

PreK-1st Graders Sing

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day: *“Here I Am, Lord”*

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world at the end of the Sunday School year.

Vs 1: I, the Lord of sea & sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark & sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Whom will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Vs 2: I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]

Vs 3: I, the Lord of wind & flame, I will tend the poor & lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save, Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? [Refrain]

Offertory Response: *“Give Thanks”*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offering Prayer: P: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing of New Members

We welcome the new members of our faith community and are blessed to join our gifts together in service and witness. Welcome Tia Carlson, Annah, Justin, & Lennon Roper, Deidre, & Ryker Jacob Gilsdorf, Jessica, Lillian, & Jack Koball, Jacob & Rachel McNamara, Kayla Ryan, Karla & Mark Thermos, Carolyn, Andy, Anna, Lydia, & Jack Petree, Nick, Alicia, Ryan, Caleb, & Isaiah Zorn, Beth & Kerry, Kate, Jack & Lucy Carlson, Ryan, Bri, Quinlynn & Tenley Schimek, Matt & Britta, Graysen, Kennedy, & Theodore Thomforde.

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for our new members, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome into the life and ministry of this congregation. With the whole church, let us confess our faith,

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

P: In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God’s faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Sisters and brothers in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God’s people in this place?

New Members: I do and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for our new members in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us welcome our new partners in God’s mission at St. Luke Lutheran Church,

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism! Together we will serve God, our neighbors, and each other in Christian love.

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. *A brief silence.* We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way especially; Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Marilyn O’Brien, Shawn Frederixon, Neil Stehr, and Ella Hadler. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of community, we give you thanks for our new members; Tia Carlson, Annah, Justin, & Lennon Roper, Deidre, & Ryker Jacob Gilsdorf, Jessica, Lillian, & Jack Koball, Jacob & Rachel McNamara, Kayla Ryan, Karla & Mark Thermos, Carolyn, Andy, Anna, Lydia, & Jack Petree, Nick, Alicia, Ryan, Caleb, & Isaiah Zorn, Beth & Kerry, Kate, Jack & Lucy Carlson, Ryan, Bri, Quinlynn & Tenley Schimek, Matt & Britta, Graysen, Kennedy, & Theodore Thomforde. Keep us close together in your Spirit and in the breaking of bread and service to others. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

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 & praise.**

The Words of Institution

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.

The Meal & Hymns: *(you may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

"Will You Come And Follow Me" #798

Vs 1: Will you come and follow me if I but call you name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Vs 2: Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?

Vs 3: Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Vs 4: Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Vs 5: Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

"There Is A Longing In Our Hearts, O God"

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

Vs 1: For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 2: For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 3: For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Vs 4: Lord, save us, take pity, light in our deepest night.
We call you; we wait: be near; hear our prayer, O God. [Refrain]

Communion Prayer: *(stand as you are able)* P: Let us pray.

C: O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise & serve your earth & its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn: *"You Shall Go Out With Joy" 3X*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands; the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands while you go out with joy.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

St. Luke Lutheran Church · 308 First Ave. PO Box 276 Goodhue, MN 55027

Sunday Worship: 9:30AM · Thursday Zion Worship 7:00PM

Pastor Eric Hanson · Cell: 612-834-2149 · E: ansbachh2002@gmail.com

www.stlukegoodhue.org · P: 651-923-4695 · E: office@stlukegoodhue.org · FB: @stlukegoodhue

Organist: Debbi St. John · Administrative Assistant: Tara Marklevits · Treasurer: Sara Nolte

Sunday School Coordinator: Nicole Wananda · Youth Ministries Facilitator: OPEN POSITION

Blessing of New Members

St. Luke Lutheran Church · Pastor Eric Hanson

9:30AM · October 1, 2023

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **C: Come Holy Spirit, Come!**

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: We confess our sins together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: God of all Mercy, come to our aid. When we hide brokenness and only show you wholeness, forgive us. When we cover shame and guilt with pride and pretense, forgive us. When we point out the speck in our neighbor's eye but ignore the log in our own eye, forgive us. When we choose old, harmful ways of living over new, life-giving ways, forgive us. Transform us by the power of your Spirit, Lord God, and make us New.

P: Children of God, God loved us even when we were dead in sin, & makes us new through Jesus Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live as people set free. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: *"God We Gather As Your People"*

Vs 1: God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

Vs 2: Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free; and we sing for generations yet to be,
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest. [Refrain]

Vs 3: Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear & shame, so afraid of who they are & whom they love.
May the message now be banished that your love is for the few; may their faith in you renew. [Refrain]

Vs 4: God, we're working for the future when children far & wide can live their lives with dignity and pride.
As they grow in strength & stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand. [Refrain]

Prayer of the Day: P: Let us pray.

C: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-32

²³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson (you may be seated)*