



The Lutheran Church of Times Square
308 West 46th Street, New York, NY 10036
212 246 3540

Third Sunday in Lent ☩ March 15, 2020

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Service of the Word

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new. **Amen.**

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

The assembly kneels as they are able. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

God at the margins,

We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way.

We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows.

Turn us back to you, O God. Amen.

Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care.

Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy.

Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of Christ, leading you from death into life. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

As the Deer Runs to the River JULION

HYMN 331



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.

Refrain



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
 Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



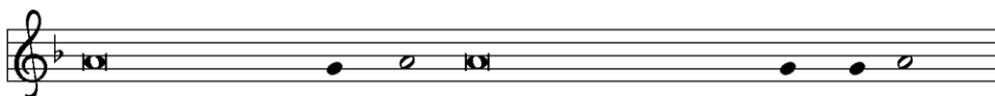
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



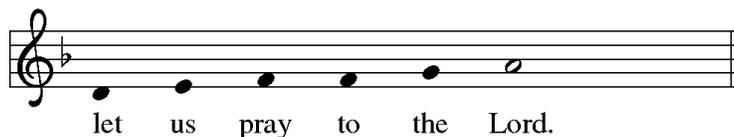
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



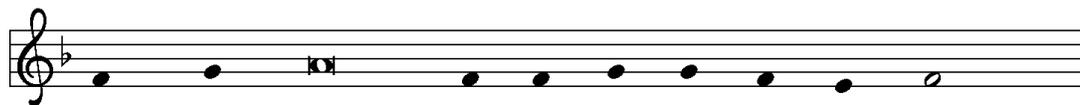
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, **the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 95



Let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

¹Come, let us sing | to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.**

³For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker. R**

⁷For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!
⁸“**Harden | not your hearts,**
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.
⁹There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.
¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,**
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’
¹¹Indeed I swore | in my anger,
‘They shall never come | to my rest.’” **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Glory and Praise to You



Lord, you are truly the Savior | of the world;* give me this living water that I may never | thirst again. (*John 4:42, 15*)

GOSPEL

John 4:5-42

After the announcement:



⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁵I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever

done.”⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

After the reading:



SERMON

Pastor Strasser

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty BEACH SPRING

HYMN 777



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-'lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh-ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen-tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain



Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

- 5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
 I would be your trusted friend.
 Come and seek the gift I offer,
 come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

- 6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
 lonely ways no longer roam.
 Come and take the gift I offer,
 let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

People with long term prayer needs are:

Girma, Gordon, Mickey, Jimmy, John, Pie, Jean,
Geraldine, Deborah, Bev, Maricelli, Katie, Jennifer, Henry

... Hear us, O God. *Response:* **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PEACE

OFFERING *for God's work through our church*

Please make offering online or mail to the church.

ANTHEM

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

**Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:
you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.**
For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

**By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile,
wisdom for life with you.**

For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

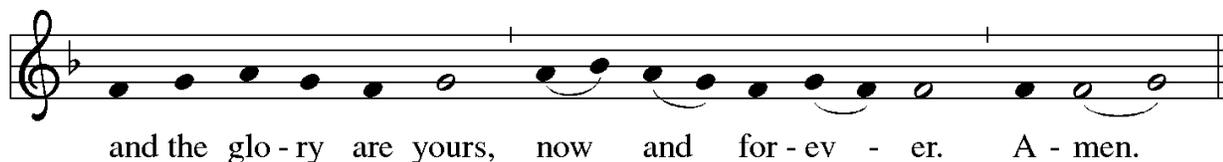
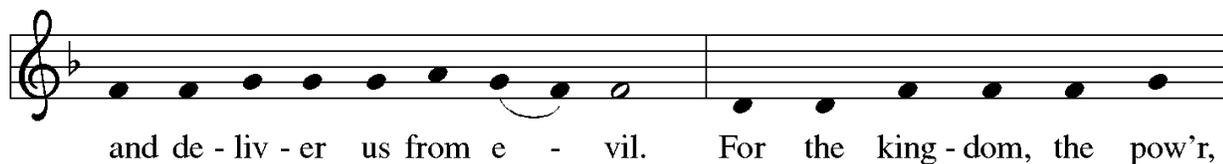
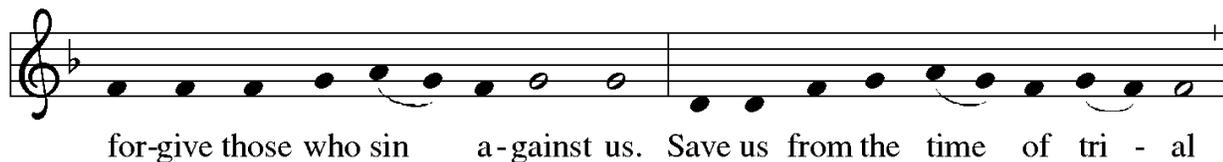
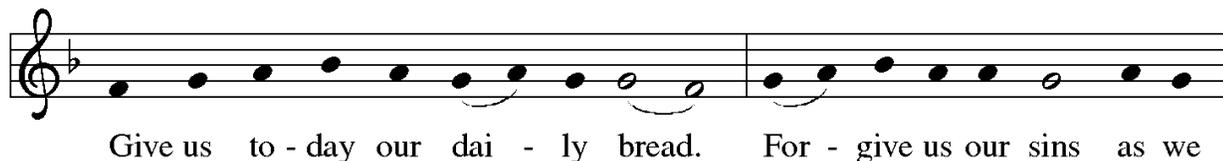
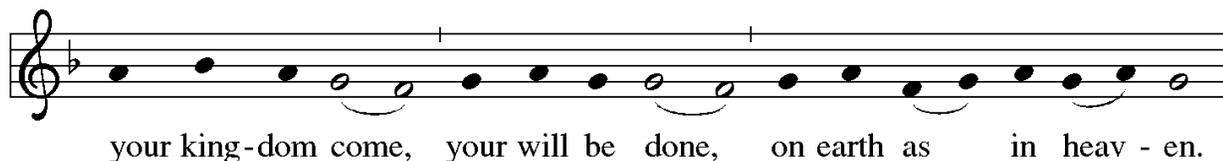
**Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death,
the way of your self-giving love.**

For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

**Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope,
and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.**

**Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.**

OUR FATHER

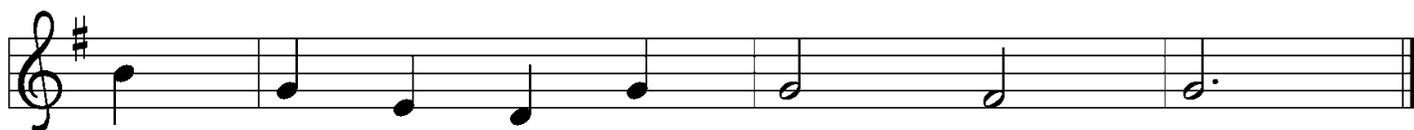




1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to you my heart - felt
2 Break forth, my soul, in joy and say: What wealth has



thanks and praise are due; you have so lov - ing - ly be - stowed
come to me to - day! My Sav - ior dwells with - in my soul



on me your bod - y and your blood.
and makes my wound - ed spir - it whole!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928, alt.
Music: UD GÅR DU NU PÅ LIVETS VEJ, Carl Nielsen, 1865–1931

SENDING*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world***BLESSING**

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS**SENDING SONG**

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken BLAENWERN

HYMN 647



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken
ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,
mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,



formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
 and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a
 show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
 I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain



found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they
 plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id



va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
 joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
 Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Improvisation on “Blaenwern”

John Stuart Archer

Please enjoy the Postlude

Preaching & Presiding: Pastor Strasser
 Crucifer: David Lally

Assisting Minister: Mike Brouwer
 Lector:

Organist/Choirmaster: Cantor Pedro d’Aquino

Saint Luke’s Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, visitors! Saint Luke’s is pleased to welcome visitors from near and far. We pray that your worship with us will be a rich experience. Please complete one of the welcome cards found in the pew rack and return it to an usher: you may also sign the Guest Register located by the entrance.

- ☒ **Our home-baked Lenten Communion bread is gluten-free.** If you would like to bake for worship one Sunday, please see Bob.
- ☒ **Please note that during the Lenten Season there are no flowers on the altar.** However your gifts in support of our Flower Fund are still welcome and needed. Tributes and Memorial flowers may be placed on the Columbarium. To donate for a particular Sunday, complete and mark a pew envelope for “Flowers” and give it to an usher with your contribution. Then place your name on the appropriate Sunday on the Flower list on the bulletin board in the narthex.
- ☒ **Coffee Hour follows our worship service.** We hope that all worshipers will stay for the opportunity to visit before heading on to your day.
- ☒ **Consider hosting a coffee hour.** A sign-up sheet for Coffee Hour is on the bulletin board in the narthex. Can’t host a full Coffee Hour? Bring a package of cookies, etc. to share.
- ☒ **"Jesus: His Life".** On Sundays starting today after coffee hour we'll be screening "Jesus: His Life", a new docu-drama. This series explores the story of Jesus Christ through the people in his life who were closest to him. Each of the chapters is told from the perspective of different biblical figures, all of whom played a pivotal role—Joseph, John

the Baptist, Mary Mother of Jesus, Caiaphas, Judas Iscariot, Pontius Pilate, Mary Magdalene and Peter.

■ **Wednesday Lenten Vespers, 7:00 pm.** Lent, the 40 day season, is traditionally marked by drawing closer to God. You're invited to our short services for evening prayer Wednesdays at 7 pm during March and the first week in April. Bring an open heart ready to grow and to find healing and community.

■ **Lent Bible Study: The Sermon on the Mount” concludes this Wednesday from 7:30 to 8:30 pm.** These classes, led by our own Chris von Dehsen, retired Professor of New Testament, will explore the famous Sermon on the Mount, a collection of sayings and teachings of Jesus, found in the Gospel of Matthew. The Sermon is the longest continuous discourse of Jesus found in the New Testament, and has been one of the most widely quoted elements of the Gospels. It includes some of the best known teachings of Jesus, such as the Beatitudes, and the widely recited Lord's Prayer. The Sermon on the Mount is generally considered to contain the central tenets of Christian discipleship. ome and See.

Attendance Last Week: 65 Offering: \$1,918.00 Needed Weekly: \$2,500.00

This Week at Saint Luke's

TODAY — March 15

Third Sunday in Lent

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am Sung Eucharist
12:15 pm Coffee Hour Screening of
“Jesus of Nazareth”
12:45 pm Church Council meeting

TUESDAY — March 17

1:00 pm Soup Kitchen

WEDNESDAY — March 18

12:10 Noon Holy Communion
7:00 pm Lenten Vespers
7:30 pm Lenten Bible Study :The
Sermon on the Mount

THURSDAY — March 19

1:00 pm Soup Kitchen

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, March 22, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Choral Eucharist at 11 a.m.

Next Week's Gospel: **John 9:1-41**

Baptismal image: the man born blind



Saint Luke's is a “Reconciling in Christ” congregation.

We welcome all who are seeking God's love, regardless of race or culture, economic or life situation, sexual orientation or gender identity, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, spouses and partners are welcome. Your uniqueness enriches our community.

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Arden C. Strasser, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Martha S. Jacobi, Pastoral Associate

The Rev. Paul D. Schmiede, Pastor Emeritus

Pedro d'Aquino, FAGO, ChM, Cantor

Robert Wechtenhiser, Parish Administrator

Council Members

Joey Afanador
Judy Barnett
Megan Cornelius

Brett Hunter
David Lally
Richard Nesbit

Chuck Ragsdale
Richard Sterne
Bob Wechtenhiser

e-mail: info@stlukesnyc.org

website: www.stlukesnyc.org

Saint Luke's Lutheran Church is on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

@StLukesNewYork