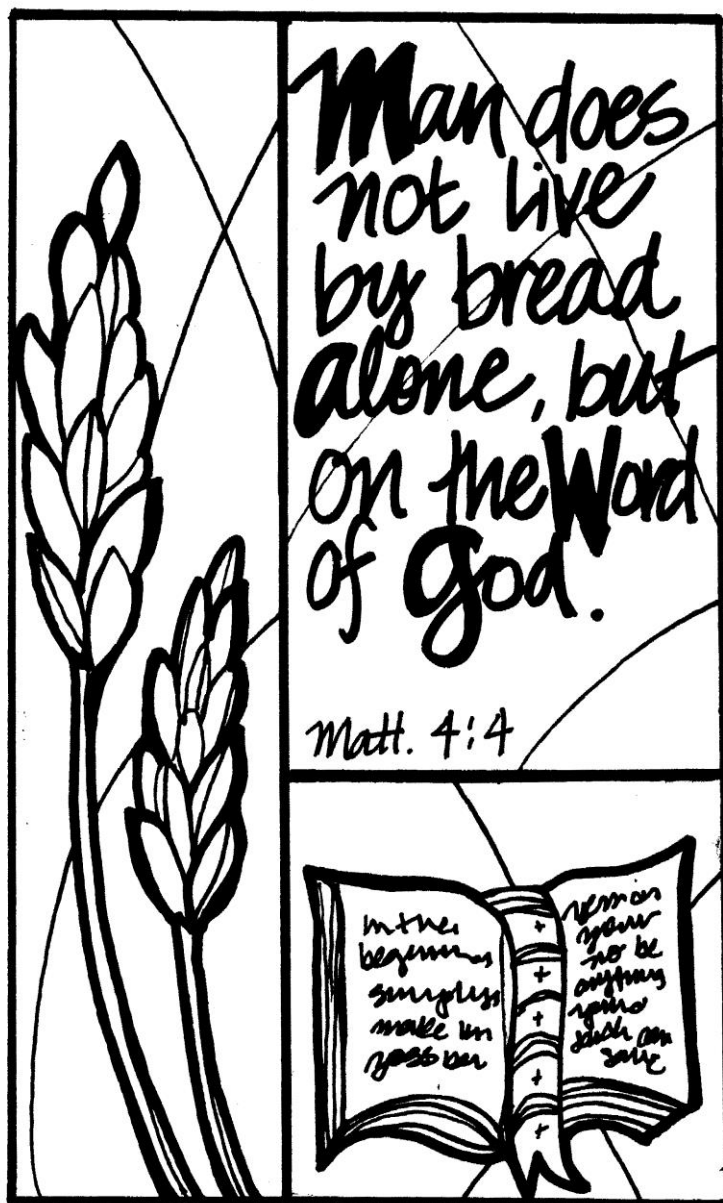


Welcome to St. Thomas Lutheran Church



Lent I
10:00 a.m.
February 26, 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 Jen Jones and Joyce Torres' birthdays.
- **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 sign up sheet in the Narthex. **Our lay reader today is Robin Hoffman.**
- **Usher—Steve Manijak**
- **The January-March Portal of Prayers** are available now.
- **Our Midweek Lenten** services will be held on the Thursdays in March with soup supper at 6:30 p.m. and the worship service following at 7:30 p.m. A sign up sheet is in the narthex to sign up for soup makers, bread bringers and other items. We would love to see you join us for this fun fellowship hour and worship.
- **The volunteer program** at UH Portage Medical Center in Ravenna includes opportunities to serv patients and family members with spiritual car support. Volunteers typically commit 3-4 hours per week or serve on=call a few days per month. If interested please contact UH Portage Medical Center's Pastoral Care Dept. at 330-297-2445.
- **Service Projects...**Lutheran Missions Ministry to help those in Haiti and Ukraine. Please make your check donation made out to St. Thomas.
- **Christ Lutheran youth** group is hosting a Pancake Breakfast at Shalersville Town Hall on Saturday, March 18th from 8-1 at a cost of \$10. Syrup from Goodell Farms will be provided. Help support the youth at Christ Lutheran.
- **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 last Sunday 17 Adults 2 Youth

Confirmation Pastor and 2 students

Towards Budget:

Current Expense	684.19	Building Fund	10.00
Benevolence	5.00	Loose	00.00
1 + 1 + 1	17.00		
Total Offering	716.19	Weekly need	1,288.46

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: When the time came, I listened to you,” says the Lord;
“and when you needed help, I came to save you.”

C: But we are dust, and to dust we will return.

P: “Yet even now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and with weeping and with mourning.”

C: The sacrifice the Lord desires is a broken, contrite heart; it will not be despised.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: O God, we have sinned.

C: In our thinking, in our speaking, in our doing—we have sinned. We have disobeyed Your will, and we have neglected it. We stand condemned. But Jesus Christ stands with us. His Spirit makes it possible for us to plead for mercy. We come with broken, contrite hearts, for we have sinned.

P: Christ never sinned! But God treated Him as a sinner, so that Christ could make us acceptable to God. By the working of the Holy Spirit, may God in His mercy grant you true repentance and sincere faith so that, reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, you may have treasure in heaven.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn “*Eternal Lord of Love*” Insert

Opening Dialog

P: Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all mercies, and the God of all consolation.

P: Seek the Lord while He may be found.

C: Call upon Him while He is near.

P: Let the wicked abandon their ways.

C: and the unrighteous their thoughts.

P: Let them turn to the Lord for mercy,

C: to our God, who is generous in forgiving.

P: All you who are thirsty, come to the water. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat. Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk.

C: Praised be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all mercies, and the God of all consolation.

[The song of praise is omitted during Lent.]

Prayer for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. This is no ordinary battle, O God. We are not surrounded by the din of combat,

C: just the honeyed hiss of a serpent.

P: We are not overcome by the clash of sword...the sting of arrow,

C: just the tempter's evil barbs.

P: We are not confronted with carnage and death,

C: only the threat of our own mortality—sin's savage wage.

P: This is no ordinary battle, O God. But it IS a battle, nonetheless. The ancient battle of good and evil rages—within us and around us.

C: We are at war.

P: We need a hero, O God, to defend us against the ancient foe.

C: We require a conqueror, O God, to slay our sin.

P: Help us to follow our hero...to follow our conqueror...to follow our Savior.

C: Help us to follow Your Son.

P: Through the same 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 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm Hymn: "How Blest the One Whose Trespass" (Psalm 32) Insert

Second Lesson Romans 5:12-19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. This is the word of the 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.

Holy Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

*'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'* "

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

*'He will command his angels concerning you,
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'* "

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

*'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'* "

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him. This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon “*With Jesus: In the Wilderness*”

Hymn for the Day “*Jesus Tempted in the Desert*” 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, torments 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.**

Prayers of the Church

P: Our great God has formed the dust of our being in the
midst of the waters of creation. Let us adore the
Righteous One.

(After each petition)

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For all the holy people before us who served You as their only wisdom amid life's temptations we give You thanks, O God. Give Your holy angels charge over us, and bring us who live in the wilderness of time from the waters of baptism into the garden of Your great love, where we will be no longer in hunger, but filled with Your life forever, through Christ our Lord.

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 Offering Music

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray. During this season of almsgiving, O Lord, open not only our pocketbooks;

C: but open our hearts to Your presence.

P: Open our arms to the needy;

C: open our lives to Your service.

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 time and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to all the children of God. 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: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send not your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: In 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.
Do this for the remembrance of Me.”*

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

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: Lord Jesus Christ, at this table we meet You—

C: in body broken, in blood outpoured.

P: Nourish us with this holy food,

C: for by it we are made more than conquerors.

P: You are the Lord forevermore!

C: Amen.

Sending

P: Go out into the world in the righteousness of Christ.

Do not hide your sin,

but trust in God who gives mercy and love.

Do not be afraid to face the wilderness,

but do not compromise with evil.

God be your shelter to save you from ruin;

Christ be your teacher and show you the path to walk;

the Holy Spirit encircle you + with songs of freedom.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: “If You But Trust in God to Guide You” No. 453

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—doing well
Palagia Hlava—complications from MS
Robin Hoffman—back injury and toxic neuropathy
Jill Earle—broken ankle/foot, healing—niece of Bob and Carol
Lorene Kozar—strength and peace
Becky Larkins—successful adoption of Rowan
Carol & Heather Poston—strength and healing from MS

Amy Rohaley—Covid

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
Barb Basmagy—possible pneumonia—wife of Dusty
Paul Berry—internal bleeding—friend of Joyce
Archer Bradshaw—fighting leukemia-3 year old family friend of Joyce
Russ & Lana Carnes—need assisted living—the Wolff's
Christine—knee replacement surgery—teacher friend of Joyce
Jeff—double knee surgery, healing—friend of Bob and Carol
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
Jaylah—lost her mother to overdose—single parent home—bus student of Joyce
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
Adalyn—diagnosed with cancer—great-granddaughter of Mary Lott

Steve Mamber—bone marrow transplant last week—brother-in-law of Amy

Sam Mamber—son who donated bone marrow to dad last week

Frank Manijak—failing health—Steve's Dad
Mike Menhart—under hospice care—Epiphany member
Amanda Nicely—strength and peace—Trudy's sister-in-law
Delilah Nicely—recovery from pneumonia—granddaughter of Joyce
Paul—had stroke—came through now hoping on rehab bed—friend of Joyce
Karen Power—family searching for care facility, she keeps falling—aunt of Carol Earle
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
Joan Rupp—suffering pain from gallstones—good friend of Amy
Leslie Slanina—healing—Gilbert's mom
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

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

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

Kim Weiggart—bacterial endocarditis—co-worker of Deb

Kathy & Greg Wolf—looking for new home in Findley—friend of the Earle's

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