

# *St. Luke Lutheran Church*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent*

*March 8, 2026*

*10:45 a.m. Contemporary*

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FOR GOD SO LOVED THE  
WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONE AND ONLY SON, THAT  
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM  
SHALL NOT PERISH BUT  
HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. FOR  
GOD DID NOT SEND HIS  
SON INTO THE WORLD TO  
CONDEMN THE WORLD,  
BUT TO SAVE THE WORLD  
THROUGH HIM.

*John 3:16-17*

## **SERMON**

Rev. Arthur Gillespie

“A John 3:16 Lifestyle” —John 3:16-17

**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

**Lenten Midweek Services**

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

### **BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE**

Sunday morning between services at 9:30 AM begins March 8th

Wednesday Mornings online at 10:00 AM for Lent

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  
“Here I am to Worship”**

**PASTORAL GREETING**

**CALL FOR PRAYERS**

*Stand*

**CONFESSION FOR LENT**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings.  
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;  
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;  
we spoil rather than steward your creation;  
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;  
we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

✚ forgives you in Christ’s name,  
and revives you in the Spirit’s power.

**Amen.**

**STRING ENSEMBLE:**  
**Chloe and Esther Cheong, Nancy Baglio**  
“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”  
“To God Be the Glory”

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SONG**

**OPENING SONG**  
**All Day Long**

**Chorus**

**All Day Long**  
**Never ending voices ringing out**  
**From the break of daylight**  
**And all through the night I'll praise**  
**REPEAT**

**Verse 1:**

**You are the glorious One**  
**Great victorious son**  
**Your grace, fills this place**  
**And all I can do is praise ... Chorus**

**Verse 2:**

**You are the ancient of days**  
**Perfect in all of your ways**  
**Your majesty surrounds**  
**And all I can do is praise ... Chorus**

**Bridge:**

**All Day Long, We're singing your song**  
**Let the bells ring out, Hear the mute man shout**  
**All through the night, You're shining so bright, And all I can do is praise**

**Chorus**

**All Day Long**  
**Never ending voices ringing out**  
**From the break of daylight**  
**And all through the night I'll praise**

## OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: and also with you.**

Pastor: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## READING: Romans 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."  
<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your

husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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

*Sit*

### **SERMON**

Rev. Arthur Gillespie  
"A John 3:16 Lifestyle" —John 3:16-17

*Stand*

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. 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.**

### **SONG**

#### **Mighty to Save**

#### **Verse 1**

**Everyone needs compassion**

**A Love that's never failing**

**Let mercy fall on me**

**Everyone needs forgiveness**

**The kindness of a savior**

**The hope of nations**

**Chorus**

Savior, he can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

**Verse 2**

So take me as you find me  
All my fears and failures  
And fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender (Yes I surrender)

**Chorus**

**Bridge**

Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing,  
For the glory of the risen king, Jesus  
Shine your light and let the whole world see, we're singing  
For the glory of the risen king

**Chorus (x2)**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God,"  
The response is "**Your mercy is great.**"

Pastor: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

People: **Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE – LBW p.86**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Sit*

**OFFERING SONG**  
**One Thing Remains**

**Verse 1**

Higher than the mountains that I face  
Stronger than the power of the grave  
Constant in the trial and the change  
One thing remains

**Chorus**

Your love never fails, never gives up  
Never runs out on me  
Your love never fails, never gives up  
Never runs out on me  
Your love never fails, never gives up  
Never runs out on me  
Your love.

**Verse 2**

On and on and on and on it goes  
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul  
And I never, ever, have to be afraid  
One thing remains ... Chorus

**Bridge**

In death, In life, I'm confident and  
covered by the power of Your great love  
My debt is paid, there's nothing that can  
separate my heart from Your great love

**Chorus (2x)**

*Stand*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
People: **your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and  
sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear  
witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

*Stand*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

*Sit*

## HOLY COMMUNION

### COMMUNION SONGS

#### I Can Only Imagine

#### Verse 1

I can only imagine  
What it will be like  
When I walk by Your side  
I can only imagine  
What my eyes will see  
When Your face is before me  
I can only imagine

#### Chorus

Surrounded by Your glory  
What will my heart feel  
Will I dance for You Jesus  
Or in awe of You be still  
Will I stand in Your presence  
Or to my knees will I fall  
Will I sing hallelujah  
Will I be able to speak at all  
I can only imagine (yeah)  
I can only imagine

**Verse 2**

I can only imagine  
When that day comes  
And I find myself standing in the Son  
I can only imagine  
When all I will do  
Is forever forever worship You  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine

**Chorus**

**Ending**

I can only imagine when all I will do  
Is forever forever worship You  
I can only imagine

**Feel the Breeze by Kyle Sherlock**

**Verse:**

An old man walking into church once told me be careful what you search  
For life is not about what you own, for His name is the seed that must be sewn

**Pre-chorus:**

So then, you must remember you may think that you're alone.

**Chorus:**

But can you feel the breeze He's all around you.  
Fall right down to your knees take in this wonderful view.  
Just feel the Breeze.

**Verse:**

Abide by Him every day you live and that's how you can rid your life of sin.  
For we are children of the Lord so let Him be your shield and sword.

**Bridge:**

You need to know You need to know that he will love you forever (3X)

**Chorus:**

But you can feel the breeze He's all around you  
Fall right down to your knees yes you can make it through  
This life is beautiful  
Just feel the Breeze.

*Stand*

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

People: **Amen.**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Deacon: Let us pray. God of our salvation,  
we give You thanks for this meal that restores our souls,  
reconciles us to You, and strengthens us for the journey.  
Through the body and blood of your Son,  
may we become Christ's body in the world,  
bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
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 † give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **MINISTRY NEWS**

*Stand*

### **CLOSING SONG**

#### **Dry Bones**

#### **CHORUS**

Gonna make these dry bones walk.  
Gonna make these dry bones walk.  
God has decided, now I'll do more than talk.  
God has made these dry bones walk.

### **VERSE 1**

Gonna be the salt where the world is bland.  
Gonna be the thought when the world won't understand  
Gonna be the light where the world is dark.  
Gonna fight the fight and leave a mark. **CHORUS**

### **VERSE 2**

Gonna be the food when the world needs bread.  
Gonna be the life where the world would be dead.  
Gonna be the water in a world that would thirst.  
The first shall be last and the last shall be first. **CHORUS**

### **VERSE 3**

Gonna be the hope when the world's in despair.  
At the end of our rope, God will be there.  
Gonna be the spark when the world needs a start.  
Gonna write his new law in the flesh of our hearts. **CHORUS**

### **VERSE 4**

Gonna be the way when the world is lost.  
Gonna calm the waves when the world is tossed.  
Gonna be the yeast when the world needs leaven.  
Prepare the feast for the kingdom in Heaven. **CHORUS**

### **A SENDING WORD**

Deacon: Go in peace. Believe the good news.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*\* Church Attendance and Offerings \*\***

**Attendance week ending 3/1/2026**

**Sunday, March 1, 2026**

8:15 AM:50    10:45 AM:102

**Offerings Received in January 2026**

*(total monthly offerings includes online giving)*

**January 2026 Offerings Received:**

Regular Weekly Offerings: \$11,196.94

Loose Plate: \$378.00

Celebrations (Christmas/Advent) \$247.00

**TOTAL January 2026: \$11,821.64**

Budgeted \$22,608.33

Year to Date Received (July through January) 2025-2026: \$124,834.16

**St. Luke Church Council 2026**

|                 |                          |                               |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ken Wenz        | President                | kpwenz@gmail.com              |
| Jackie Guidone  | Vice-President           | Jackies7fromhvn@aol.com       |
| Anna Schwen     | Secretary                | Aschwen1123@gmail.com         |
| Brenda Lentsch  | Treasurer                | Treasurer@stluckedixhills.org |
| Denise Norman   | Christian Education      | Denisenorman231@gmail.com     |
| Tony Fisher     | Property                 | Afisher1855@gmail.com         |
| Michele Castro  | Finance                  | Michelel25@yahoo.com          |
| Theresa Clark   | Evangelism               | Teesamarie33@gmail.com        |
| Lori Etienne    | Parish Life              | lletienne13@gmail.com         |
| Nancy Gossow    | Worship                  | Ngg123@aol.com                |
| Sandi McDermott | Missions/Social Concerns | Sandib.mcder@gmail.com        |
| Trisha Klare    | Stewardship              | Tsklare402@gmail.com          |
| Rey Rivera      | Youth                    | Reinrivera9@gmail.com         |

The Elaine Backmeier Memorial  
Children's Carnival



Scan the  
QR Code to  
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On the Grounds of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Dix Hills  
20 Candlewood Path, Dix Hills, NY 11746

PROCEEDS FROM THE CARNIVAL SUPPORT OUR CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

TAX ID: 11-212-4560

PLEASE HELP US FURTHER OUR CHURCH & PRESCHOOL MINISTRIES  
BY SPONSORING THIS EVENT WITH A DONATION

-----  
YES, I'D LIKE TO BE A SPONSOR

CASH DONATION

\$25     \$50     \$75     \$100     OTHER  \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH - DESIGNATE FOR CARNIVAL

RAFFLE PRIZE ~ PRIZES ~ GAMES

SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE / EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OR PRESCHOOL OFFICE

# Carnival Sponsorship Opportunities Update

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

**Food:** Total Cost \$600  
Minimum Sponsorship suggestion \$100



**\*\*Thank you to the generous sponsors who have fully funded: The Magician, Balloon Twister, Cotton Candy, and Dunk Tank!**

Scan the QR Code to Donate Online  
Scroll down to Carnival.  
Please note what you are sponsoring.

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 \_\_\_\_\_