

WORSHIP IN LENT

We will continue our Sunday services on Facebook at 9:30am through the season, but we are also introducing in-person midweek Communion services.

Ash Wednesday, February 17

- Imposition of ashes
- Holy Communion

Thursdays, February 25; March 4, 11, 18, and 25

- Holy Communion

Sign up in advance using Sign-up Genius if you would like to be a part of the in-person services. Our in-person gatherings are limited to 22 guests. (The link for the sign-up will be made available soon: stay tuned to the Weekly Update. Those who do not have the technology to do so can contact our attendance coordinator, Cindy Gibbon at 503-880-5502.)

All who attend are required to physically distance themselves from people in other households, to wear masks, and to follow the guidance of the Safety Committee. We also strongly encourage you to watch our new safety video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFNBmrbSUp4&feature=youtu.be>.)

To ensure that all are included and welcome, we will livestream the 7pm service on Facebook, and our COVID-safe Communion distribution ministry will bring Communion to those who request it.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Manifesting the Kin-dom of God: The Season of Lent

**“By the sweat of your brow
you will eat your food
until you return to the ground,
since from it you were taken;
for dust you are
and to dust you will return.”**

(Genesis 3:19)



This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 17th. It marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of wilderness wandering. 40 days because that's how long Jesus was tempted in the wilderness. A time, as Frederick Buechner writes, "when Jesus was trying to figure out what it meant to be Jesus". In a similar way, these 40 days of Lent invite us to pause, do some honest self-evaluation, name those things that have drawn us away from God, seek forgiveness, and reaffirm our identity as children of God, heirs to the Kin-dom of God. (Romans 8:17)

The words that we speak on this day, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return" are some of the most ancient phrases of Scripture, coming right out of the early chapters of Genesis. Made from last year's palms, the ashes form a cross on our foreheads to remind us of our mortality and reliance on God. In this sacred ritual we acknowledge the truth that from dust we came and to dust we shall return. It is from dust and the very breath of God that we were created out of love for love and will one day return to love.

For God is with us – in the beginning, at the end, and even now as we live in between.

Blessings and love,
Pr. Patti

WORSHIP

Agape Meals Sundays at 5:00pm – “Agape” is the New Testament Greek work for “self-giving love”. In the Christian tradition an “Agape” is also the name for informal meals when Christians gather in prayer and share a simple meal reminding us that we are one in the Spirit. Bring bread, drink, and an open heart.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81795477679?pwd=UXdyUWQ5K3VWQmdsOUphODZwak5lZz09>

Virtual Worship Services Continue

Thanks to all who have and who continue to make our virtual services for Sunday.

Virtual Rejoice Choir continues in February

The Rejoice Choir continues to create a virtual choir anthem each month for our Sunday morning Facebook services. I continue to record and edit individual vocal tracks before sending them to **Jim Steele** for final revisions. He compiles all the individual recordings into a master audio track, synching and balancing them to create a blended choral sound. We focused on the themes of peace and justice during our January anthems as we continue with Thursday night choir zoom rehearsals. In addition, we will include pre-recorded choir anthems from past “Musical Reflections” concerts and worship services in our Sunday morning Facebook worship broadcasts as appropriate.

St. Luke Ringers

Bell Ringers are now back to full strength due to the lifting of the governor’s restriction on indoor gatherings to no more than six people. Beginning January 13, we began working on 3-octave pieces (10-12 ringers), rehearsing in masks in the narthex on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:15pm. Our goal is the creation of a video clip once a month for use in our Sunday morning virtual worship services.

Reconciling in Christ Virtual Choir

Four members from St. Luke submitted voice tracks for the Oregon Synod Reconciling in Christ virtual choir project that aired on Sunday, January 24. We will include this video of the song “**We Walk in Love**” as the anthem for our virtual worship service on Sunday, February 7th.

~ Dan Hibbett, St. Luke Music Director

CONNECT

Pastor Patti would like to know...

This has been an unusually challenging year for all of us. If you have suffered financial set-back due to the pandemic or other circumstances, please reach out to Pastor Patti for prayer, a listening ear, and assistance. She can be reached by calling the church office or at pastorpatti@stlukechurch.com.

Connecting Online

Twitter - Follow St. Luke: [@StLuke_Church](https://twitter.com/StLuke_Church)

▶ Right now, you may amplify our daily devotions with the links that are provided in our Twitter feed. It's easy and it shows more about who we are as a congregation with daily lay and pastoral messages we can share.

Instagram - Find us at [st_luke_portland](https://www.instagram.com/st_luke_portland)

▶ This is a wonderful way to share photos and comment on them, as well as share photos as part of your story.

[#GodsWorkOurHands](#)

[#WorshipConnectServe](#)

[#FindStLukeLutheranAndFollowUs2020](#)

Coffee Time ~ Sundays at 10:30am

Gather for fellowship and discussion related to the sermon or for a special update or event.

Zoom invite:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89410016496?pwd=QWNGMytQUFIUQVdlMUw5a1NjQnJJQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 1001 6496

Passcode: 712869

Every Women's Bible Evening Study

Sunday, February 7, 6:30-8:00pm

Zoom link: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/8376302680>

Community Conversations Around Race

Join us on Saturday mornings: February 13 and 27

at 10am to process current events and race. Facilitated by Bing Swigart, each session features a different, timely theme and creates a safe space for discussion and questions. For more information email:

communityconversationsaroundrace@stlukechurch.com.

Invite:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85912685293?pwd=K3NzcTZKYUZyYdEx6M2xSRmxtbmsvUT09>

Meeting ID: 859 1268 5293

Passcode: 983763

Circles' Bible Study

Monday, February 1: 9:30 ~ 11:00am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4386280314?pwd=TWkzWkFMalhFc3JiUmpVcFQzYkZhdz09>

Meeting ID: 438 628 0314

Passcode: Sarah

By phone: 253 215 8782 USM

Meeting ID: 438 628 0314

Passcode: 365531

Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 8am

<https://zoom.us/j/501766676?pwd=N1RKSTRTRU96NDdZeE9Ga2ZDeUpMQT09>

Meeting ID: 501 766 676 Password: 378366

Men's Breakfast Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7am

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79584872315?pwd=NDFwVFPXQ3dNR0U2Tnp4aINRaXRaZz09>

Meeting ID: 795 8487 2315 Passcode: 1bTcTb

Second Sunday Book Group ~ 10:45am

February 14 – "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi

Contact: Caryl Walker

Zoom information. Please be sure to use your name on your device when you join the meeting, so the gatekeeper (Jan E) knows who you are.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88958687710?pwd=eHQ3bVNCk3NKS1JIVENla2pNNEpzd09>

Meeting ID: 889 5868 7710 Password: 391236
Phone only: 669-900-6833

Adult Education: 7- 8pm on Wednesdays via Zoom.

February 3 and 10: Reading the Bible as Lutherans. Ever wonder how we read the same Bible as other Christians who claim the title "Evangelical" and come out where we do? This is an introduction and refresher on how we approach the Scriptures –good for new Christians and long-time Lutherans alike.

February 17 - Ash Wednesday service at 7pm.

February 24 ~ March 27: Journey together through Book of Faith Lenten Journey: Beyond Question. This is part meditative Lenten daily devotional, part small group series: it is intended to grow your relationships with God and with others in the group through weekly deep reflections based on daily readings. Copies of the book are available via Amazon and Augsburg Fortress press.

Zoom link for all Adult Ed classes/gatherings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405228109?pwd=M3Z1dVlyRE1JOWJheGRUL3k2NWxJQT09>

Meeting ID: 824

Zoom link for all Adult Ed classes:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82405228109?pwd=M3Z1dVlyRE1JOWJheGRUL3k2NWxJQT09>

Meeting ID: 824 0522 8109

Passcode: 135354

SERVE



Benson Family Foundation Scholarship 2021

Hello Highschool Seniors – It is time to mark your calendars for Benson Scholarship **applications to be submitted by March 15.** Begin asking your teachers and coaches for letters of reference as soon as possible to get responses directly to St. Luke in a timely manner.

The 2021 applications for the Benson Family Foundation Scholarships are found on the St. Luke website – check either the Learning tab or What's New tab. These generous scholarships for Lutheran Colleges and Universities, as well as Seminaries, are a significant and beneficial opportunity for students and families. While we continue to worship at home, watch for information in the Weekly Updates and listen in on Table Talk announcements by Lutheran University graduates at the beginning of services in February.

Contact Mike Stabeno, Trust Fund Committee, Chair, for more information: trustfund@stlukechurch.com

Thank You!

..To All whom have served on St. Luke's Council and Committees in 2020!

We appreciate our readers for Sunday worship services. If you would like to volunteer, please contact: Jan Peterson.

Give to St. Luke: Shopping on Amazon? Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0493743 and a portion of each purchase will be donated to St. Luke!

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER?

Each month, "The Messenger" (St. Luke newsletter), is posted to the church website, a link is sent via MailChimp directly to our members and papers copies are sent via the U.S. post office.

If you are comfortable receiving the newsletter electronically please help us to save on paper, ink and postage costs.

PLEASE, CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF WE CAN SIGN YOU UP FOR DIGITAL ONLY. THANKS!
office@stlukechurch.com

IN THE FAMILY

PRAYERS: Karen Stabeno's brother, **Ed Nelson** (cancer diagnosis), **The Family of Harry Flesher** who died Saturday, January 9th. **Kim Weber** (gall bladder surgery), **Dennis Williamson** (COVID), Louise Nuss' nephew, **Jim Seiffert** (tested positive for COVID): father of Sue Seiffert, **Marlene Roth** (cancer), **Lisa Lynham** (breast cancer), **Carrie Laurence**, **Patty Farrell's mother and family**, David Hayne's mother, **Priscilla**, **Joanne Haynes**, Dale Benson's brother-in-law **Chris** (cancer), **Lawrence** and **Sandra Carasco**, **George Branson** (knee replacement surgery), **David Osenberg** (cancer treatment), **John Jessen**, **Barb Dahlgren**, **Annette** and **Paul** parents of Kim Weber, **Hal Yackley**, **Daniel Alrick**, **Georgann Dustan**, **Gary Hofsommer**, **Henry Heuer** (in remission), **Will Heuer** (nursing home), **Wendy Metz**, **Bonnie Brunk**, **Dottie Inman**, **Dee Mills**, **Jeremy Eckhardt**, and those incarcerated.

Parish Acts

Baptism ~ 1/24/2021

Andreas Esteban Peirce

Dominic Kenneth Peirce

William Mark Amsden

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAYING.....



For prayers in emergency, specific events in your life (happy or sad) or in any case you feel the need for others to be praying with you, St. Luke has Prayer Chains that take **phone calls day and night**.

The church office or one of our pastors:
503-246-2325

Day calls: (8am ~ 5pm) **Rujeanne Anderson**
503- 297-2246

Night calls: (after 5pm) **Carol Greene**
503-245-4189

Calls Are Confidential.



Kaden Leeper	2/1	Amanda Mercier	2/12
Sandra Bacon	2/1	Devon Singrey	2/12
Leslie Gott	2/2	Owen Stark	2/13
Brian Kerr	2/3	Carrol Klett	2/13
Judy Christensen	2/3	Dani Swope	2/14
Dave Nuss	2/3	Deb Steele	2/16
Diana Tuttle	2/3	Alex Metz	2/16
Heidi Roe	2/3	Kristine Roley	2/17
Debbi McCollom	2/4	Betty Wald	2/18
Betty Moline	2/4	Mark Insalaco	2/18
Joan Yackley	2/4	Claire Niemeyer	2/18
Richard Wald	2/4	Kai Cunningham-Parmeter	2/18
Erik Anderson	2/4	Sarah Snowden	2/19
Annika Hopp	2/5	Kathy Weeks	2/19
Leanne Van Horn	2/5	Samantha Fernandes	2/20
Bernie Deazley	2/5	Katie Watry	2/20
Kathleen Berg	2/5	Jonathan Bacon	2/20
Parker Andersen	2/6	Nadege Adibonou	2/21
Judy Dodson	2/6	Rujeanne Anderson	2/21
Mary Kerns	2/6	Margrethe Farnstrom	2/22
Haley Farnstrom	2/6	Claire Pahlmeyer	2/22
Kay Hansen	2/7	Joan Elliott	2/23
Carver Snowden	2/7	Jack Insalaco	2/24
Derek Reinke	2/9	De Nie Mills	2/25
Joel Peirce	2/10	Gavin Martini	2/26
Andrew Curran	2/10	Sam Novack	2/26
Joel Peirce	2/10	Calvin Stamper	2/26
Tracey Swan	2/10	Elaine Woodward	2/26
Roger Collinson	2/10	Bryton Barclay	2/27
Leo Novack	2/11	Cathy Rasmussen	2/27
Max Insalaco	2/11	Braven Garnica	2/27
Izaak Jockers	2/12	Pastor Beth Brashear	2/28
Durham DeSanno	2/12	Natalie Swope	2/28
		Gwladys Adibonou	2/28

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Children's Sunday Morning Zoom:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” ~ Mark 12:30-31

Homemade Valentines - A crafty way to love your neighbor!

<https://thecraftyclassroom.com/2012/01/26/valentines-day-card-craft/>

Cross-Heart Valentine's Craft Instructions:

1. **Color the cross with a white crayon**



2. **Using paint and a paint brush**, paint over the heart. You can use any color or combination of paint colors you like. (See Pictures below)
3. Optional: Paint stripes for rainbows.



4. **Let dry!** Cut out hearts and share these homemade valentines with someone you love.
5. **More ideas:** you can glue these to a sturdy paper like cardstock or construction paper or glue these to the heart doilies available at Michaels and the Dollar Store. You can even write Bible verses or messages on the back.

Have Fun!

Love, your friends at St. Luke Children's Ministry

YOUTH MINISTRY

Middle School Ministries/Confirmation

Seeking to Immerse Middle Schoolers in the Love of God

Sundays at 11am - Zoom

February 7 ~ Anti-racism, part 2

February 14 ~ Everyday Samaritan-Understanding

February 21 ~ Can I ever do something bad enough to make God stop loving me?

February 28 ~ How do I stop doing things I know I shouldn't do?

Middle Schoolers Send Care Packs to St. Luke College Students



Did you know St. Luke currently has 16 young adults in college (some are doing college on-line)? Our Middle School Ministries students know. They organized an effort to collect treats for the college students, write them letters, and include them in their prayers.

Thanks to MSM and SLY for the donations and to Evan, Claire and Jennifer Niemeyer for putting together the care packs. A couple more will go out in February for students who don't return to campus until then.

If you know a college student who did not receive one, let Joan Snyder know so we can include them next year!

Contact: Joan Snyder at vanderweele@comcast.net

SLY IN FEBRUARY

Join us for Zoom SLY Sunday:

February 7

February 14

February 21

February 28

All gatherings begin at 11am!

If you need the Zoom info contact Judy:

judy@stlukechurch.com

SLY ZOOM GAME NIGHT!!



In late January SLY had our second Zoom game night! We played Bingo, Covid Bingo, Vegetable Riddles and Scavenger Hunt – with one round of Scattergories thrown in!

Thanks so much to Laurel Skinner for organizing our Zoom game nights – and to the whole SLY teaching team for showing up ready to compete!! What a fun group!

COMING UP:

March 21 and 28

NO SLY Sunday – Spring break

SAVE THIS WEEK

June 20-26, 2021

Probable Summer Service Trip Dates

Covid-19 Guidelines for Attendance at St. Luke

Encouragements

- Those who have any **COVID-19 symptoms** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) **are asked to stay home.**
- Those who are at a **higher risk of severe illness** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>) **are encouraged to stay home.**
- Ensure all individuals wear facial coverings unless exempt under Oregon Health Authority guidelines for the safety of those who are at a greater risk of illness. Disposable masks will be available for those who don't have one.
- Exemption for individuals who have a medical condition that makes it hard to breathe or a disability that prevents the individual from wearing a mask, face shield or face covering, however, **please be extra mindful of your distance to others.**
 - Exemption for children under age 2 (this age group should never wear a mask)
 - Children between ages 2 and 5 encouraged to wear masks, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult. Children 5 and older are required to wear a mask.

Distancing

- Maintain at least 6 feet distance between all individuals or household groups at all times, and more space from any unmasked babies or children. Everyone should also practice good hygiene and frequent hand washing.
- Every other pew will be closed ensuring six feet of distance between households.
- One household will be allowed per pew (or two, with six feet between them).
- Worship attendees are required to **register online** (<https://www.signupjenius.com/>) ahead of time to ensure that the appropriate number of people are in attendance for each service.
- **No singing.**
- Only one person/household will be allowed to use the restroom at a time. Hand sanitizer should be used upon exit from the restroom. Restroom doors should be propped open when vacant.

Cleanliness

- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in a number of locations throughout the church; however, you are encouraged to bring your own sanitizer/wipes as is feasible and as a precaution.
- High contact surfaces (like pews and door handles) will be disinfected after every service.
- Hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the pews.
- Should you be accustomed to following along in the Bible, you may bring your own.
- The offering plates will not be passed out during the service. Rather, they will be located at the entrance/exit of the sanctuary. Members are still encouraged to make use of our **online giving opportunities.**

Before the Service


- The pastors will wear a mask to greet people outside the narthex but will refrain from shaking hands at this time. (They may opt for the fist pump; elbow touch or foot tap however)
- The doors from the narthex to the sanctuary will remain open at all times.
- These guidelines will be posted near the entrance to help people with these new procedures.

Communion

- Wafers or bread will be available and safely distributed as well as safely prepared to avoid contact if at all possible.

After the Service

- Pastors will wear a mask and greet people outside but will refrain from shaking hands.
- Households will be dismissed starting from the back in an orderly fashion.
- No congregating inside the facility will be allowed. Attendees are encouraged to fellowship outside at a safe distance. (And weather permitting)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 2021	1 9:30am Circles Bible Study	2 7:00am Men's Bible Study 8:00am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Staff Meeting 2:30pm Worship Planning Meeting 4-5pm Anti- Racism Study 7:00pm Committee Night	3 4:00pm Prayer Pause 7:00~8:00pm Adult Education: "Reading the Bible as Lutherans"	4 6:00pm Communications Team 7:30pm Choir Mtg.	5	6 10:00am Community Conversation Around Race
	7 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:30am Worship 10:15am 5 th grade 10:30am Coffee Time Pre-K (3 years) ~ 1 st grade Parent Group 10:45am Second Sunday Book Group 11:00am: 2 nd ~ 4 th grades MSM and SLY 5:00pm Agape Meal 6:30pm Every Women's Bible Study	8 6:00pm Stephen's Ministry	9 7:00am Men's Bible Study 8:00am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Finance Committee	10 4:00pm Prayer Pause 7:00~8:00pm Adult Education: "Reading the Bible as Lutherans" 7:30pm Bells	11 7:30pm Choir Mtg.	12 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE
14 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 9:30am Worship 10:15am 5 th grade 10:30am Coffee Time Pre-K ~ 1 st grade, Parent Group 10:45 Second Sunday Book Group 11:00am: 2 nd ~ 4 th grades MSM (guest) and SLY 5:00pm Agape Meal ♥ HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY ♥	15	16 7:00am Men's Bible Study 8:00am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Staff Meeting 4-5pm Anti- Racism Study Group 6:30pm Council Mtg.	17 ASH WEDNESDAY Services: 1:00pm 7:00pm 4:00pm Prayer Pause	18 7:30pm Choir Mtg.	19	20
21 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30am Worship 10:15am 5 th grade 10:30am Coffee Time Pre-K ~ 1 st grade/Parent Group 11:00am: 2 nd ~ 4 th grades MSM and SLY 5:00pm Agape Meal	22	23 7:00am Men's Bible Study 8:00am Women's Bible Study 10:00am Staff Meeting	24 4:00pm Prayer Pause 7:00~8:00pm Adult Education "Book of Faith Lenten Journey" 7:30pm Bells	25 <u>Midweek Lenten Services:</u> 1:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm Choir Mtg.	26	27 10:00am Community Conversation Around Race <u>2:00-3:30pm</u> Community Table Food Box Distribution
28 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30am Worship 10:15am 5 th grade 10:30am Coffee Time Pre-K (3 years) ~ 1 st grade Parent Group 11:00am: 2 nd ~ 4 th grades MSM and SLY 5:00pm Agape Meal	 St. Luke LUTHERAN CHURCH					
Worship † Connect † Serve						