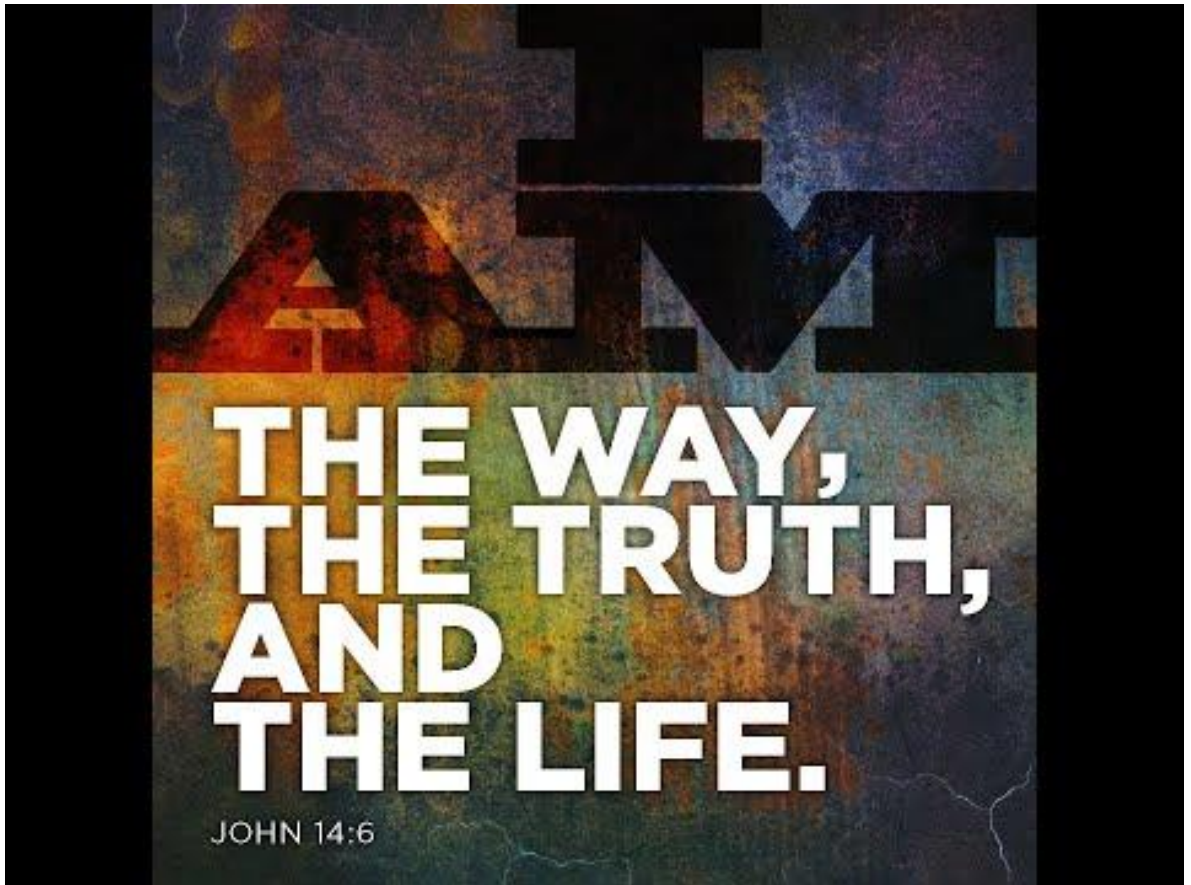


St. Luke Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026
8:15AM



SERMON
Rev. Arthur Gillespie
"Get Ready, Get Set... Part One"
—John 14:1-14

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

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 Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty*

Mission Statement

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

PRELUDE

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People” - Craig Phillips

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL FOR PRAYERS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Handbell Choir

“How Great Thou Art” - Sharon Elery Rogers

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.

OPENING HYMN
 "God Is Here" WOV 719



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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 – LBW pp.78-79



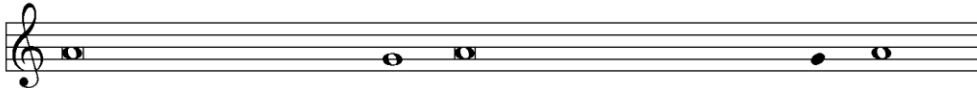
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



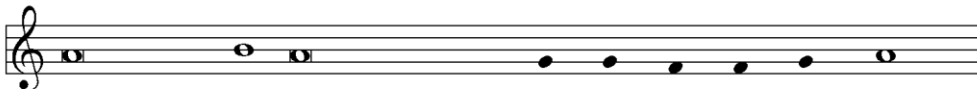
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

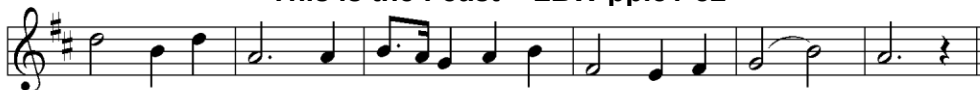


let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE
This is the Feast – LBW pp.81-82



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

First Reading: Acts 6:1-7

(The ministry of deacons in the early Church)

¹ Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. ² And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Therefore, brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, ⁴ while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." ⁵ What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

(A mouth full of praise)

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

³ Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ **The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

(You are a chosen people)

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL VERSE– LBW p.83

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

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

Gospel: John 14:1-14

(I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life)

¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY
"I Received the Living God" WOV 700

Refrain




I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



1 Je - sus said: I am the bread knead - ed long to give you life;
2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; if you fol - low close to me,
4 Je - sus said: I am the life far from whom no thing can grow,



Refrain

you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
you will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

SERMON
Rev. Arthur Gillespie
"Get Ready, Get Set... Part One"
—John 14:1-14

Stand

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

Petition ends with "In Jesus' Name"

The response is "**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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERING

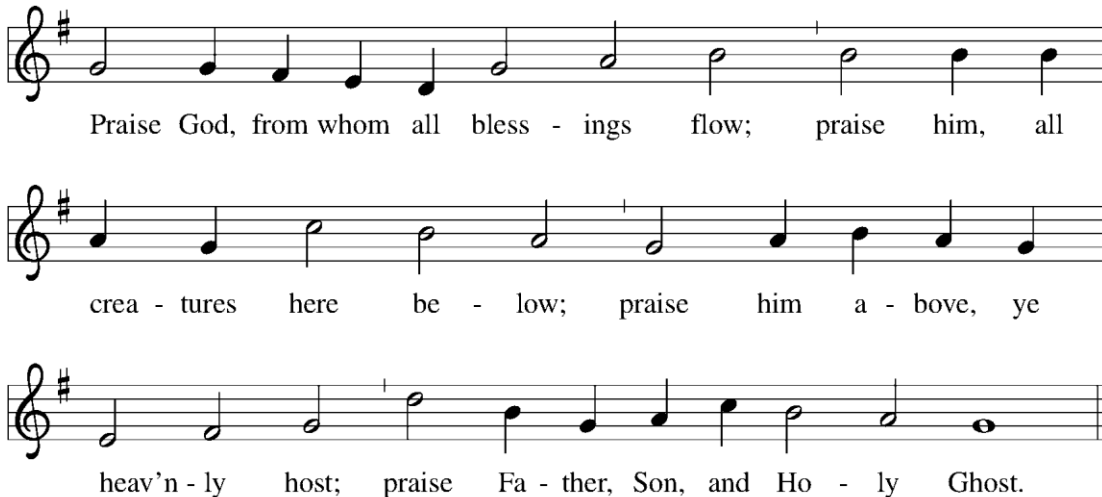
OFFERTORY

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" - Biery

Stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION & OFFERING HYMN

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” LBW 564



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER – LBW p.88

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 – LBW p. 89



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.


WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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


People: And also with you

Sit

LAMB OF GOD – LBW p.92



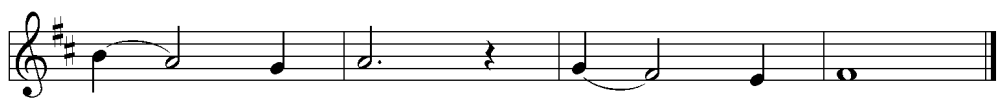
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

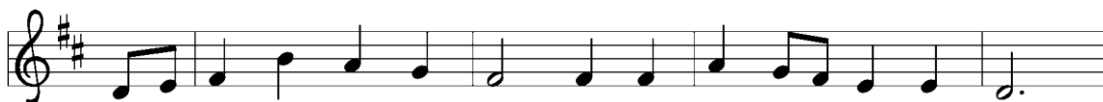


grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION MUSIC "O Jesus, I Have Promised" LBW 503



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” LBW 439



- 1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life” LBW 513



1 Come, my way, my truth, my life: such a
2 Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a
3 Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as con - quers death.
length; such a strength as makes his guest.
part; such a heart as joys in love.

COMMUNION DISMISSAL – LBW p.92

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

People: Amen.

Stand

POST COMMUNION HYMN
"Thank the Lord..." LBW p. 92-93



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Deacon: Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

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 "How Firm a Foundation" LBW 507



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

"Good Christian Friends" - Healey Willan

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

Attendance week ending 4/26/2026

Sunday, April 26, 2026

8:15 AM:64 10:45 AM:75

Offerings Received in March 2026

*(total monthly offerings **includes** online giving)*

March 2026 Offerings Received:

Regular Weekly Offerings: \$ 27,922.42

Loose Plate: \$997.00

Celebrations: \$559.00

TOTAL March 2026: \$ 29,478.00

Budgeted \$22,608.33

Year to Date Received (July through March) 2025-2026: \$ 171,856.76

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
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



Please join us next Sunday on May 10th as we celebrate the Moms of St. Luke.

We are inviting all children to “Worship with Mom.”

Moms, bring your children to worship so they can celebrate you at Worship!

There will be a special Mother’s Day Blessing and your child will present a Mother’s Day Flower to you.