

St. Luke Lutheran Church
Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026
8:15AM

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE
GAVE HIS ONLY BE-  GOTTEN SON, THAT
WHOSOEVER  BELIEVES IN
HIM SHOULD NOT  PERISH, BUT HAVE
EVERLASTING LIFE.  FOR GOD SENT NOT
HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN
THE WORLD; BUT THAT THE WORLD THROUGH
HIM MIGHT BE SAVED.

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
Preschool: 631-462-5216

Our Website: 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 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 (paused for now)

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 Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty

Mission Statement

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

PRELUDE

Kingsfold Suite (I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say) - David Dahl

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL FOR PRAYERS

INTROIT: HANDBELL CHOIR

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy” - Anna Laura Page

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS -

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.

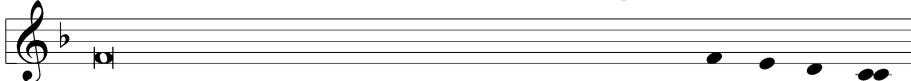
OPENING HYMN
“God of Grace, God of Glory” LBW 415

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

KYRIE - LSB p.204



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Cont'd →

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

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.**

Sit

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95

- ¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- ² **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**
- ³ For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
- ⁴ **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**
- ⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
- ⁶ **Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**
- ⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of
God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!
- ⁸ **"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert.**
- ⁹ There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
- ¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**
- ¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger,
'They shall never come to my rest.'

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
² 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. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our
afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces
character, and character produces hope, ⁵ 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.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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.**

Stand

GOSPEL VERSE– LSB 205

C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

A - men A - men A - men

THE GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th chapter.

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

Gospel: John 4:5-42

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

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”

⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ 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.) ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"

¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ 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." ¹⁵ 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."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ 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. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ 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." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷ 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?" ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

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

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² 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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life” LBW 429

APOSTLES’ CREED – LBW p.85

**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.**

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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERING



OFFERTORY

“Let All the World in Every Corner Sing” - Matthew Corl

Stand

OFFERING HYMN

“For the Fruits of His Creation” LSB 894, v.1

1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the hymn. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a '1' at the beginning. The second staff ends with a double bar line. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004105

Tune: Public domain

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING – LSB 208

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary... we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

SANCTUS – LSB 208



G Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION – LSB p.209

LORD’S PRAYER – LSB p.209

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

AGNUS DEI – LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Let Us Break Bread Together” LBW 212

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You” LBW 492

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” LBW 499

Stand

Nunc Dimitis - LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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.**

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION - LSB p.212

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 HYMN "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" LBW 343

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Happy Are Those Who Walk in the Way of God" - Bernard Wayne Sanders

**** 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@stlukedixhills.org
Denise Norman	Christian Education	Denisenorman231@gmail.com
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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

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 _____