



## **COMMISSIONING SUNDAY**

**SEASON OF CREATION: LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING  
WILDERNESS SUNDAY**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**September 17, 2023**

**9:00 AM**

## **ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

6705 Northway +++ Greendale, WI +++ 53129

**Office Number:** 414.421.1670

**E-mail:** [stlukes@slchurch.org](mailto:stlukes@slchurch.org)     **Website:** [www.slchurch.org](http://www.slchurch.org)

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

Irenaeus of Lyons (120-202), *Against Heresies*:

The initial step for a soul to come to knowledge of God is contemplation of nature. By choosing to create, fill and sustain all things, our God is a God who is intimately connected to God's creatures.



*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 & 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**

*"God Himself is Present"*

Michael Burkhardt

**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**

*"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

#853, Verses 1, 4 & 5

<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*R: The Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Pastor Monte

 **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Page 151, Setting Four

 **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 3:13-4:2

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.

*P: This is the Gospel of our Lord*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

 **SERMON**

Pastor Monte

 **SERMON HYMN**

*"To Be Your Presence"*

#546, All Verses

## **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**

*"In Remembrance"*  
Voices of St. Luke's

Beryl Red

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

## **COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS**

### **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**

**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.**

*You will be invited to stand or kneel at the altar.*

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

*All are Welcome!*

 **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**      “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading”      #401, All Verses



### **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**      “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”      #843, Verses 1 & 2

 **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!**

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

**COMMISSIONED STEPHEN MINISTERS**

Kathy Aguirre  
Dave Jensen  
Beth Koehler  
Yvonne Krueger  
Suzanne Miller  
Kelly Sneed  
Lynda Van Dien  
Carol Van Ryzin

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given by **the Brunner Family**  
in celebration of their daughter Beth's birthday on September 16th.

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

**OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

<b>Monday, September 18</b>	9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Yoga
<b>Tuesday, September 19</b>	6:30 pm Church Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday, September 20</b>	1:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir
<b>Thursday, September 21</b>	7:00 pm WINGS
<b>Friday, September 22</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
<b>Sunday, September 24</b>	9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 10:15 am Education Hour

# Church

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **DIRECTORY SIGN-UP**

Please sign up for a slot to have your directory picture taken. Sign up in person on Sundays or online Monday—Saturday at [ucdir.com](http://ucdir.com). Our church code is WI295, our password is photos. **We also need hosts during the photography days and your recent pictures of St. Luke's events.** Photos can be sent to [stlukes@slchurch.org](mailto:stlukes@slchurch.org), with “directory photos” in the subject line.

### **SEASON OF CREATION**

Did you notice beautiful photos in today's service? Share your nature photography for upcoming Sundays. Future weeks include: water and animals. We would love pictures of you and your pet for October 1<sup>st</sup> when we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi Day. Email to [stlukes@slchurch.org](mailto:stlukes@slchurch.org), with “creation photos” in the subject line. Horizontal photos fit the screen best.

### **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 at 11:30 am**

**Upper Fellowship Hall**

Sign up at [alexdruzny.com](http://alexdruzny.com) or email [alexdruzny@gmail.com](mailto:alexdruzny@gmail.com) with questions.

### **FESTIVAL OF CREATIVITY**

**TODAY at 3:00 pm**

**Submit artwork until 1:00pm**

Join us as we celebrate the arts at St. Luke's with a music program and art display. We will kick off the fundraising for our beautiful new piano. Program includes a marimba solo, choir performances, piano solos and the dedication of the piano. Reception to follow.

### **NIGHT TIGERS: OUR NEIGHBORHOOD OWLS**

**Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



# Church

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **HEPHATHA WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**

**All purchased items should be returned by Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Collection bin 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](mailto:karebair78@hotmail.com)) or Pat Larsen ([larsenbobpat@gmail.com](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

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!***

*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.