

Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



The Day of Pentecost
10:00 a.m.
May 23, 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 in celebration of Deb Earle's birthday and Jen Jones baptism birthday.
- **We would also like** to wish Guy & Judith Jeanblanc a Happy Anniversary.
- **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**
- **Ushers are Del inside and Steve outside.**
- **For the month of May** we will be collecting items for the Pregnancy Center of Akron. Needed are baby clothes up to 5T, baby bottles, diapers, formula, Wipes, Maternity clothing, layettes and other baby items. Please bring in your items any Sunday in May and Robin will make sure they get to the Center the first week of June. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.
- **The April-June Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **Any news** for the newsletter please let Pastor or Marla know by today.
- **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 12 Adults 0 Children

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	1263.02
Building Fund	30.00
Benevolence	140.00
Mission	0.00
1 + 1 + 1	5.00
Altar Flowers	225.00
Loose	00.00
Total Offering	1663.02

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

Welcome and Announcements

An Act of Reconciliation

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

C: **Amen.**

P: The Spirit of God moves within. Listen to the Spirit speaking to you of hope and wholeness. Trust the promises God has made that new life is our inheritance. Join me as we open ourselves to God's healing Spirit.

C: **Spirit of God:**

**You come, aflame with new life,
but our apathy threatens to douse your passion;
You come, on fire with love,
yet we limit our affections to a select few;
You come, surging with new dreams and new
hopes,
but we still cling to the old ways of living;
You come, glowing with the vision of the kingdom,
yet we close our eyes to Your future.
Forgive us, Spirit of Truth, forgive us.
Come to us, anew, this day:
to shatter our hardened hearts with Your
tenderness;
to set our souls on fire with Your love;
to send us into a world which aches
for the new joy, the new hope, the new life
offered in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

P: With a gentle breeze God enflames our spirits;
with a strong wind, God reminds us
of our need to forgive and be forgiven.
Like a cleansing storm,
God takes away our past,
revealing the fresh, new life which is ours.

C: **Awakened, refreshed, renewed, made whole;
Now we can dance with the wind, singing our
praises to the One who gives life to all.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Entrance Hymn "*O Spirit of Life*" WOV 680

The Dialog

P: O Spirit of the Living God,

C: **fill our mouths with words to share about our Savior from sin.**

P: O Spirit of the living God,

C: **fill our minds with dreams and visions of what can be accomplished in our lives with
the help of God.**

P: O Spirit of the living God,

C: fill our hearts with love for all people—rich and poor, young and old.
P: O Spirit of the Living God.
C: fill our souls with confidence and trust in God’s great and glorious plan to bring His people home to Him.
P: O Spirit of the living God,
C: fill our lives with inspiration and salvation day after day. Amen.

The Hymn of Praise “*For Your Gift of God the Spirit*” Insert

The Prayer for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God,
C: You sent Your Holy Spirit at Pentecost,
making the disciples bold to preach the good news.
Send us out with the power of the Same Spirit
to spread the fire of Your love.
We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

All readings are from the New Revised Standard Version

The First Lesson Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.” This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Psalm “*Lord, How Great You Are!*” Psalm 104 Insert

The Second Lesson Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were

sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!

The Sequence Hymn “Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest” Insert

*The Holy Gospel according to St. John 17:6-19

C: Glory to you, O Lord. Pg. 63

²⁶ Jesus taught them: “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

⁴ But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about^[b] sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. This is the Gospel of our Lord.

The Sermon “*When the Advocate Comes*”

Hymn of the Day “*Praise the Spirit in Creation*” Insert

Affirmation of Faith (Luther’s Explanation of the Third Article)

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength

believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him;

but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel,

enlightened me with His gifts,

sanctified and kept me in the true faith;

even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies

the whole Christian Church on earth,

and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith;

in which Christian Church He daily and richly forgives

all sins to me and all believers,

and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead,

and will give to me and to all believers in Christ

everlasting life.

This is most certainly true.

***The Prayers of the Church**

P: Made bold by the Spirit, we come before the Lord with our prayers on behalf of His Church, all Christians, and all people as they have need.

(after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Compassionate God, grant to us these things and all things profitable for us and for our salvation. Keep us mindful of Your saints who loved and served You and now rest from their labors, and bring us at last with them into the blessed reunion of all those who trust in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

C: Amen.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: We are the body of Christ.

C: His Spirit is with us.

P: Lift up our 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 You pour out Your Spirit on all flesh
and amaze us with Your deeds of power.

In Your infinite wisdom, You created the earth

and made it pregnant with new life.
You raised living creatures from the dust,
by the power of Your Word
and breathed into them the breath of Your Spirit.

Your Son, Jesus, taught us Your truth
and, before being given up to death,
He promised to send us the Holy Spirit
to support us in both strength and weakness
as we labor with You
to bring to birth the promised fulfilment
of our deepest hopes and yearnings.

In these last days You have poured out
the new wine of the Spirit,
intoxicating us with visions and dreams,
awakening within us Your marvelous gifts
and firing our tongues with everlasting songs of
joy.

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: Blessed are You, O God, whose gift of Holy Spirit
is poured out continuously on all creation,
germinating the seeds of humor and hope,
dancing in the pulse of life, blazing in the fires of
passion.

Blessed is Your Son, Jesus,
who embodied this out-poured Spirit
and thus restored to sight our ancient destiny.

Fulfilling His promise not to leave His followers
comfortless,
He opened heaven's floodgates
raining down gifts in thunder, wind, and flame,
igniting visions and dreams,
filling women and men with clarity and power,
and intoxicating you and old alike
with longing to proclaim Your uncontainable word

in languages of praise.
Blessed is our Brother Jesus,
who comes behind the doors we have closed
and breathes on our fear His fearful peace;
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."*

So, as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: Because You are one with us, O Christ, make us one
with You as we pray the prayer You taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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, may Your good and Holy Spirit fill us,

C: **even as we are filled with the rich foods offered at Your table.**

P: Empower us.

C: **Unite us.**

P: And lead us, at last to Your heavenly courts. For You are the Lord forevermore.

C: **Amen.**

Sending

P: Go out into the world,
and labor to bring forth new life.
Dream dreams, pursue visions,
and speak of God's goodness
in the words of those who would hear.

The God who breathed life into creation be your
delight;
Christ Jesus give hope to your dreaming;
The Holy Spirit, your advocate and supporter,
set your hearts ablaze with a passion + for peace.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Song *"Take Us to the River"* 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

Bill & Sharon Crile—recovery from hospital stay and illness
Jim Doerfler—serious mouth surgery—continued healing
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
Lorene Kozar—recovering from stomach surgery
Joanna Nicely--migraines
Ken Nicely II—complications from diabetes
Kenny Nicely III-shoulder pain—healing from surgery
Kenny Nicely IV—Epilepsy
Stephen Nicely—traveling mercies to work in Normal, Illinois for 2 months
Carol & Heather Poston—strength and healing from MS
Diane Seman—searching for job
Becky Larkins—fostering Holly
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.

Rick Arman—knee replacement recovery—brother of Joyce
Alice Artman—in pain for needed knee replacement—sister-in-law of Joyce
Backus family—loss of Matthew—cousin's son of Steve Manihak
Barbara's daughter delivered twins--in NICU—co-worker of Joyce
Roger Black—lung cancer is back—brother-in-law of Deb
Patty Bowman—covid—Bill & Sharon Crile's daughter
John Butterbaugh—spot on his lung—friend of Joyce
Carl—in memory care in Arizona—father of Carol Earle
Chuck—has Covid—coworker of Stephen Nicely
Anna Cooper—heart surgery complications—friend of Wolff's
Leona Corban—shingles—Marla's mom
Scott Corban—Rheumatoid Arthritis—brother of Marla
Tom Corban—Parkinson Disease—Marla's brother

Deb Defer—eye problems—sister of Diane Lee

Jamie Dunn—battling cancer—bus driver for Streetsboro
Earle Family—family member seeking to purchase new home
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
Anita Hlava—speedy recovery from hip surgery—Steve's mom

Charles Hovavetz—triple bypass surgery—friend of Beuck's

Debbie Hovavetz-internal problems-neighbor of Tom & Linda Beuck
Janice—heart problems
John—multiple health issues--neighbor of Joyce
Sherry Johnson—stroke recovery—grandma of Nicole and Gabe
Kathi—family issues w/son—co-worker of Joyce
Brad Kozar—suffering from propsychotic depression—son of Lorene
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—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 of Deb’s
Frank Manijak—congestive heart complications—Steve’s Dad
Mary—wound on ankle that is slow in healing—neighbor of Diane Lee
Nadine Nicely—in tremendous pain from cancer in her lungs & nerves—Joyce’s sister-in-law
Samantha Nicely—migraines—granddaughter of Joyce
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
John Rutherford—covid—friend of Joyce
Leslie Slanina—continued heling—Gilbert’s mom
Tim Tolodzieski—recovering—brother-in-law of Steve Crile
Kenneth Udovic-cancer-brother-in-law of Tom Beuck
Linda Valetta and family—family issues—friend of Robin
Denny Wood—cancer surgery recovery—friend of Joyce
Carol Yurkschatt—hospitalized—Rocky and Kim Kinder
Zack—life problems—Joyce’s friend’s son
COVID 19 virus patients