

Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



2nd Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021
10:00 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Christian F. Just, Pastor
St. Thomas Lutheran Church
9042 S.R. 43, P.O. Box 2247
Streetsboro, Ohio 44241

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thank you** everyone for joining us this morning for our worship service. Please join us inside or you can listen to the service on your car radio at 96.9. If you miss the service you can always watch it on our Facebook page. If any problems happen doing the service please let Del or Rory know so they can fix the problem immediately. Thank you again!
- **The Vigil Candle** is given in celebration of Ken Nicely II's, Jen Jones and Joyce Torres' birthdays and Marla Manijak's, Kristine Just and Becky Larkins baptism birthday
- **Steve will** be watching from the door and will bring out bulletins and communion cups to those who stay in their cars. Those coming inside can pick up your bulletin and communion cup as you enter the sanctuary.
- **The Prayer book** is available on the desk by the door. Steve can bring it to the cars.
- **The Lay Reader** list is available for volunteers for the month of January. Please see the signup sheet in the Narthex or let Steve know you would like to sign up. **Our lay reader today is Marla Manijak.**
- **Ushers are Jim inside and Steve outside.**
- **Soup Suppers are being held** Wednesday evenings with soup being served at 6:30 and worship at 7:30 p.m We will be meeting every Wednesday in Lent. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer to bring soup, bread, salad or other items you may think for our supper.
- **Our leaky hot water tank** has been replaced by a new Bradford White tank. The installation included new valves and code updates. A 6 year warranty is included with the \$1,100.00 cost.
- **New envelopes** are available in the Narthex.
- **The January-March Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **Our call committee and council** will be meeting with Pastor Gau on March 20 to go over our questionnaire we filled out. Thank you to Robin Hoffman, Diane Pencin, Guy Jeanblanc and Gilbert Ayers for volunteering for this important committee.
- **Contact Person:** Please call Pastor Just at 216-789-6688 or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions. Pastor Just is in the office on Thursdays.

Attendance last Sunday 15 Adults 1 Children

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	660.00
Building Fund	15.00
Benevolence	5.00
1 + 1 + 1	14.00
<u>Loose</u>	<u>00.00</u>
Total Offering	694.00

Needed each week to meet budget--\$1,112.21

Welcome and Announcements

*Gathering Rite: A responsive *singing* KYRIE

Refrain

All Sing: Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord. Remember your people and have mercy on us, Lord.

Cantor: The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom should I fear? The Lord is my life and my refuge, when I call God hears...(to refrain)

Cantor: If you dwelt, O Lord, upon our sinfulness, then who could stand? But with you there is mercy and forgiveness and a guiding hand...(to refrain)

Cantor: O Lord, hear the sound of my call and answer me. My heart cries out for your presence; it is you I seek...(to refrain)

(spoken)

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

All: Amen.

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

All: And also with you.

(sung)

Cantor: Lord Jesus, obedient in the desert: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

Cantor: Christ Jesus, the promise of salvation: Christ have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Cantor: Lord Jesus, the flood of living water: Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy.

(spoken)

Pastor: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

(sung)

All: Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord. Remember your people and have mercy on us, Lord.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You are aware of our faults.

C: We are weak-hearted...weak-minded
...weak-kneed.

P: Yet, weakened and hobbled, we seek to heed Your Son's call: "If you desire to follow..."

C: ...we do...

P: "...deny yourself..."

C: ...we cast ourselves aside...

P: ...take up your cross..."

C: ...we shoulder it...

P: ...and follow!"

C: Strengthen us, O Father.

P: Then, strong of heart...strong of mind...strong of body, we will follow Your Son. Through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...
C: **and forever. Amen.**

All lessons are taken from the NRSV

The First Lesson: Genesis 17:1-9, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless.² And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.”³ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,⁴ “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.⁵ No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations.⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.⁷ I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.⁸ And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God.”

⁹ God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.

¹⁵ God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.¹⁶ I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.” This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Psalmody: “Don’t Forsake Me!” Psalm 22 Insert

The Second Lesson: Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.”¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.²² Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his

sake alone,²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Verse: pg. 63

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

*The Gospel Lesson: Mark 8:31-38

(sung)“**Glory to you, O Lord.**” Pg. 63

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “*Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.*”

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “*If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.*” This is the Gospel of our Lord.

(sung)“**Praise to you, O Christ.**” Pg. 63

The Sermon “Set Your Mind”

Hymn of the Day “*I Keep My Eyes on You*” Insert

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God,

**Creator of all that is and shall be,
Redeemer of all that is less than it could be,
Sustainer of our living, our loving, our being.**

We believe in the cross of Christ,

**drenched in hatred and cruelty,
yet overflowing with God’s unquenchable love..**

We believe in the bread of life:

**broken and shared it opens our eyes to the presence of
Christ and strengthens us for the journey.**

**We believe that, in the pain suffered by Christ,
all our hurts, torment and betrayals**

are magnified in the purity of love,
and embraced that we might be free.

We believe in the joy of the Holy Spirit,
poured into the hearts of those
who with courage and resolve
refuse to trade integrity for popularity.

We believe in the Gospel,
Good News offered to us in Jesus,
despised by the world
but leading us in the way of life.

We believe in love:
the nature of God,
a gift unsurpassed,
but a mystery only fulfilled
when all else is relinquished.

We believe in light shining from darkness
in mercy vanquishing bitterness,
in life bursting free where death reigned. Amen.

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***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** pg. 65

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs....

(after each petition the following is said)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** pg.68

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right to give You thanks and praise,
O God, for, in an everlasting covenant, You have
promised to be our God through all generations.

You called into existence things that did not exist;
the universe and all that inhabits it.

From Abraham and Sarah you brought forth nations,

calling them to walk before You in the
righteousness that comes from faith.

In Your Son, Jesus,

You showed Your compassion for the afflicted
and taught us that real life is found by those who
lose their life for your sake and for Your gospel.
He was rejected by the religious leaders, and killed,
but three days later,
You raised Him from the dead as Lord.

Now you justify all
who put their faith in You, through Him,
counting it to us as righteousness,
and promising us the full riches of Your grace
when Christ comes in glory.

Therefore with all Your faithful people we join the unending hymn of praise:

**C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of truth and light,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

P: We do not presume to come to Your table,
merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in Your manifold and great mercies.

**C: We are not worthy so much as to gather up the
crumbs under Your table.
But You are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.**

P: Blessed are You, gracious Lord,
and blessed is Your dear Son, Jesus Christ,
who feeds us with his own flesh and blood
that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us.
Consuming Him and consumed by Him
we are thus strengthened to walk in His footsteps,
even knowing that to do so
will inflame the fury of hell.

We bless You for Christ,
who has gone on before us,
enduring the cross and disregarding its shame,
to open a new trail for all to follow,
a trail of justice and liberating peace,
which presses on through suffering and beyond,

all the way to the banqueting room of heaven.

Blessed is our brother Jesus,
the pioneer and perfecter of our faith;
who, on the night when He was betrayed,
took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said

*“This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this to remember me.”*

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying:

*“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”*

***The Lord’s Prayer** pg. 71

**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.**

COMMUNION

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may honor His sacrifice by continuing His mission in the world.

All are invited to take the communion packet that was provided as you came to worship this morning.

P: Take and eat, this is the Body of Christ, broken for you to be made whole.

All are invited to open the larger cup from the communion packet and partake of the wafer therein.

P: Take, drink, the Blood of Christ, poured out for you to be filled with His endless life.

Please open the smaller cup to consume the wine.

P: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Almighty God, You provide the True Bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of His Body and Blood may abide in Him and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of His endless life.

P: Through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

: Go now, and live before God in openness and integrity.

Set your minds on the ways of God,
not clinging to your own life,
but taking up your cross and following Jesus.

God give you a share in the eternal covenant;
Christ Jesus be proud of you when He comes in glory
the Holy Spirit make you grow strong in faith
and lead you in the ways + of righteousness.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn “*Christ the Life of all the Living*” No. 97

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Our Worship Has Ended— Now Our Service Begins!

Please remember these members in your prayers

Bill Crile—recovering from surgery

Carol Earle—immediate family for peace and comfort

Deb Earle—health issues

Cory Hautmann—Physiological strength and loss of Grandpa Ron

Linda Hautmann—Strength and healing for Lupus and from
melanoma and loss of her dad Ron Stenglein

Palagia Hlava—complications from MS

Nicole Johnson—healing from side pain—still running tests

Lorene Kozar—recovering from high blood pressure

Joanna Nicely--migraines

Ken Nicely II—complications from diabetes

Kenny Nicely III-shoulder pain

Kenny Nicely IV—Epilepsy

Stephen Nicely—traveling mercies to work in Normal, Illinois for 2 months

Diane Pencin—having 2 outpatient surgeries in January

Carol & Heather Poston—strength and healing from MS

Diane Seman—searching for job

Joyce Torres—healing of her foot after fall

Becky Larkins—fostering Holly, a new preemie—2 month old

Our College Students— Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Joanna Nicely, Grace Rohaley

Troy Roman—joined the Marines

Remember in prayer these friends of the congregation

For our Bishop, Jamison Hardy, and the congregations and pastors of the English District and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Debbie Anderson--multiple myeloma—friend of Deb Wolff

Rick & Alice Artman—both in pain for needed knee replacement—
brother & sister-in-law of Joyce

Roger Black—lung cancer is back—brother-in-law of Deb

Avis Blowers—praise of thanksgiving—chemo worked—friend of Guy

Ed Boland-COVID19-recovering at home—Praise God!--Pastor's
son-in-law's brother

Tim Borbely—neck surgery—brother of Diane Lee

Patty Bowman—covid—Bill & Sharon Crile's daughter

John Butterbaugh—spot on his lung—friend of Joyce

Jeremy Campbell-deployment Afghanistan—cousin of Carol Earle

Carl—in memory care in Arizona—father of Carol Earle

Jerry Chapala—heart attack—Amy's uncle

Leona Corban—shingles—Marla's mom

Scott Corban—Rheumatoid Arthritis—brother of Marla

Tom Corban—Parkinson Disease—Marla's brother

Laura Dean—Praise God for healing from covid—sister of Joyce

Sommer & Mark Dunlevy-family concerns-friend of the Wolff's

Jamie Dunn—battling cancer—bus driver for Streetsboro

Bill Earle—underwent heart bypass—continued healing—brother of Bob

Billy Earle Jr.—diabetes, leg amputation—in rehab

Sue Ellinwood—liver cancer—friend of the Wolff's

**FAMILY OF FFELICIA FINLEY—GREAT NIECE OF AMY WHO
PASSED UNEXPECTEDLY**

George Foerster—father of Dianne Reynolds

Christine Frank—cancer—friend of Jim

Bridget Gehri—medical issues—friend of Trudy Ayers

Ken Granville—leukemia—retired Band Director and friend of many

Lisa Hlava—in hospital with a blood infection—sister-in-law of Steve

Scott Hoover—stroke healing at home—family member of Marla

Debbie Hovanetz-internal problems-neighbor of Tom & Linda Beuck

Janice—heart problems

Kathi—family issues w/son—co-worker of Joyce

Brad Kozar—suffering from propsychotic depression—son of Lorene

Matt Langsten and other peace officers—nephew of Amy

Suzanne Latham—lyme disease—homesick—sister of Marla

Lauren—healing from surgery—step cousin of Diane Lee

Tyler Llutz—hodgekins lymphoma—son of Deb's co-worker

Dave Lauver—stomach cancer—Wolff's cousin

Lori—complications with knee replacement—co-worker of Joyce

**ANNE MACK—IN HOSPICE FOR BREAST CANCER—DEAR
NEIGHBOR AND MENTOR GROWING UP OF DEB'S**

Frank Manijak—congestive heart complications—Steve's Dad

Nadine Nicely—lung disease—successful removal of gall bladder—
Joyce's sister-in-law

Samantha Nicely—migraines—granddaughter of Joyce

James Olsen—healing from seizures—friend of Amy

Inge Osborne—battling cancer—past member and friend

Sandi & Ron Platen—health issues—family of Steve Manijak

Karen Power—healing from back fusions—friend of the Earle's

Peter Power—diabetes—friend of the Earle's

Valonte Ragland—paralyzed from car accident—co-worker’s son of Amy

Latesha Ragland—learning how to care for Valonte

Art Robinson—relief from pain—co-worker of Steve Hlava

Agnes Rovison—stroke—friend of Amy

John Rutherford—covid—friend of Joyce

Barbara Schrieber—blood clots

Leslie Slanina—continued heling—Gilbert’s mom

Mary Small—psoriasis issues—co-worker of Steve Hlava

Thelma—her daughter’s issues—friend of Robin

Tim Tolodzieski—recovering—brother-in-law of Steve Crile

Kenneth Udovic-cancer-brother-in-law of Tom Beuck

Tara Vargo—in hospice—friend of Marla

Zack—life problems—friend’s son of Joyce Tim Wheeler—bladder cancer surgery—friend of Amy

COVID 19 virus patients