

Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



3rd Sunday in Lent
March 7, 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 Samantha Weber, Kari Earle, Trudy Ayers and Tim Nicely's birthdays and Abigail Ayers 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 Diane Lee.**
- **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- **Our leaky hot water tank** has been replaced by a new Bradford White tank.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 at 11:00 a.m. 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 17 Adults 2 Children

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	445.00
Building Fund	5.00
Benevolence	5.00
Outside benevolence	100.00
1 + 1 + 1	31.00
<u>Loose</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total Offering	606.00

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. It's not about money, O God...or profit...or the bottom line.

C: Tables were toppled. Cattle were driven away. Moneylenders' coins clattered to the floor.

P: It's not about wisdom, either...or strength.

C: "We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block...foolishness."

P: Your kingdom is about something else...

C: Its law is "LOVE". Its royal dictum, "GRACE".

P: Your kingdom is breaking in, O King...

C: ...breaking into our world.

P: Make us upright citizens of Your kingdom:

C: faithful to Your law...steadfast to Your royal dictum.

P: For then the world will know You.

C: Then the world will know our King.

P: Through 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: Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Psalmody: "Heaven Declares" Psalm 19 Insert

The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire

wisdom,²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. 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: John 2:13-22

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

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 15 Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 He told those who were selling the doves, *"Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"* 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, *"Zeal for your house will consume me."* 18 The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" 19 Jesus answered them, *"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."* 20 The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

The Sermon *"Cleanse Your Life"*

Hymn of the Day *"You Strode within the Temple, Lord"*

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: Embraced by God's word, let us intercede for all those in need.

(after each petition the following is said)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God, full of goodness and open to weakness,
remember all whom we remember, and remind us of
all whom we would forget. We ask this through
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 the Word of your cross,
though appearing foolish,
is the power and wisdom which save us.

You created the universe;

the skies tell of your glory
and the earth bears witness to your steadfast love.

You brought your people from slavery to freedom
and gave your holy commandments through Moses;

words that guide the simple and sharpen vision,
reviving the soul and delighting the heart.

When the world, in its sophistication and pride,
made an idol of money
and a marketplace of your temple,
using your name only to boost profits,
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ,
filled with zeal for your honor.

He was torn down by the fury of evil and corruption,
but rose again in three days,
forever establishing the foolishness and weakness
of God as the pathway of life and salvation.

Therefore with the whole realm of nature around us, we
sing the hymn of unending 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

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.

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: Lord Jesus Christ, You do not desire sacrifice.

C: **You, Yourself, have filled that role.**

P: Help us to offer what You do desire—

C: **love for God and neighbor.**

P: These are the gifts fit for our King.

C: **Amen.**

Sending

: Go now, with God's foolishness and weakness
as your only wisdom and strength.

Proclaim Christ crucified,
and seek riches only in the love of God's Word
and in zeal for God's house.

God's just demands be your nourishment & delight.

Christ be the power and wisdom of God to you.

The Holy Spirit keep you, thought and word, + in
God's good grace.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "Stand Before Me, Lord" Insert

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

STEPHANIE JOHNSON—HEART ISSUES

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 FELICIA FINLEY—GREAT NIECE OF AMY WHO

PASSED UNEXPECTEDLY—LEAVES BEHIND A 9 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER

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

JEANIE & RANDY KNAPP—TRAVELING MERCIES TO FLORIDA AND BACK MARCH 7

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

KRISTINA LONARDO—PROBLEMS WITH PREGNANCY—FRIEND OF TRUDY

Tyler Lutz—hodgkins 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—PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK—FRIEND OF MARLA

Zack—life problems—friend's son of Joyce

Tim Wheeler—bladder cancer surgery—friend of Amy

COVID 19 virus patients