

Celebration of Worship

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" arr. Dickens

*Call to Worship

Leader: Look to the skies be it rain or shine.

People: *We lift up our heads to meet the day.*

Leader: Look around and see that you do not dance alone.

People: *We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.*

Leader: If rain still lingers, open the umbrellas of praise and set out anyway.

People: *For we are called to dance again!*

***Hymn** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" UMH 381

Opening Prayers

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation –Open us to learn new steps of faithfulness. Give us courage and patience. Come and dance with us, engage with us, as we seek you – so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray. Amen.

Anthem "All The Way My Savior Lead Me" arr. McDonald
Chancel Choir

Children's Message

Prayer of Illumination

Holy God, as we gather this day in the presence of the risen Lord, send your Holy Spirit to open our minds and hearts so that we may understand your words and live them out in the world as a sign of new life for all; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Psalms 22:25-31 Philip Winstead

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Time of Meditation "Tell It to Jesus" arr. DeCou

Gospel Lesson John 10:11-18

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon "By This We Will Know: The Dance of Love"

Hymn "They Will Know We Are Christians" Insert

Joys, Concerns, and Prayers

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895



St. Luke's United Methodist Church

3090 North Main St.
Danville, VA 24540

April 28, 2024
10:30 am
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. As we prepare to attend the heavenly feast, we especially pray for those who have no earthly tables, or no place at a table, and so little daily bread. We confess this day that we have been slow to join the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all. In silence, let us lift up our individual prayers of confession...

Prayer of Confession

Living God, your son, Jesus Christ, taught us how to love you, one another, and ourselves. We confess that we have failed to embody such love. We have not joined in your divine dance. We have turned away from you, failing to serve you with heart and mind and soul and strength; we turn away from others who are poor and oppressed, are different from us, or do not share our views. We turn away from ourselves, even though you made us in your image and have claimed us in Christ. Bring us once again into your dance of grace, soften our hearts of stone with your love, and transform us into living signs of your love in the world, in the name of the risen Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Hear this good news! God is love! God has loved you from the very beginning. The invitation of Christ is never-ending because resurrection can happen at any moment. The Holy Spirit is transforming you even now! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! ***In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.***

***Giving of our Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings**

***Doxology**

UMH 95

***Blessing of our Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings**

Lord God, we offer to you only a portion of what you have given us. All that we have is from your creative hand. All that we can give away we do through Jesus' love. All our renewal comes from the Holy Spirit's wisdom. Deal graciously with these gifts so that others may have joy; in Jesus' name. ***Amen.***

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Abiding God, you planted the vineyard of creation, and called your chosen people to be your vine, rooted and grounded in you. In Jesus you gave us the true vine, turning earth into grapes and the water of life into the wine of eternal life. Through your Son you abide in us, and in the power of your Holy Spirit you shape the branches of the vine to make fruit that will last. Your Son was crucified on the vine of our sin, that the

blood of his sacrifice might be the wine through which we may never be thirsty again. In this meal of creation, of resurrection, and of everlasting life, you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Transforming God, your Son took the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone; and on his last night with his friends he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine. Come among us now, and make the ordinariness of our lives glow with the wonder of your eternal life. Take these gifts of bread and wine and make them for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Companionable God, you turn Word into flesh, and your perfect love casts out our fear. You show us a way to love you by giving us brothers and sisters to love as we love you. Abide with all whose lives are far from fruitful; remain with those who have experienced pruning; dwell with any who feel like branches that have been discarded. Unite your whole church, living, and departed, as branches of your one vine, and through being rooted and grounded in you, make us fruitful in body, mind, and spirit, until we stand before you, with your whole creation, and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Receiving of the Elements

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Teach Me to Dance"

Insert

***Benediction**

May we follow the lead of the Spirit as we find expansive ways to dance the dance of love. And may the Loving God, Risen Christ, and Dancing Spirit fill you with all you need for the days ahead. And all God's people said, ***"Amen!"***

***Postlude**

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

arr. Smith

April Mission Emphasis

Henry Fork Service Center

Paper towels First Aid supplies
 Hot Wheels Cardstock
 Lego sets Dolls
 Craft kits Science kits
 Mailing envelopes Copy paper

Paper products-Cups, bowls, plates, forks, spoons

Board games-Chess, Checkers, Clue, Monopoly, Yahtzee, etc.

Action Figures-Superheroes, Transformers, etc.

Bleach-free cleaning supplies

Trash Bags (39,30 & 13 gallon)

First class postage stamps

Gift cards from Walmart or Food Lion

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to St. Luke's and write Henry Fork on the memo line.

Backpack Ministry

Individual cups of vegetables

Fruit snacks

March Financial Summary

Contributions	\$ 22,255.83
Disbursements	\$ 21,628.48
Difference	\$ 627.35



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

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Facebook St. Luke's United Methodist Church - Danville, Va

YouTube St. Luke's United Methodist Church - Danville, VA

Office Hours
 Monday - Friday
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

In Our Prayers

St. Luke's Family

M. Ray Barbour
 Dennis Blackstock
 Judy Burnette
 Wendy Burnette
 Carol Caplan
 Ed Caviness
 Martha Caviness
 Thadd Christian

Louise Dalton
 Linda Easley
 Joyce Elliott
 Judy Elliott
 Mary Elliott
 Danny Gammon
 Teresa Gammon
 Darrell Hawkins

Ola LaPrade
 Faye Ligon
 Gene Martin
 Hazel Morris
 Ethel Motley
 Shirley Owen
 Wayne Owen
 Ethan Parker

Susan Riddle
 Emma Turner
 Jan White
 Maxine Whitt

St. Luke's Friends & Loved Ones

Arch Adams
 Virginia Adkins
 Jamie Arca
 Linda Arrington
 William Barcalow
 Daniel Barnes
 Rev. Joseph Barth
 Rev. Matt Benton
 Bonnie Bowling
 Milton Bowling
 Ken Bruce
 Beverly Buck
 Sonya Bumgarner
 Ashley Carpenter
 Gloria Chrisman
 Mike Coffey
 Lisa Cooley
 Dawn Davis
 Darlene Dyer
 Jackie East
 Carolyn Evans
 Debbie Flint
 Joan Forth
 Angelia Fountain

Rosemarie Franke
 Marie Gallimore
 Robert Gammon
 Mark Geiger
 Darlene Glass
 Barbara Glover
 Billy Grant
 Sheryl Harrell
 Michael Harris
 Louise Hendricks
 Ralph Hicks
 Dianne Hollandsworth
 Ann Marie Howard
 Caitlin Howell
 Samantha Ingraham
 Roy Isaac
 Judie Johnson
 Julian Johnson
 Joyce Jones
 Ray Jones
 James Key
 Caroline Laughorn

Kelly Lefler
 Jim Lewis
 Regina Light
 Tim Long
 Leigh Ann Love
 John Marlowe
 George Martin
 Helen Meetze
 Harry Milam
 Kathy Millner
 Debbie Ann Moore
 Hazel Morgan
 Bo Phillips
 Doug Price
 Carson Pruitt
 Kent Pruitt
 Cole Rardin
 Dickie Reavis
 Tiffany Reynolds
 Ariya Richardson
 Lucas Richardson
 Terry Riggins
 Anna Sanfilippo
 Jean Scarsee

Danny Scism
 Dominic Scott
 D.J. Spencer
 Vicky Shelton
 Lea Smith
 Louise Smith
 Diane Tate
 Helen Thomasson
 Jenny Vernon
 Becky Waggoner
 Janice Walker
 Betty Wells
 Dr. Bill Wentz
 Jerry Wentz
 Wayne Whitt
 Vicki Wiles
 Luke Wright
 Elizabeth Yeaman

Families Grieving a Loss

In Our World

All teachers, administrators, parents
 and students
 All those impacted by gun violence

All those impacted by natural disasters
 All those impacted by military conflicts

Inside *St. Luke's United Methodist Church*

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Sunday, April 28

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Worship Service
- 11:45 am Children's Handbells (CR)
- 12:00 pm All God's Children
- 12:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, April 29

- 8:30 am Coffee with the Pastor (Links)
- 6:00 pm Missions Committee (SNT)
- 7:00 pm Bible Study (ZR)

Wednesday, May 1

- 10:00 am Bible Study (LB)
- 5:30 pm **Team A** Backpacking (MH)
- 6:15 pm Heavenly Ringers (SNT)
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir (CR)

Saturday, May 4

- 9:00 am UWF Bible Study (Nana Karen's)
- 9:00 am Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, May 5

- Worship at the Park
Dan Daniel Memorial Park Shelter 17
10:00 am

Incase of rain, this event will be held at St. Luke's.

Monday, May 6

- 8:30 am Coffee with the Pastor (Links)
- 1:00 pm Circle 6 (FH)
- 7:00 pm Bible Study (ZR)

Tuesday, May 7

- 6:00 pm Church Executive Board (ZR)

Wednesday, May 8

- 10:00 am Bible Study (LB)
- 5:30 pm **Team B** Backpacking (MH)
- 6:15 pm Heavenly Ringers (SNT)
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir (CR)

Thursday, May 9

- 6:30 pm Finance Committee (LB)

Sunday, May 12

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, May 13

- 2:00 pm Circle 4 (LB)
- 7:00 pm UWF Book Club (LB)

Tuesday, May 14

- 6:30 pm Staff Parish Relations (ZR)

Worship Volunteers

- Greeters: Carl & Judy Taylor
- May: Chuck & Lisa Thomasson
- Bulletins: Phyllis Fisher & Sissie Gillie
- May: Marie Marlowe & Perry Taylor
- Offering: Betty Martin
- May: Janice England
- Lay Reader: Philip Winstead
- May 5: Worship at the Park

Communion Servers

- Today: Thadd, Leslie, & Mac Christian
- May 5: Worship at the Park

Nursery

- Today: Teresa Gammon & Mac Christian
- May 5: Worship at the Park

Children's Church

- Today: Leslie Christian & Hunter Phillips
- May 5: Worship at the Park

Hall Monitor

- Today: James & June Scheier
- May 5: Worship at the Park

Giving Opportunities

- An offering plate is located in the rear of the sanctuary.
- You can give online through text.
- Text STLUKESGIVE to 73256, followed by gift amount.
- You can also give by scanning the QR code with your smart phone.



Library Update

As most of you are aware, Church Council agreed to begin the process of revamping our library and created a library committee to oversee the project. The committee has met twice to begin the work and to decide how to best move forward. We are all aware that this will be a long and time consuming process. We have decided to begin with the purchase of a new computer and software program. We have received grants to cover both of these expenses.

The children's section will be our next endeavor as these books are the most outdated. In the future we will offer a children's book sale after we have reviewed and made a decision on each book. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or suggestions.

Lisa Thomasson & Rhonda Tucker
Co-Chairs of the Library Committee.

Membership Sunday

On May 19th, Saint Luke's will celebrate Pentecost by witnessing God's actions in the baptismal waters, in confirmation, and welcome the confirmands who choose to join St. Luke's into professing membership within the United Methodist Church.

We acknowledge there may be others who are feeling the prompting of the Holy Spirit to faithfully participate in the life and ministry of our local congregation as professing members.

Whether you worship with us online or in person, we want to offer you the opportunity to commit yourself to the work, ministry, and covenantal relationships of the church. If you are interested in joining or transferring your membership to Saint Luke's, please call, email, or chat with Pastor Tim.

General Conference April 23-May 3, 2024 Charlotte, NC.

Please keep in your prayers:
The United Methodist Church
the Bishops, Delegates,
and all who will gather in Charlotte

"Worship at the Park" Dan Daniel Memorial Park Shelter 17

We are excited to join together with Trinity UMC and Mt. Vernon UMC for a day of worship, food, and fellowship on Sunday, May 5th. We will gather at 10:00 am for worship, District Superintendent Rev. Denise Bates will be our speaker. Following our service, we will share a meal together. The provided part of our meal will be chicken, creamed potatoes, and green beans. Each church is asked to provide something additional for the meal. St. Luke's is responsible for desserts.

There are two sign-up sheets on the lighthouse for this event. One is for how many of your family will be attending and the second one is to volunteer to bring a dessert. You are also asked to bring any games that we can play and you may also want to bring a folding chair.

Baby Shower

George and Meritha Alderman are expecting "Baby Girl Alderman" in July and we want to shower them with our love and best wishes. The entire church is invited to attend this celebration on May 19th at 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall. They are registered on Babylist.com.