

St. Luke Lutheran Church
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026
9:30 a.m.



Sermon
Rev. Dr. Victor H. Nelson
"God's Help with Suffering" —Romans 8:18

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 **returns in September**

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sundays: Traditional w/ Holy Communion at 9:30am Thursdays: Traditional w/ Holy Communion at 7:30 PM begins June 25 th

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Bible Studies on select dates – See flyer

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.

ABOUT TODAY

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God.

PRELUDE

On What Has Now Been Sown - Barbara Harbach

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: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

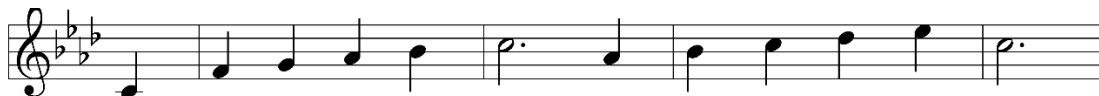
Pastor: Merciful God,

People: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us your ways. Amen.

Pastor: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN **"The God of Abraham Praise" LBW 544 vs. 1-4**



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
 2 The God of A-br'ham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise, whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
 4 He by him - self has sworn; I on his oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love.
 from earth I rise and seek the joys at his right hand.
 shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
 I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
 I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—
 He deigns to call me friend; he calls him - self my God!
 I shall be - hold his face; I shall his pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
 and him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
 And he shall save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er - more.

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.**



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

HYMN OF PRAISE

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Holy God, you sow goodness in us and in the world. Help us trust your quiet work of growth and live with hope until your harvest comes.

People: Amen.

Sit

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

(There is no other God than the Lord)

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:57-64

(I hasten to keep Your commandments)

⁵⁷ The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

⁵⁸ **I implore your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.**

⁵⁹ When I think of your ways, I turn my feet to your decrees;

⁶⁰ **I hurry and do not delay to keep your commandments.**

⁶¹ Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law.

⁶² **At midnight I rise to praise you, because of your righteous ordinances.**

⁶³ I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts.

⁶⁴ **The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-27
(*Creation in travail, we groan, Spirit intercedes for us*)

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE– LSB p. 205



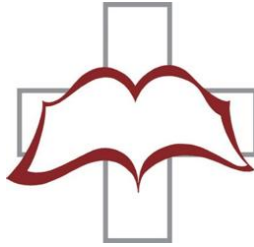
The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a common time signature 'C' in a square box. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the Alleluia, the second and third staves contain the verse, and the fourth staff contains the Alleluia again.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.
People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

(Parable of the wheat and the weeds)

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY
“Come, You Thankful People, Come” LBW 407



1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield.
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way,
Gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, does pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all your an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

SERMON
Rev. Dr. Victor H. Nelson
“God's Help with Suffering” —Romans 8:18

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

Each petition ends with “God of grace,”
The response is “**hear our prayer.**”

Pastor: Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and
unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“God, Whose Hand Is All Creation” - Austin Lovelace

Stand

OFFERING PRESENTATION & OFFERING HYMN

OFFERING HYMN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781 V.1

1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father,
People: **we humbly offer to you the gifts of our treasures, talents, and time.
Use them to your glory, and for the benefit of all your people; through
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING – LBW 88

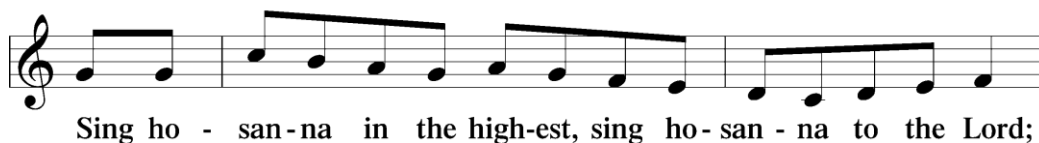
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

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 their unending hymn:

SANCTUS LSB 208



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.**

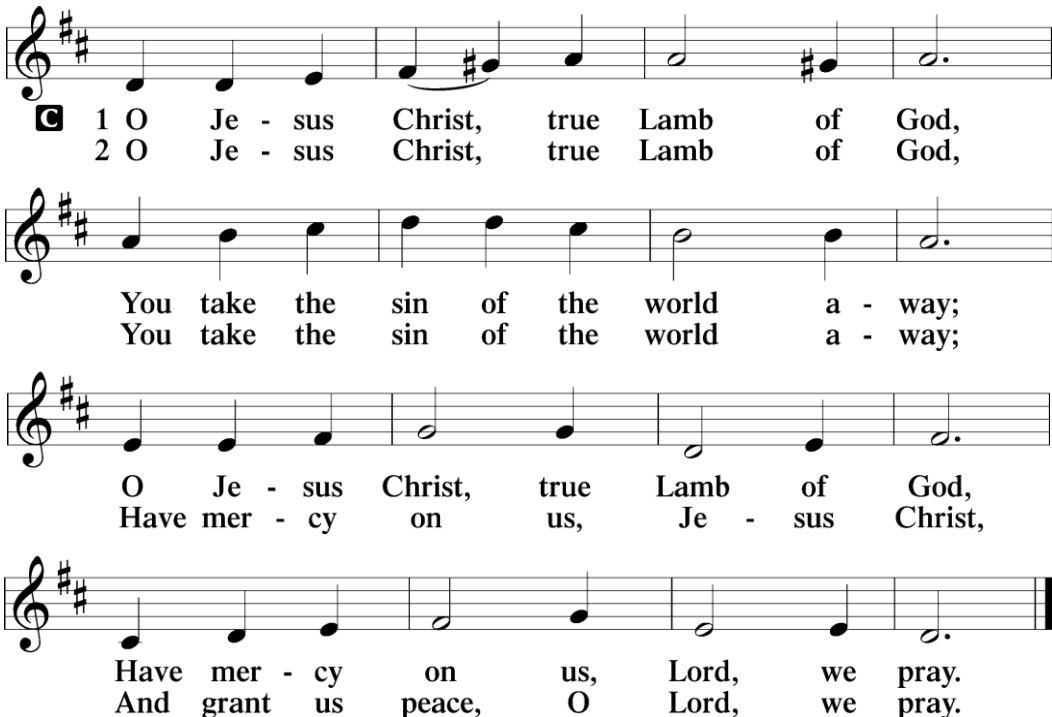
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

Sit

LAMB OF GOD /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 **"Have Thine Own Way" LUYH p.19**



1 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Thou art the
 2 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Search me and
 3 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Wound-ed and
 4 Have thine own way, Lord, have thine own way. Hold o'er my

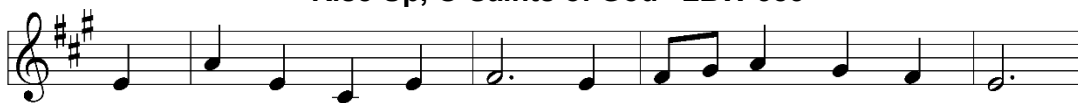


pot - ter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me af - ter thy
 try me, Mas - ter, to - day. Pur - er than snow, Lord, wash me just
 wea - ry, help me, I pray. Pow - er, all pow - er sure - ly is
 be - ing ab - so - lute sway. Fill with thy Spir - it till all shall



will, while I am wait - ing, yield - ed and still.
 now, as in thy pres - ence hum - bly I bow.
 thine. Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine.
 see Christ on - ly, al - ways, liv - ing in me.

"Rise Up, O Saints of God" LBW 383



1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

“Blessed Assurance” WOV 699



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



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

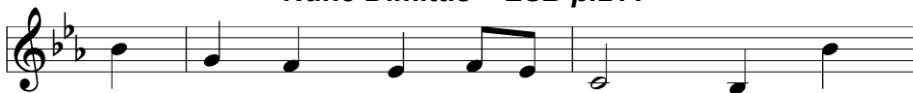


this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Stand

POST COMMUNION HYMN

Nunc Dimittis – *LSB p.211*



- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|----------|-----|-----|------|------------|------|
| 1 | O | Lord, | now | let | Your | ser - vant | De - |
| 2 | All | glo - ry | to | the | Fa - | ther, | All |



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry seen to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

Cont'd →



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Deacon: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son, and for assuring us that we are living members and heirs of your eternal kingdom. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses, through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: 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.

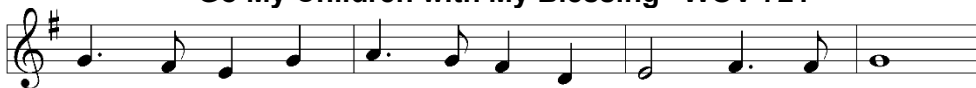
Sit

MINISTRY NEWS

Stand

CLOSING HYMN

"Go My Children with My Blessing" WOV 721



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
 4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
 I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
 Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

A SENDING WORD

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Go My Children with My Blessing" - Austin Lovelace

** Church Attendance and Offerings **
<u>Attendance week ending 7/12/2026</u> Sunday, July 12, 2026 9:30AM: 88 <u>Offerings Received in June 2026</u> <i>(total monthly offerings includes online giving)</i> June 2026 Offerings Received: Regular Weekly Offerings: \$ 15,385.86 Loose Plate: \$ 577.00 TOTAL June 2026: \$ 15,962.86 Budgeted: \$22,608.33 Year to Date Received (July through June) 2025-2026: \$ 223,895.45

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
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Theresa Clark	Evangelism	Teesamarie33@gmail.com
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Sandi McDermott	Missions/Social Concerns	Sandib.mcder@gmail.com
Trisha Klare	Stewardship	Tsklare402@gmail.com
Rey Rivera	Youth	Reinrivera9@gmail.com

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Satellite for The Lutheran Counseling Center: 516-741-0994

The Rev. Thomas W. Cusanelli - Pastoral Care (transition)
Email: pastor@stlukedixhills.org

The Rev. Charles W. Froehlich - Pastor Emeritus
Email: Revfro2@gmail.com

Jackie Flynn - Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Email: Jackie@stlukedixhills.org

Dr. Janet Pinto - Director of Music & Choirs
Email: janetsuepinto@gmail.com

Laura Werner - Administrative Assistant
Email: laura@stlukedixhills.org

Deacons

Deacon Greg Laub - Email: laugr01@gmail.com

Deacon Paul Elgert - Email: elgertpa@gmail.com

Deacon Tom Lamendola - Email: Tjdola63@gmail.com

Deacon Paul Rafuse - Email: prafuse54@gmail.com

Preschool

Jean Marie Marsh - Director of Weekday Preschool
Email: director@stlukedixhills.org

Teresa Lupo - Administrative Assistant
Email: Teresa@stlukedixhills.org

Sexton

Michael Alonzo
Email: mikeyzo109@gmail.com



54th Annual Golf Outing

Rescheduled to August 11, 2026

Venue: The Woodside Club



A Community Outreach Fundraising Event

- Full Round of Golf with breakfast, food & drink on the course, cocktail hour, dinner, raffles and prizes

11am – Registration/Breakfast

1pm – Shotgun Start

6pm – Cocktails/Dinner

Register & Pay Fees Online

Scan the QR Code

- Sponsorship Opportunities
- Golfer Registration
- Dinner Only Registration



**Guest of Honor
Judy Walden**



stlukedixhills.org/golf-outing

THE PEACE OF JESUS IN YOUR LIFE

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” - John 14:27

The goal of this class is to understand, receive, and live in the peace of Jesus. We will see what the peace of Jesus is and how he gives his peace to us. This class will help^{us} grow in four important areas of peace.



Four-session class led by Pastor Nelson
Selected Sundays, 8:30–9:15 AM

Peace with God — Sunday, July 19

Peace with Self — Sunday, August 9

Peace with Others — Sunday, August 30

Peace with Circumstances — To be Determined, Sunday Sept. 6 or 20

Come to one or come to all!

