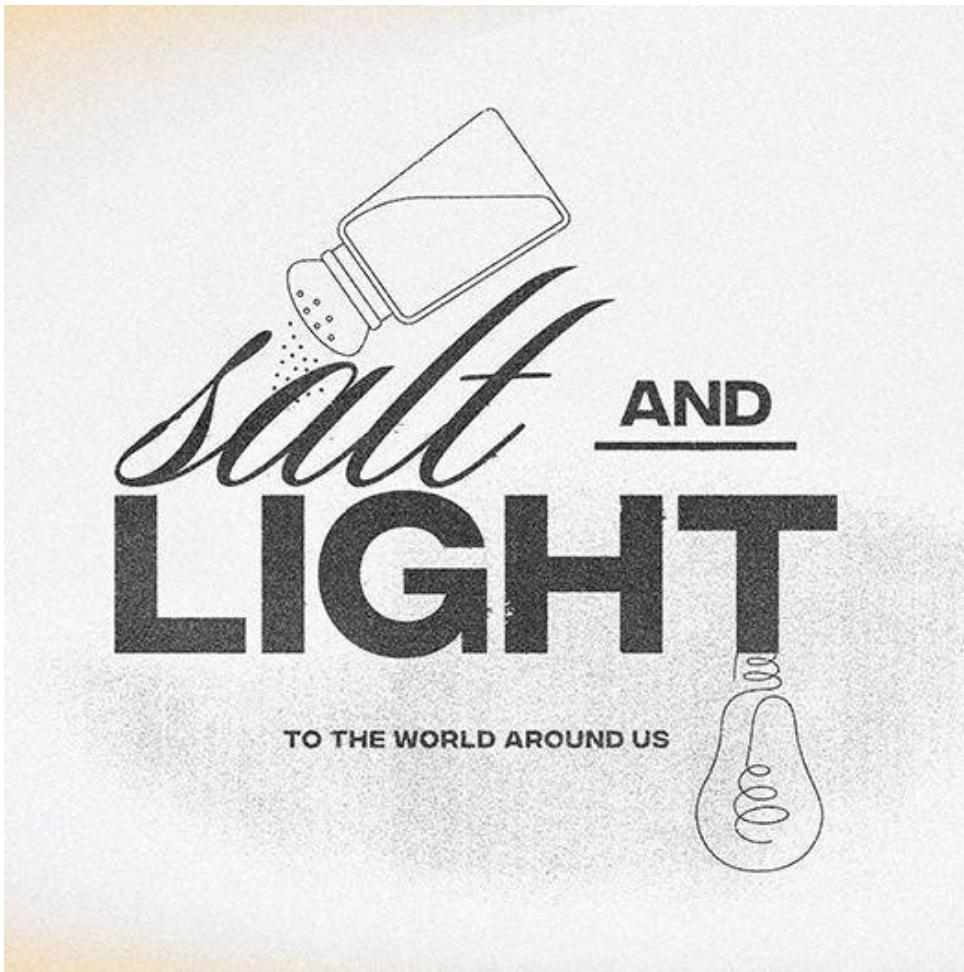


*St. Luke Lutheran Church*  
*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*  
*February 8, 2026*  
*10:45 a.m. Contemporary*

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**SERMON**  
Rev. Dr. David H. Benke  
Bishop Emeritus LCMS Atlantic District  
**“Salt of the Earth”**

**Welcome to  
St. Luke Lutheran Church**  
20 Candlewood Path  
Dix Hills, NY 11746-5398  
**Church:** 631-499-8656 - **Fax:** 631-462-6496  
Pastor Johnson (708) 738-2512  
**Preschool:** 631-462-5216  
**Our Website:** [www.stlukedixhills.org](http://www.stlukedixhills.org)  
Satellite for the Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

### **Welcome!**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome both members and guests to His church. We are present this day to worship Him. In this service we thank and honor our Lord for His many blessings and seek His guidance and comfort for each day of life.

- ❖ Be reverent and **thoughtful** in this Holy place.
- ❖ **Before** the service, speak with God.
- ❖ **During** the service, let God speak to you.
- ❖ **After** the service, speak to one another.

**As We Gather:** We begin our worship today praising the lamb of God who has taken away the sins of the world. For this saving work, Christ is truly worthy of praise, adoration, thanks and honor. He is truly worthy of our worship because of who He is and what He has done for us. Now we shall hear again the great story of salvation that was won for us by the Lamb of God. Rejoice! For the lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia!

#### **Holy Communion is celebrated at each Worship Service.**

The Lord's Supper is a gift from our Savior in which He offers us Himself and His forgiveness. Those who partake witness of their love for Him and their faith and fellowship for each other. If you have confessed your sins and if you have been properly instructed regarding the Lord's Supper and believe in the presence of Christ in the form of bread and wine, which are the body and blood of Christ, please join us for the celebration of Holy Communion.

### **REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE** **Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**

8:15am & 10:45am w/ Sunday School

### **Contemporary Band plays Sundays two times/month (check online calendar)**

Sundays at 10:45 AM

### **BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE**

Sunday morning between services at 9:30 AM

Wednesday Mornings online at 10:00 AM

The **C.A.R.E Team** encourages *anyone experiencing illness or a challenging situation in their life to reach out to us for support. Support can consist of emotional/spiritual support, meals, transportation, help with errands or chores, and other areas as they are identified. Contact via Hotline: (631) 600-0271 Or email [careteam@stlukedixhills.org](mailto:careteam@stlukedixhills.org)* Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty

### **Mission Statement**

**To know Christ and make him known by Serving, Teaching, and Loving.**

**PRE-SERVICE  
“Open the Eyes of My Heart”**

**PASTORAL GREETING**

*Stand*

**CONFESSiON & FORGIVENESS – LBW p.77**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SONG**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**OPENING SONG  
Here I Am to Worship**

**Verse**

Light of the world; You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

**Chorus**

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether lovely, Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

**Verse**

King of all days, oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came to the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor... Chorus

**Bridge**

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross... Chorus

Light of the world you stepped down into darkness,  
opened my eyes let me see

## OPENING PRAYER

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** and also with you.

**Pastor:** Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People:** Amen.

### READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup>and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

<sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

<sup>16</sup>“For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## THE GOSPEL

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## SERMON

Rev. Dr. David H. Benke  
Bishop Emeritus LCMS Atlantic District

### APOSTLES' CREED – LBW p.85

#### SONG We Believe

#### Verse:

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only One Foundation, we believe we believe  
In this broken generation When all is dark You help us see  
There is only one salvation We believe we believe

**Chorus:**

We believe in God the Father, we believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion, we believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection and He's comin' back again  
(We believe)

**Verse:**

So let our faith be more than anthems  
Greater than the songs we sing  
And in our weakness and temptations  
We believe we believe

**Chorus:**

We believe in God the Father, we believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit and He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion, we believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection and He's comin' back again

**Bridge:**

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised  
In the here and now, let love invade  
Let the church live love our God will see  
We believe, we believe.  
And the gates of hell will not prevail  
For the power of God, has torn the veil  
Now we know Your love will never fail  
We believe, we believe... Chorus

**Ending:**

He's comin' back again, He's comin' back again  
We believe, we believe

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each petition ends with "Merciful God,"  
The response is "**Receive our prayer.**"

Pastor: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we command all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE – LBW p.86

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

## OFFERING SONG Humble Thyself

### Verse 1

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord

And He will lift you up

Higher and higher

And He will lift you up

### Chorus:

Our God is an awesome God

He reigns from Heaven above

With wisdom, power and love

Our God is an awesome God

### Verse 2

Serve one another in the sight of the Lord

Serve one another in the sight of the Lord

And He will lift you up

Higher and higher And He will lift you up... Chorus

### Verse 3

Love one another in the sight of the Lord

Love one another in the sight of the Lord

And He will lift you up

Higher and higher And He will lift you up... Chorus 2X

## OFFERTORY PRAYER – LBW p.88 #240

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LBW p.89 #32

## LORD'S PRAYER – LBW p.91 #2

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

People: 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.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

### HOLY COMMUNION

Will be done in Continuous fashion. Follow the Usher's direction.

### COMMUNION SONGS

#### How Great is Our God

##### Verse:

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty  
Let all the Earth rejoice, All the Earth rejoice  
He wraps himself in light, And darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at His voice, Trembles at His voice

##### Chorus:

How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see  
How great, how great is our God.

##### Verse:

Age to age He stands and time is in His hands  
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end  
The Godhead Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son  
The Lion and the Lamb, The Lion and the Lamb... Chorus

##### Bridge:

Name above all names, Worthy of our praise  
My heart will sing, How great is our God.

##### Chorus 2X

#### Your Great Name

##### Verse 1

Lost are saved find their way  
At the sound of Your great Name  
All condemned feel no shame  
At the sound of Your great Name  
Ev'ry fear has no place  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The enemy he has to leave  
At the sound of Your great Name

### **Chorus**

**Jesus worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us  
The Son of God and man  
You are high and lifted up  
And all the world will praise  
Your great Name**

### **Verse 2**

**All the weak find their strength  
At the sound of Your great Name  
Hungry souls receive grace  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The fatherless find their rest  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The sick are healed the dead are raised  
At the sound of Your great Name. CHORUS**

### **Bridge 1**

**Redeemer my Healer Lord Almighty  
Defender my Savior You are my King  
(REPEAT)**

### **CHORUS**

**Jesus worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us  
The Son of God and man  
You are high and lifted up  
And all the world will praise  
Your great Name Your great Name**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Pastor:** Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People:** Amen.

### **BLESSING LSB & LBW p.95**

**Deacon:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\pm$  give you peace.

**People:** Amen.

## MINISTRY NEWS

### CLOSING SONG Light of the World

You are the Light of the World  
You are the Light of the World  
So shine, shine, shine where you are  
You are the Light of the World

You are a city on a hill  
You are a city on a hill  
So shine, shine, shine where you are  
You are a city on a hill

You are a candle in the dark  
You are a candle in the dark  
So shine, shine, shine where you are  
You are a candle in the dark

You are a star in the night  
You are a star in the night  
So shine, shine, shine where you are  
You are a star in the night

You are the Light of the World  
You are the Light of the World  
So shine, shine, shine where you are  
You are the Light of the World

### A SENDING WORD

Deacon: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.  
People: Thanks be to God.



Join Parish Life for...

DRINKS & DESSERTS  
PROVIDED

ADULTS

# NIGHT OF CARD GAMES

On Saturday

February 28th at

7:00pm

St. Luke

Memorial Gathering Room

Bring an appetizer

Questions? Contact

Lori Etienne

[letienne13@gmail.com](mailto:letienne13@gmail.com)



# Carnival Sponsorship Opportunities

St. Luke Church will be running a children's carnival on May 30, 2026. The funds from this carnival help support the various missions of St. Luke, including the pre-school and youth program. We hope you will consider taking advantage of our many sponsorship opportunities. Through your generosity, St. Luke can continue to make a positive impact within the church and community.

**Carnival Arcade:** Total cost \$5,000

Minimum sponsorship suggestion \$200



**Petting Zoo and Pony Rides:** total cost 1,550

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$200



**Prizes:** Total cost \$500

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100

In consideration, if they can be fully funded:



**Magician:** Total cost \$575

Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100



**Balloon Twister:** total Cost \$400

Minimum sponsorship suggestion \$100

Please return the completed form below to the St. Luke Church office, St. Luke Preschool Office, or mail to 20 Candlewood Path, Dix Hills, NY 11746 c/o Lisa Wenz

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please Accept my donation towards \_\_\_\_\_

Amount included \_\_\_\_\_

Name for sponsorship display: \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only...  cash  check # \_\_\_\_\_

Date received \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_