Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!”—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together

GATHERING SONG

Be Thou My Vision

Music: SLANE, Irish tune
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KYRIE

When we lose faith in the goodness of creation, and in the father-like love of our Creator:

Lord, have mercy.
When we lose faith in Jesus as the true reflection of your suffering, death-conquering, redeeming love;

Christ, have mercy.

Most loving God, for the Word of mercy made flesh in Jesus Christ, unmistakable and uncompromising in strong compassion:

we give you thanks.

For every word of love and forgiveness, in individual people, in fellowship, and in prayer and worship:

we give you thanks.

For that insight or understanding within us, that allows us to accept forgiveness and to live with the joy of the freedom of God:

we give you thanks,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

sit

WORD
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

FIRST READING
Genesis 18:1-10a
The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

1The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. 2He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. 3He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. 4Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” 6And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” 7Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. 8Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

9They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” 10Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM
Psalm 15

1LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your holy hill?

2Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;

3they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

4In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

5They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.
SECOND READING  Colossians 1:15-28
This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

15[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

21And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

24I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. 25I became its servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.

27To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

The Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION  stand  Celtic Alleluia

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker
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GOSPEL  Luke 10:38-42
During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.

After the announcement:
Glory to you, O Lord.

38Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. 39She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. 40But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” 41But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

After the reading:
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON  sit  Pastor Jacobi
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

You may share your intercessions by posting online. People with long term prayer needs are:

Girma, Jimmy, John, Clement, Katie J., Alan, Katie, Mickey, Robert L., John, Audrey

Helped by the Spirit, let us pray for our shared world.

Holy One, Singing lifts us up to you, brings us closer together, and increases our trust in your promises.

Thank you for the gift of music you have given our church.
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, grant to your church your Holy Spirit, that your Word may not be bound but have free course.
So edified, may we serve you and in the confession of your name always abide.
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of mystery, we thank you for the extraordinary expanse of the universe, glimpses of which have been shared this week by the technology of the James Webb Space Telescope.
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of the seasons, in summer you’ve given us opportunities for refreshment and relationships. Bless the earth.
Moderate the intense heat, give shade and breezes to all, and send necessary rain to nourish the crops.
Preserve farm laborers each day under the sun. Provide safety for those who travel.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, we are grateful yet still anxious in the face of COVID-19. We look to You and the authorities you have given to us to combat the pandemic in poorer nations. We beseech you. May it do no more harm.
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Lord, Deliver us from the bondage of racism that denies the humanity of some people, and deprives all people of the blessings of the diversity you have created; Deliver us from assumptions that we make without thinking, and presumptions that we take without asking.  
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Lord, bring relief, peace and justice to nations facing political and civil unrest, including Sri Lanka, Myanmar, South Sudan, and Ukraine.  
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the brokenhearted. Open our hearts to those who are alone, who despair, and all who suffer, for those facing droughts in the southwest and especially…  
Joan, Everett, Betty, Sylvia, Sue Marczak, for Lee Ritchey recovering from knee surgery, Loren Pellor recovering at home, the community of Highland Park, May May, Gordon Clark recovering from a stroke, and those whom we name in our hearts now...  
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints close to us. Gather us with them on the day of salvation.  
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Father, it is through Your Son we have redemption, the forgiveness of our trespasses. As You sealed us with the Holy Spirit at our baptism, let your call to us to arise and follow Your Son be heard.  
Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

We offer these prayers to you; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEACE
The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.  
All now greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace.

OFFERING for God’s work through our church  
The offering plate is near the font for use before or after worship.  
You may also make your offering online (www.stlukesnyc.org) using the “Offering” button, or mail to the church. Alternatively, open the camera on your phone and scan this code to make a donation electronically.

ANNOUNCEMENTS  
sit

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD  
stand

Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word. All that has life and breath praises your name. For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God.

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, preached your mercy, and called us to faith. For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.
Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word,
that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption,
and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world.
For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.

Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer,
for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,**
  hallowed be your name,
  your kingdom come,
  your will be done,
  on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**
  as we forgive those
  who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial**
  and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,**
  and the glory are yours,
  now and forever. Amen.

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

**BLESSING**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.


**SENDING SONG**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1 “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
2 “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
3 “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
4 “I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.

Walking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and by serving, joyful and free.
I the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace.

In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother.
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

An Die Musik ("To Music")

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Please leave in silence for those who remain to enjoy the Postlude.

Preaching: Pastor Martha Jacobi

Videographer: Alea Strasser

Lector: LeeAnne Hutchison

Postlude Music: Richard Sterne

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, visitors! Saint Luke’s pleased to welcome visitors from near and far. We pray that your worship with us will be a rich experience. Please fill out a Visitor Card located in the pews and give to an usher. You may also sign our Guest Registry located in the Narthex.

Restrooms:

Ladies: use the restroom outside the Narthex near the elevator.

Men: follow the signs to the 2nd Floor restroom.

Worship Protocols: Public health and safety is important. The most important safe practice is to keep your mask on indoors. Seating is socially distanced. The passing of the peace will be more flexible, allowing for hand shaking only for those who wish to.

Birthdays and special Occasions this coming week: Elleatrice Thompson 7/21

Bowling Outing, Next Sunday July 24, 1:00 pm. The cost is $30 for two hours of bowling fun, including shoe rental, snacks and soft drinks. Bowling will be two hours unlimited. It is a 5 minute walk from church to Bowlero Times Square – just off 8th Avenue at 44th Street, with bowling starting at 1 pm. We have booked two adjacent lanes. The cost per person is $30, payable at the event. Come hang out and bowl with your church friends after worship. All ages are welcome. Little ones can even do bumper bowling. We'll walk from church to Bowlero after Sunday fellowship. Payment is due on the day of the event. We hope you can make it!

RSVP to the office or sign up at worship.

Summer Soloists Program - Share Your Musical Gifts with Us. If you are interested in singing at our 11:00 am worship service from now until Sunday, September 11, either solo, duet, family groups, or playing an instrument, please speak to Pastor Strasser. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Narthex Bulletin Board.

Summer Retreat, August 5-7, 2022. This year we’re in the Catskill Mountains, at Camp Koinonia, situated on 1,200 acres of forest, with numerous facilities, surrounded by God’s creation. Koinonia is in the Delaware River Valley, 30 minutes from Port Jervis, NY. The cost is $165 per adult inclusive of rafting, all meals and accommodations, from dinner Friday through Sunday lunch. Transportation will be coordinated and priced separately.

We’re staying in the Family Center consisting of two adjoining cabins. Each cabin has eight bunk beds, kitchen, bathroom and living room. Conference Center hotel style accommodations are available for an extra $125 per single or per couple. To reserve your spot email the church office (info@stlukesnyc.org) You can speak with Pastor about a payment plan or financial assistance if necessary.

Weekday Morning Prayer – 8:00 am. Our daily online Morning Prayer service, every weekday at 8 AM, will be live streamed (online only) at www.facebook.com/StLukesNewYork. A short 15 minutes with scripture and reflection to start your day right and strengthen your faith. You’re invited.
Please Note: There is no Holy Communion Service this Wednesday.

Worship assistants are needed – you can help. Consider volunteering on a Sunday to serve in an altar leadership role. If you’ve never done it but have been thinking about it, speak to Bob or someone you’ve seen serve. They will gladly walk with you and introduce you to helping in our worship services. Try it sometime this year.

Our Soup Kitchen is open every Tuesday and Thursday, offering hot take out lunches from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. If you are available to help serve, please talk to Bob.

This Week at Saint Luke’s

**TODAY — July 17th**
- Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
- 9:30 am Service of the Word
- 11:00 am Sung Eucharist
- 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour

**MONDAY — July 18**
- OFFICE CLOSED
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live

**TUESDAY — July 19**
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
- 1:00 to 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen

**WEDNESDAY — July 20**
- OFFICE CLOSED
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live

**THURSDAY — July 21**
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live
- 12:30 to 2:00 pm “Showers of Blessings Van
- 1:00 to 2:00 pm Soup Kitchen

**FRIDAY — July 22**
- 8:00 am Morning Prayer on Facebook Live

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 24, 2022**

- Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.
- Sung Eucharist at 11 a.m.
  - Jesus teaches the disciples to pray

_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
Pedro d’Aquino, FAGO, ChM, Cantor
S. Dcn. Robert Wechtenhiser, Parish Administrator

2022 Council Members
- Judy Barnett
- Mike Brouwer
- Katie Luekens Chan Chee
- Megan Cornelius
- Alyssa Erb
- David Lally
- Rosemary Lebron
- Richard Nesbit
- Chuck Ragsdale

Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church is on Facebook and Instagram! @StLukesNewYork