St. Luke Lutheran Church Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025 8:15a.m. & 10:45a.m.

In The Permanent Grip of the Good Shepherd

John 10:22~30

SERMON

Pastor Johnson **God's death grip** "No one will snatch them out of my hand." —John 10:28b

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 <u>careteam@stlukedixhills.org</u> Coordinators: Trish Klare & Amanda Fenty

Mission Statement

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

PRELUDE

Variations on "Come, Come, Ye Saints - Franklin Ashdown

GREETING

INTROIT: Handbell Choir (8:15)

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" - Lloyd Larson

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.

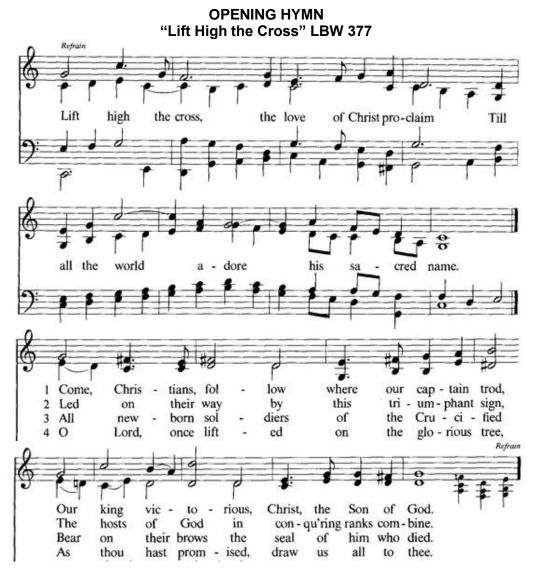
- People: Amen.
- Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

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 Holy Spirit.
- People: Amen.



5. So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the crucified for Victory! *Refrain*

INSTRUMENTAL: Youth Musicians

"Let All Things Now Living" - arr. by Denny Glasscock Mikayla Smith, Chloe Cheong, Esther Cheong, Nancy Baglio

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

And also with you. **People:**







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People:** and also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 People: Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him,

weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 (Spoken Responsively)

- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- ² He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
- ³ He restores my soul.
 He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- ⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me.
- ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

ANTHEM: ADULT CHOIR (10:45)

"A Home of Grace" - Irish Melody arr. Joseph Martin

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Pastor:The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.People:Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

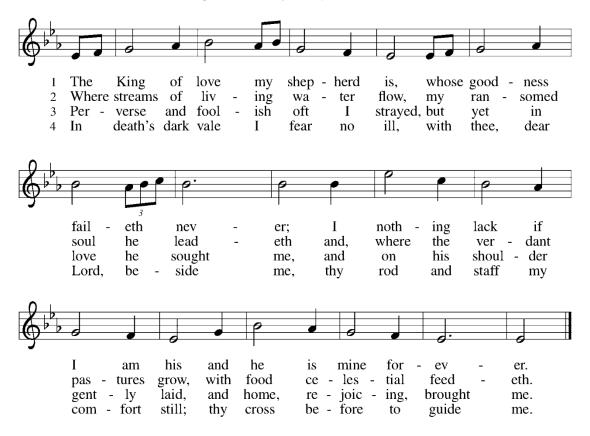
²² At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

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

SERMON

Pastor Johnson **God's death grip** "No one will snatch them out of my hand." —John 10:28b

HYMN OF THE DAY "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LBW 456



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

APOSTLES' CREED (8:15)

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.

> **Or*, to the dead. ***meaning*, universal

HOLY BAPTISM (10:45)



Ruskin Ferruzza Son of Susan & Steven Ferruzza

RITE OF BAPTISM

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the Church, the Body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsors present the candidate:

Pastor: How is your child named?

The presiding minister addresses parents:

Pastor: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Ruskin baptized into Christ?

Parents: I do

- Pastor: As you bring Ruskin to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with Ruskin among God's faithful people, place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, encourage him toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, pray for him and support his ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith so that Ruskin may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.
- Pastor: Do you promise to help Ruskin grow in the Christian faith and life? I do.
- Pastor: Sponsors, do you promise to assist Susan and Steven and nurture Ruskin in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the Church? I do.
- Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support Ruskin and pray for his new life in Christ? **We do.**

PROCLAMATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Do you renounce the devil, all his works, and all his ways and do you renounce those forces, powers of the world, and sin that defy and rebel against God and draw us away from him?

Yes, I renounce them.

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

HOLY BAPTISM

Pastor: Ruskin, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Ruskin, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever. Let us pray. The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins strengthen you with his grace to life everlasting.

Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Receive this burning light. Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The minister and the baptismal group face the assembly.

Let us welcome the newly baptized. In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you *a* member of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear his Word, receive his gifts, and proclaim the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord!

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

- Pastor: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- People: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

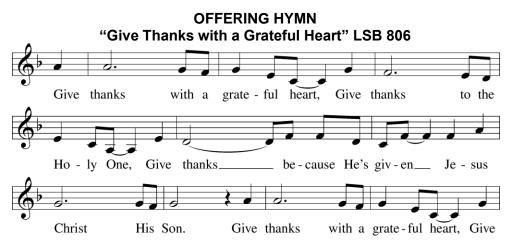
- Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.
- People: And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please do so with a wave, handshake, or however you feel comfortable. Hand sanitizer is available in the sanctuary. Ask an usher if you don't see one.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"The Lord's My Shepherd" -arr. Diane Bish

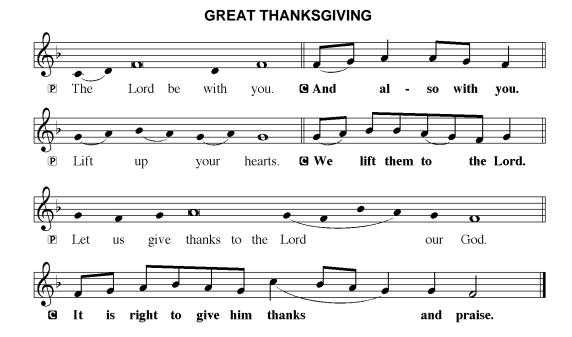


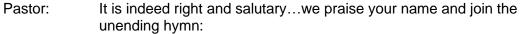


OFFERTORY PRAYER

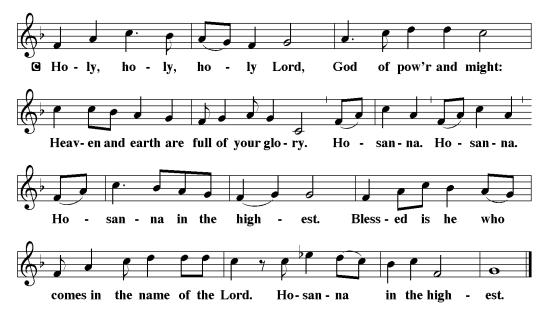
Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

People: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.









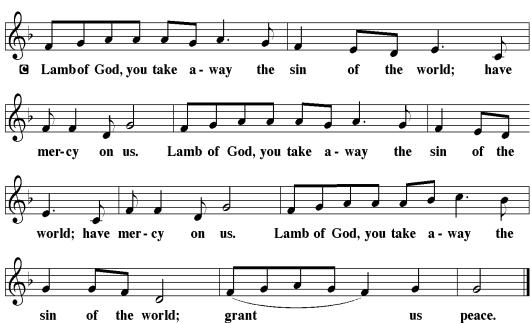
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.



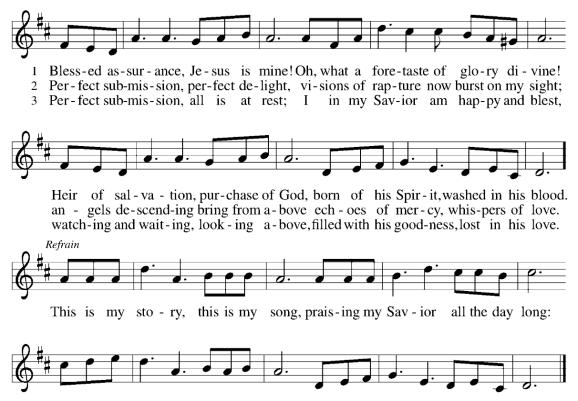
LAMB OF GOD

HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION MUSIC

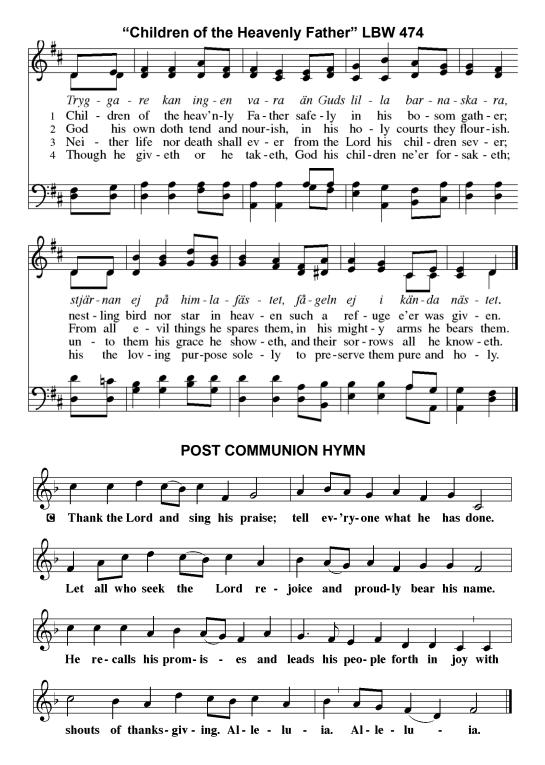
"Blessed Assurance" WOV 699



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

1 Sav like shep - herd lead Much ior, а us; we 2 We are Yours; love be - friend the in us, Be 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive Poor and us, 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa vor, Ear - ly pleas - ant need Your ten - der care. In Your pas - tures Your guard - ian of our way; Keep flock, from sin de sin - ful though we be: You have mer - cy to re do Your Bless - ed will; and let us Lord on - ly For feed us, our use Your fold pre - pare. Seek fend us, us when we go a - stray. lieve cleanse, and pow'r to us, Grace to free. Sav ior. With Your love our spir - its fill. _ You have Bless - ed Je sus, bless - ed Je sus, Bless - ed bless - ed Je sus, Je sus, Hear us Bless - ed Je bless - ed Je -Ear - ly sus, sus, Bless - ed bless - ed You have Je Je -sus, sus, bought Bless - ed Yours. Je - sus, us; we are chil dren when we Bless - ed Je - sus, pray. You. let Bless - ed Je - sus, us turn to loved love still. Bless - ed Je - sus, us. us You have bought us; bless - ed Je - sus, Yours. we are Hear us bless - ed Je - sus, chil - dren when pray. we bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let turn You. us to bless - ed Je - sus. You have loved us, love us still.

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" LSB 711



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

- Deacon: Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- People: Amen.

BLESSING

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.Paenla:Amon

People: Amen.

MINISTRY NEWS



A SENDING WORD

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Deacon: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

This Joyful Eastertide - Robert Hobby

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

Attendance week ending 5/4/2025 Sunday May 4, 2025 8:15 AM:49 10:45 AM:153

Offerings Received in March 2025 (total monthly offerings includes online giving)

ACTUAL March Regular Offerings Received: Regular Weekly Offerings: \$29,263.69 Loose Plate: \$625.00 Total March: \$29,888.69

Regular Monthly Budgeted: \$22,000.00 Year to Date (July-March): \$197,394.00

St Luke Church Council 2025

Jackie Todaro	President	Jackies7fromhvn@aol.com
Ken Wenz	Vice-President	kpwenz@gmail.com
Trisha Klare	Secretary	Tsklare402@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
Glenn Schabel	Worship	gschabel@yahoo.com
Mike Recio	Stewardship	lutherjets@optonline.net
Sandi McDermott	Missions/Social Concerns	Sandibmcder@gmail.com
Mike Smith	Youth	michael@reliablepayrollservices.com