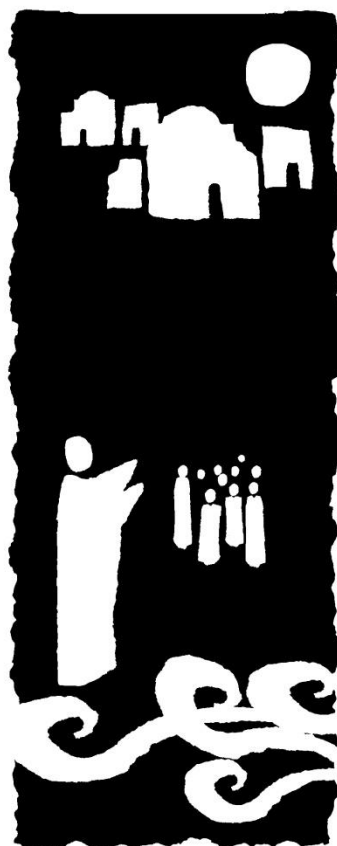


Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



HE WENT
THROUGHOUT
GALILEE.
PROCLAIMING
the MESSAGE
in THEIR
SYNOGOGUES

MARK 1:39

Epiphany V
10:00 a.m.
February 7, 2021

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 to the Glory of God.
- **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 sign up sheet in the Narthex or let Steve know you would like to sign up. **Our lay reader today is Diane Lee.**
- **Ushers are Jim inside and Steve outside.**
- **New envelopes** are available in the Narthex.
- **The January-March Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **Ash Wednesday** services will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. This service will include Imposition of Ashes. Pastor Just will be on the porch to distribute ashes to those in their cars.
- **Soup Suppers and Worship** will continue every Wednesday in Lent. Soup starts at 6:30 p.m. and the worship service starts at 7:30 p.m. A sign up sheet is in the narthex to sign up to be a soup maker, bread bringer, salad bringer and other items you may think of. Please sign up today.
- **Thank you for your generous hearts!** We collected \$345.00 for the Redeemer Christ Center last Sunday.
- **Our call committee and council** will be meeting soon with pastor Gau 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 4 Children

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	655.00
Building Fund	5.00
Benevolence	5.00
1 + 1 + 1	18.00
Fifth Sunday	345.00
memory of Ron	70.00
Fair linen	187.00
<u>Loose</u>	<u>10.00</u>
Total Offering	1295.00

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

An Act of Reconciliation

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

C: **Amen.**

L: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

C: **If we walk in the light as God himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.**

L: The Lord is eager to proclaim good news. Let us prepare to receive it.

Silence for meditation and self-examination.

L: Almighty God,

C: **You dwell in light unapproachable. Unprotected, we perish in your presence. For our hearts are darkened, our minds beclouded; we call for night to cover our deeds; we have loved darkness rather than light.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

C: **For his sake we beg forgiveness.**

L: For his sake God hears your prayer. The blessings of the Gospel are given to be shared.

C: **We have seen the Lord's glory; we have heard the Lord's voice.**

L: Walk, then, as children of light; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the + Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

***Entrance Hymn:** *"I want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* WOV No. 649

***Dialog**

L: O Jesus Christ, we, and many whom we know, are dealing with sicknesses and illnesses, physical disabilities and chronic pains.

C: **We are in search of a Healer.**

L: We are battling temptations of every kind, and are so often being overpowered by the presence of sin in the world.

C: **We are in search of a Savior.**

L: We are often unable to understand what is happening around us, and we desire to learn more about ourselves and about our God.

C: **We are in search of a Teacher.**

L: We are often threatened by danger and uncertainty, fearful of calamities and accidents, concerned about possible mishaps and missteps.

C: **We are in search of a Protector.**

L: We often worry about money and finances, wonder about what we will eat and drink, and question whether or not we will have everything we need to live from day to day.

C: **We are in search of a Provider.**

L: We often are confused about which direction to take in our lives.

C: **We are in search of a Guide.**

L: Now may we who have searched for someone to heal us, save us, teach us, protect us, provide for us, and guide us...

C: **...find what we are searching for in You, O Lord.**

The Prayer for the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. Our eyes have seen, O God—a woman, leaping from bed, now feverishly bustles about the kitchen.

C: The lame jump for joy. The paralyzed are dancing.

L: Our ears have heard—as with the deaf we hearken to the shouts of the mute. Those who were diseased are crying for joy.

C: The demon-possessed are singing your Spirit's song.

L: Filled with such images...such sounds...prepare us for service. Then we will join Christ on his mission:

C: *“Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also!”*

L: Through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now...

C: and forever. Amen

THE FIRST LESSON (all lessons from NRSV version)

A reading from Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm for the Day *“How Shall I Sing to God?”*

Psalm 147 Insert

THE SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶ If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹ For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:29-39

C: Glory to you, O Lord

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ!

The Sermon "Becoming a Healing Place"

***The Hymn of the Day** "O God, Whose Will Is Life and Good" Insert

Affirmation of Faith

***The 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 Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

L: Jesus went through Galilee preaching and healing and showing compassion to those in need. As God comes no less today to those for whom we pray, let us offer our prayers to God.

Creator of all, look with favor upon the peoples of the world. Out of Your great love, give to all people the necessities of a dignified life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Ruler of creation, instill wisdom and understanding among the leaders of nations. Guide them into ways of justice and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Lord of the church, gather us all into one holy communion. Give us the courage to look to you alone as the source of our unity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Great Physician, bring healing to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those we know and love, including _____ and for those known only to You. Inspire us to care for Your gifts of healthy bodies and minds. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Spirit of the living Christ, fill us with expectation and eager longing for the coming of that day when no one will suffer, but when all will be gathered together in heavenly joy and eternal prosperity. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: All this we ask, O God, in the name of Christ, who died and rose for us, and whose coming in glory we await. Accept our prayers and praises, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

Sending

L: Go now, and trust in God's mercy for your strength.
Proclaim the good news wherever God calls you.
announce healing and restoration,
the very healing you have received from God.
God give you the strength and freedom of an eagle;
Christ be the bread that nourishes and renews you;
the Holy Spirit be the rising wind beneath your wings.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*" No. 320

L: Let us go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

**Our Worship is Ended—
Now Our Service Begins**

**From the January 2021 edition of Faith in Action,
a publication of the Faith & Freedom Coalition.
Weekly Church Attendance Protects Mental Health
During the Pandemic**

According to Gallop, Americans assessed their mental health as being worse in 2020 than at any other time in the twenty years the organization has collected data. The Number of Americans who rated their mental health as good or excellent dropped an alarming nine points since 2019. Each year since 2001, Gallop has asked Americans to rate their mental and emotional well being as excellent, good, fair or poor. Between 81 and 89 percent of Americans have rated their mental health as good or excellent until it dropped to 76% in 2020. Only those who attend religious services weekly experienced improvements in mental health during 2020, a finding consistent with a study conducted last spring showing that 26% of Americans reported that the pandemic and lockdowns strengthened their faith. The Link between mental health and faith has long been established in medical literature.

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
Robin Hoffman—healing of facial nerve
Nicole Johnson—healing from side pain and nausea

Lorene Kozar—back home

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 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—1 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 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

Peggy Bower—multiple health issues—friend of Steve and Marla

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—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
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
Jerry Green family—passed away from Covid—friend of Joyce
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
Frank Manijak—congestive heart complications—Steve’s Dad
The National Guard
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
Linda Velatta—health and emotional problems—neighbor of Robin
Tara Vargo—in hospice—friend of Marla
Tim Wheeler—bladder cancer surgery—friend of Amy
COVID 19 virus patients