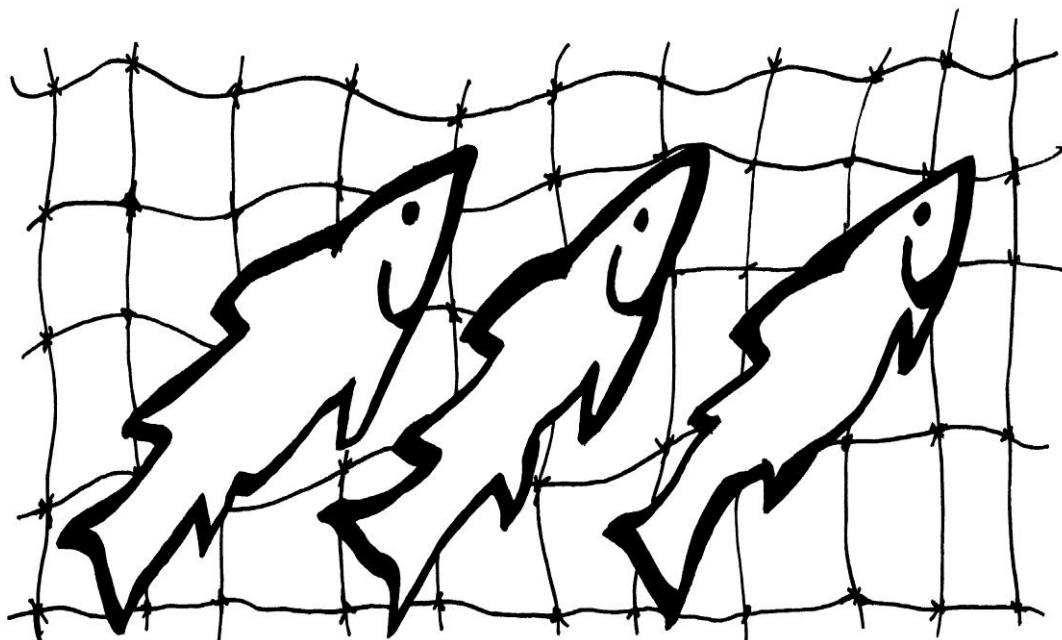


Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



Jesus said "I will make you
fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

Epiphany III
10:00 a.m.
January 22, 2023

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 during 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 Sam Nicely birthday and Grace Rohaley's baptism birthday.
- **The Prayer book** is on the music stand by the door.
- **The Lay Reader** list is available for volunteers for the month of January. Please see the signup sheet in the Narthex. **Our lay reader today is**
- **Usher—Steve Manijak**
- **The January-March Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **Church Council** members will be installed today during the service. They are Steve Hlava-president and treasurer, Del Groff-vice president, Joyce Nicely-secretary, Deb Wolff-financial secretary, Guy Jeanblanc and Marla Manijak. Diane Lee has resigned from council so we are in need of another member. If you are interested please see one of these members. Thank you.
- **We will be** working on the newsletter this week. If you have something you would like put in the newsletter please let Marla know.
- **Service Projects...**Lutheran Missions Ministry to help those in Haiti and Ukraine. Please make your check donation made out to St. Thomas.
- **Let's continue** to remember the Community pantry. Bring food or monetary donations anytime. Thank you.
- **Lutheran Campus Ministry of Kent (LCMK)** is seeking people to serve on their board of directors. A variety of experiences and skills are needed in this ministry to college students. Two pressing needs are in publicity/communication and finance. If you are interested in any way, please contact pastor Eric Tritten at pastort@gloriadeihudson.org.
- **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 January 22 21 Adults 2 Youth

Confirmation Pastor and 2 students

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	800.00	Building Fund	10.00
Benevolence	5.00	1 + 1 + 1	14.00
Total Offering	829.00	Weekly need	2138.36

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

C: If we say that we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true.

P: But if we walk in the light as God himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

C: and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Almighty God,

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

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

C: For his sake we beg forgiveness.

P: For his sake God hears your prayer. God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in your hearts, to give you the light of the glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus, our Lord.

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

P: 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 "The Savior Calls; Let Every Ear" Insert

Kyrie

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

C: And also with you.

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

**The Hymn of Praise—This is the feast pg. 60*

C: Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- 1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain**
- 2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain**
- 3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**
- 4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain**
- 5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Refrain**

Prayer for the Day

P: Let us pray. Fishing is difficult work, O God.

C: The hands of fishermen are calloused from years of trimming nets. The backs of fishermen are bowed from the heavy weight of net and fish. The eyes of fishermen are heavy—weighed down by many sleepless nights.

P: Fishing is backbreaking, smelly, soggy work, O God.

C: Even so, make us fishers of people.

P: Give us the endurance required for our mission.

C: Make us fishers of people.

P: Give us the wisdom to know where to cast our nets.

C: Make us fishers of people.

P: And give us Your Spirit, O God—

C: the strong Spirit of fishermen.

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 readings are from the New Revised Standard Version

The First Lesson Acts 20:28-35

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. ²⁹ I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴ You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. ³⁵ In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' ” This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm Hymn: “God, My Light and My Salvation” (Psalm 27) Insert

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For 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. This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Verse: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—¹⁶ the people who sat in
darkness
have seen a great light, and for those who
sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.*”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “*Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.*” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon “Fishing for People”

Hymn for the Day “Here I Am, Lord” Insert

Installation of Church Council

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God,
who made the world and reaches out to it
with a love fierce and passionate, tender and kind.**

We believe in Jesus the Christ—God revealed in a human life.

**He touched the untouchable,
pardoned the unforgivable and
unmasked the powers that enslave us.**

**In fear and arrogance we cast him, lifeless, into the grave,
and with him went our hopes of salvation.**

**Raised by God, he is parting the sea of evil and despair
and leading us across into the land of freedom and promise.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit—God’s mysterious presence with us—

**who breathing gives life;
whose fire purges and renews;
whose wisdom surprises, prompts and questions,
awakening courage, humor and hope.**

**We believe that we ourselves are made in the image of God
and growing to wholeness in Christ.**

**Gathered by the Spirit, we have been baptized into a common life;
a life laid open to all;
overflowing with love and mercy;
richer than mind can measure,
but appearing foolish to the world.**

**And we trust that the foolishness of God will prove wiser
than the wisdom of the world,
and that the suffering of God will heal the earth
and fulfil our hopes of justice and peace. Amen.**

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Prayers of the Church

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

(After each petition)

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty Lord, You have called Your church to witness to Your reconciling love for the world in Christ Jesus; help us to be true to our calling and proclaim the good news of Your love, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy

Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: and also with you.

All those present greet one another with a word or gesture of peace.

Offering and Offertory

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

P: You are a God of Light, Heavenly Father.

C: Into our darkness you shine.

P: Accept our gifts here given. And accept ourselves as well.

C: Make us beacons of Your Light.

P: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might;

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread into His hands, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples with the words,

*“Take and eat; this is My body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of Me.”*

In the same way He took the cup, spoke a prayer of thanks over it and said,

*This cup is the new covenant in My blood,
which is shed for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins."*

Therefore, Lord, our God, we commemorate that Christ had to suffer and die,

but most of all that He is the firstborn from the dead, the firstborn of the whole creation;

that glorified at Your right hand, He speaks on our behalf; and that He will come to judge the living and the dead on the day which You have appointed.

We pray, Lord our God, send us Your Holy Spirit, that Spirit who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ.

We pray that we may surrender ourselves completely to Your service, and that, in the midst of this world, and before the eyes of all Your people, we may live Your Gospel and be the sign of Your peace;

that we may support and serve each other in love; that our hearts may be opened to the poor, the sick, and the dying, and to all who are in need,

that so we may be the Church of Jesus Christ, united with all faithful people everywhere.

Through Him and with Him and in Him You are blessed and praised, Lord our God, almighty Father, in union with the Holy Spirit, today and all days, forever.

C: Amen.

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.**

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.

Post-Communion Cantic

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia Alleluia.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: You have fished us in, O Christ,

C: Baited and hooked, we are your heavenly catch!

P: Now help us, fish of your catching, to continue your Church's mission.

C: Transform these fish into fishers.

P: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Sending

P: Go out in response to the voice of God who calls you.

Go out to proclaim the message of repentance,
for the Kingdom of heaven is near.

Go out united in purpose and do not be afraid
when your purpose is called foolishness.

God be a sheltering tent above you and a firm rock below;
the foolishness of Christ Jesus be your wisdom;
the Holy Spirit be the light that overcomes your darkness
+ and sets you free.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn “*Shout to the North*” Insert

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

Please remember these members in your prayers

Jim Doerfler—on the passing of Jeannette

Del Groff—heart surgery recovery

Palagia Hlava—complications from MS

Robin Hoffman—back injury and toxic neuropathy

Stephanie Johnson—healing from a fender bender

Lorene Kozar—strength and peace

Becky Larkins—successful adoption of Holly-Praise God-and for successful adoption of Rowan

Steffen Nicely—doing well at his job in Orlando, Florida

Carol & Heather Poston—strength and healing from MS

Rory Wolff—continued improvement

Our College Students— Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Thomas Ayers, Grace Rohaley, Jacob Zimmerman, Jenna Zimmerman

Our military members—Troy Roman and Ben Wolff

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.

Patty Abramovich—metastatic lung cancer—friend of Deb Wolff

Alexa—swollen spleen—granddaughter of Joyce

Ally-Marriage struggles—friend of Joyce

Diane Altier & family—bone issues after surgery—cousin of Bob Earle

Paul Berry—internal bleeding—friend of Joyce

Shirley Blackerby—advanced breast cancer—friend of Robin

Paul Bower—depression after losing wife--friend of Steve and Marla

Archer Bradshaw—fighting leukemia-3 year old family friend of Joyce

Russ & Lana Carnes—need assisted living—the Wolff's

Bryan Corban—continued healing on broken ankle—brother of Marla

Leona Corban—continued healing—Marla's mom

John Cowling—leukemia—brother-in-law of Amy

Evelyn French—macular degeneration—Carol's mom

Dennis Fuldauer—on the wrong path—son of Kathy Brashear

Daniel Gump—stroke—friend of Pastor Just

Mary Hardesty—metastatic colon cancer—co-worker of Deb

Heather Hendrix—acute onset leukemia—family friend of Amy

Bob Hudson—successful open heart surgery-continued healing—co-worker of Deb

John Johnson—heart surgery recovery—friend of Robin

Naomi Just—fell and broke hip—Pastor's sister

Linda Kuzniakowski—brain cancer—co-worker of Deb Earle

Lance—dementia—friend of Joyce

Laurance Jeanblanc—withstand malignant tumor, anemia and weight loss—brother of Guy

Steve Mamber—bone marrow transplant mid February—Amy's brother-in-law

Sam Mamber—son who is donating bone marrow to dad

Frank Manijak—failing health—Steve's Dad

Amanda Nicely—strength and peace—Trudy's sister-in-law

Delilah Nicely—recovery from pneumonia—granddaughter of Joyce

Karen Powers—home from hospital after COVID—aunt of Carol Earle

Kathy Peters—is in remission Praise God!—friend of Marla and Deb

Barb & Dan, Carl & Linda, Pat—elderly health issues, difficulty moving around—neighbors of the Earle's

Larry & Sally Powell—failing health—friends of the Wolffs

Leslie Slanina—healing—Gilbert's mom

Angela Smith—stage 4 cancer—friend of Robin

Mary Lou Snider—health issues—friend of the Wolffs

John Szabo—multiple myeloma—family friend of Amy

Deacon Robert Szalai—born prematurely—home may have brain issues—grandnephew of Steve Hlava

Todd—pituitary tumor-benign-pressing on optic nerve—friend of Robin

Tom—oral surgery and hip surgery—friend of Robin

Tyler—dealing with depression—14 year old grandson of Joyce's friend

Linda Valetta—health and family—friend of Robin

Bennie Wegener—pancreatic cancer—friend of the Wolff's

Kim Weiggart—bacterial endocarditis—co-worker of Deb

Darcy Wood—lymphoma diagnosis—cousin of Joyce

Donny Wood—healing from cancer—friend of Joyce

Ukraine refugees

All natural disasters victims

COVID 19 virus patients