NOISY OFFERING FOR MAUI

 **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Page 151, Setting Four

 **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 12:38-40

³⁸Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." ³⁹But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

 **SERMON**

Pastor Monte

 **SERMON HYMN** *"Shout to the Lord"*

Zschech

† 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 power of 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 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 THE CHURCH

“O Lord Hear my Prayer”
Sing at beginning and midway through

#751

P: God of mercy, **C: hear our prayer**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be always with you. C: And also with you.
Please greet one another with the words, “Peace be with you.”

OFFERING

*Pew Pads are located at the far end of each pew.
Please fill them out and pass them, noting those seated around you.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Beautiful Things”

Gungor

Children are invited to gather at the back during the anthem and help bring forward the offering.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & PARISH EDUCATION INSTALLATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Open your hearts.
C: We open them to God and to one another.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

† 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.

DISTRIBUTION—Continuous

P: Come, for the feast is ready. Come to the table and receive these gifts: the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, and the gift of hope for those in tears.

C: **May we who share these gifts also share Christ with one another and with all the earth.**

*If you wish to have the Pastor bring communion to your pew, please notify an Usher.
All are Welcome!*



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”
“Peace Like a River”*

#879, All Verses
Traditional/Spiritual



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us give thanks for this meal.

C: **We thank you, Christ, for the meal we have celebrated with you, and we pray that through your body and blood we may be healed and become agents of healing for the earth. Amen.**

BENEDICTION



CLOSING HYMN

“Children, Go Where I Send Thee”

Traditional



DISMISSAL

P: *We have been born*

C: **to care for the Earth.**

P: *We have been called*

C: **to be blessing for all.**

P: *Christ commissions the Church:*

C: **Bring Good news to Creation!**

P: *Rise, rejoice in the challenge.*

C: **Delight in God's love!**

POSTLUDE

“Reckless Love”

Culver, Asbury & Jackson

+ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED DURING WORSHIP TODAY! +

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by **the Dordel Family**
in celebration of Derek's birthday and in thankfulness for all our blessings.

ETERNAL FLAME for the month of August is given by **the Brunner Family**
in honor of blessings received.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Monday, September 11	9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Yoga 4:30 pm Caregivers' Support Goup
Wednesday, September 13	1:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir 7:15 pm Synergy 8:15 pm Bible on Tap @ On the Edge
Friday, September 15	Church Office Closed Newsletter Articles Due
Saturday, September 16	9:30 am 9 th Grade Mini Retreat
Sunday, September 17	Stephen Ministry Commissioning Sunday 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:15 am Education Hour 3:00 pm Festival of Creativity

You can now **GIVE ONLINE**, by scanning the QR code:



Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the life and ministry of the church!

Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIRECTORY SIGN-UP

Please sign up for a slot to have your directory picture taken. Photo appointments will take place October 10—October 13 from 2:00—9:00 pm and October 14 from 10:00 am—4:00 pm. Sign up in person on Sundays at the directory table after Worship. You can also sign-up online Monday—Saturday at ucdir.com. Our church code is WI295, our password is photos.

SEASON OF CREATION

Did you notice beautiful photos in today's service? Share your nature photography for upcoming Sundays. Future weeks include: wilderness, water and animals. We would love pictures of you and your pet for October 1st when we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi Day. Email to stlukes@slchurch.org, with "creation photos" in the subject line. Horizontal photos fit the screen best, but vertical ones can still be used.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

New Worship Opportunity! Join us for scripture, prayer, and communion, in the Gathering Space of the Sanctuary. Help us spread the word!

YOGA IS BACK

Mondays (beginning September 11th) at 11:30 am

Upper Fellowship Hall

Sign up at alexdruzny.com or email alexdruzny@gmail.com with questions.

STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING

Sunday, September 17th

During Worship

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who have received 50 hours of caregiving training to minister to people experiencing a crisis, facing a challenge or simply going through a tough time. If you'd like to learn more about Stephen Ministry for yourself, a family member, or a friend, neighbor, coworker, or someone else you know -- inside or outside our congregation -- talk with Pastor Monte.

FESTIVAL OF CREATIVITY

Sunday, September 17th at 3:00 pm

Submit artwork:

Sept. 11th–14th 8:00am-1:00pm (office hours) or Sept. 17th until 1:00pm

Join us as we celebrate the arts at St. Luke's with a music program and art display. Members and friends of all ages (children and teens included!) are invited to submit their arts, crafts or other handwork for display. We will kick off the fundraising for our beautiful new piano with this event. Mark your calendars and finish any projects you want to share!

Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NIGHT TIGERS: OUR NEIGHBORHOOD OWLS

Sunday, October 1st at 10:30 am

Lower Fellowship Hall

Join us for an all-ages program, as we conclude our Season of Creation by learning about one of God's majestic creatures. Brooke Gilley, a naturalist from Wehr Nature Center, will lead us in this delightful and informative program.

HEPHATHA WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

All purchased items should be returned by Sunday, October 29th

Collectionbin near the Sanctuary entrance

We are once again partnering with Hephatha Lutheran Church this fall to provide coats, hats/gloves, underwear and socks for children in their congregation. There is also a need for diapers. Please contact Karen Feucht (karebair78@hotmail.com) or Pat Larsen (larsenbobpat@gmail.com) if you have any questions. A physical sign-up sheet will be available at the welcome center every Sunday morning. Online sign up is an option too. Scan the QR code here:

Thank you for your consideration!



FIFTH AVENUE TRIO FALL RECITAL

Sunday, October 8th at 2:00 pm

St. Luke's Sanctuary

Featuring Kimberly Hawkinson (Oboe), Andrea Clark (Bassoon) and Peter Gibeau (Piano). Admission is free, accepting donations for the St. Luke's Piano Fund.

We love children at St. Luke's, and welcome babies and young children and all their exuberance into worship! To make it easier for parents, we have "busy bags" available by the entrance, as well as "praise packs" that help encourage children's engagement in worship. We also have a cry room available in the back of the sanctuary with changing facilities and rocking chairs. We know it takes a lot of work to get to church and worship with young ones; we're glad you're here!

Let the little children come to me ...
it is to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs.

Mark 10:14, NRSV



****PRAISE PACK ICONS****



Light your candle when the candles are lit at the front of the church & hold it up high.
At the end of the service turn your candle off.



Take out the cross & hold it tight during tight during times of prayer.



Use the ribbon stick to move to the music



Look at the booklet on the clipboard to follow along with today's reading(s), or follow along on the screen



While listening to the sermon, color the picture(s) & do the activity sheets on your clipboards. Can you make any connections between your sheets & the sermon?



Put "I Give myself to God" Paper in the offering plate as your offering.