

St. Luke Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday of Easter
April 12, 2026
10:45 a.m. Contemporary



SERMON
Rev. Arthur Gillespie
"So, what is Faith?"
(John 20, Mark 9, Acts 8)

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
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 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 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

CALL FOR PRAYERS

Stand

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor: Most Merciful God,

People: **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL SONG

OPENING SONG
All in All

[Verse 1]

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord to give up, I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

[Chorus]

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name

[Verse 2]

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again, I bless Your name
You are my all in all

When I fall down you pick me up
When I am dry you fill my cup
You are my all in all. **Chorus 2X**

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **and also with you.**

Pastor: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a

salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

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

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Christ Arose"

1. Low in the grave He lay— Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Wait - ing the
 2. Vain - ly they watch His bed— Je - sus, my Sav - ior! Vain - ly they
 3. Death can - not keep his prey— Je - sus, my Sav - ior! He tore the

Chorus - faster

com - ing day— Je - sus, my Lord!
 seal the dead— Je - sus, my Lord! Up from the grave He arose, With a
 bars a - way— Je - sus, my Lord! He arose,

might - y tri - umph o'er His foes. He a - rose! He a - rose a vic - tor from the

dark domain, And He lives for - ev - er with His saints to reign. He a -

rit.

rose! He arose, He a - rose! He arose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

SERMON

Rev. Arthur Gillespie
"So, what is Faith?"
(John 20, Mark 9, Acts 8)

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Pastor: God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
People: **Amen.**

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE – LBW p.86

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

Sit

OFFERING 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

Stand

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed are you,
People: **O Lord our God, maker of all things,
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives
to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of
him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Sit

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

The Revelation Song

Verse 1:

**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Holy, Holy, is He
Sing a new song, to Him who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat**

Chorus:

**Holy, Holy, Holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was, and is, and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything
And I will adore You**

Verse 2:

**Clothed in rainbows, of living color
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be
To You the only wise King... Chorus**

Verse 3:

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder
At the mention of your name
Jesus your name is power
Breath and living water
Such a marvelous mystery... Chorus

Breathe

Breathe

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe,
Your holy presence, living in me

This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread
Your very word, spoken to me

CHORUS

And I – I – I, I'm desperate for you
And I – I - I, I'm lost without you

Repeat all

End

I'm desperate for You. I'm lost without You.

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.**

Stand

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Deacon: 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 Our God is Greater

Verse 1

Water You turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like you. None like you

Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's No one like you. None like you

Chorus

Our God is greater, our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is Healer, awesome in power
Our God, Our God

Verse 2

Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we Rise
There is no one like you. None like you.

Chorus

Our God is greater, our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is Healer, awesome in power
Our God, Our God

Bridge

And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us.
And if our God is with us, then what could stand against.
And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us.
And if our God is with us, then what could stand against.
Then what could stand against.

Chorus

Our God is greater, our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is Healer, awesome in power
Our God, Our God

A SENDING WORD

Deacon: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**