



**ST. LUKE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
1400 Market St.,
Williamsport, PA 17701

**The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany,
Sunday, February 1, 2026
8:00AM & 10:30AM**

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*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*  
~~~~~

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Lord Jesus Christ, with us Abide*, setting by Philip Gehring

CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, \dagger one God,
 the Creator of heaven and earth,
 the Word who spoke life into being,
 the Wind stirring the waters.

C **Amen.**

P Let us turn in confession to the one who
 knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty God, lover of justice,
C **you call us to life in community,
 but we have served our own interests
 at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
 but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

Amen.

P The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in [†] Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN LBW 415 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: MICAH 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

¹ Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

PSALM: PSALM 15 (sung responsively: light *print-cantor*, dark *print-congregation*)

Lord, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

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

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do ¹ what is right,
who speak the truth ¹ from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their
friends; they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who ¹ fear the Lord.**

They have sworn upon their health and do not take ¹ back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ¹ gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be ¹ overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Stand
ALLELUIA

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5th Chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:1-12



Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY WOV 750 *Oh, Praise the Gracious Power (vv. 1-3, 7)*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C Amen.



SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The ministers & congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you R Peace be with you

MEAL

Sit

BELLS ANTHEM: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN



C Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

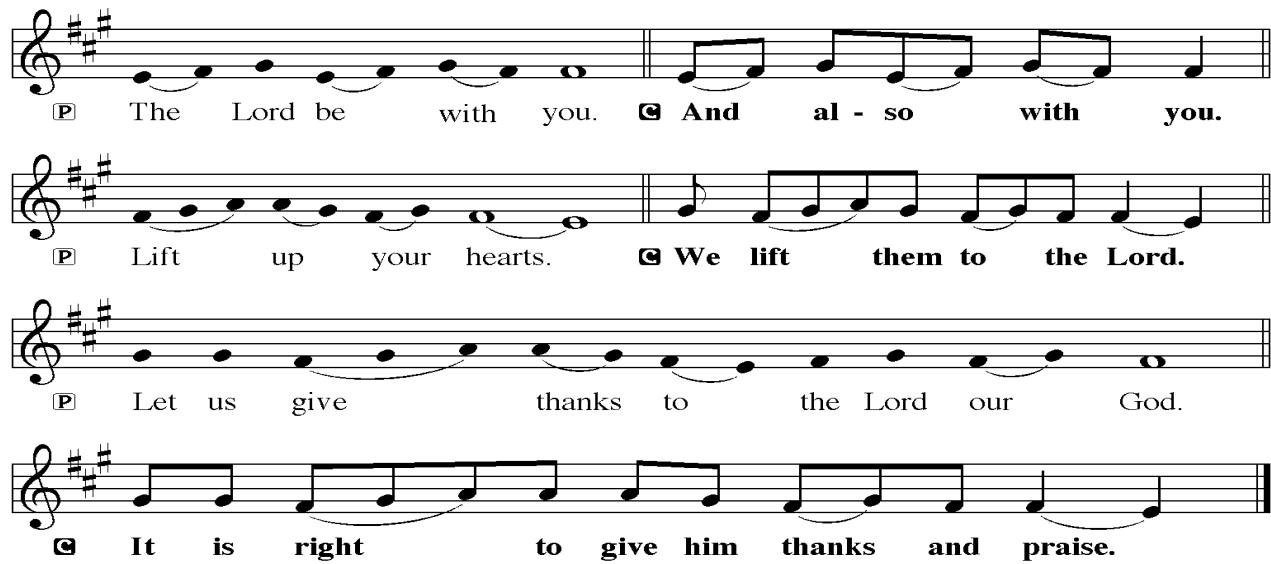
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



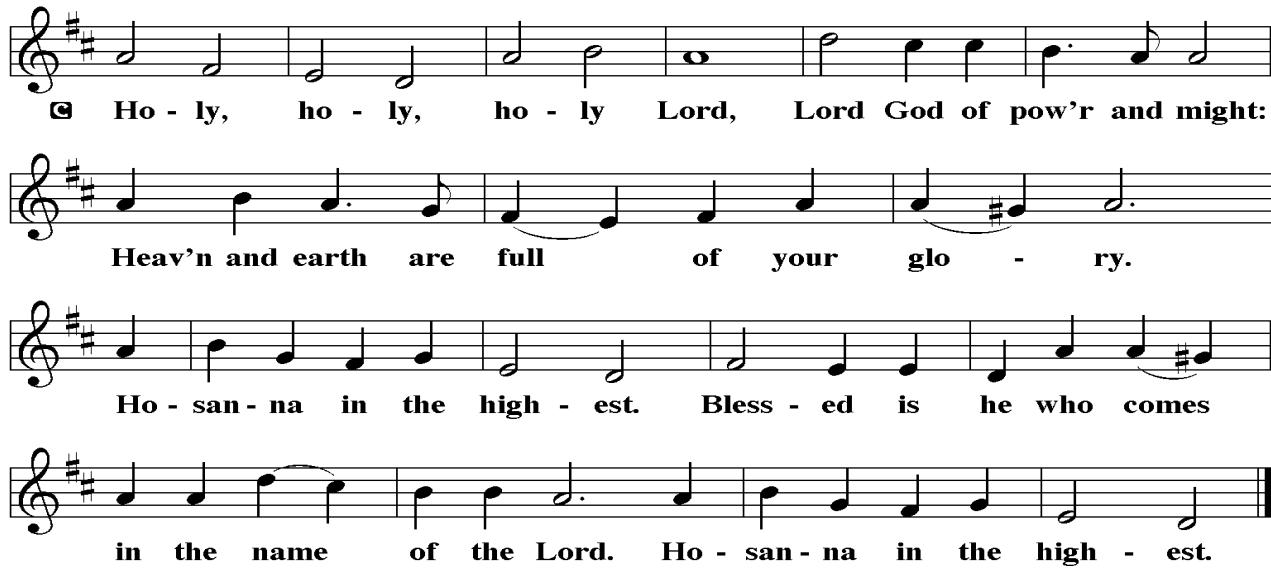
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right. . .(The preface appropriate to the day or season is said, concluding. . .we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O holy God:
you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.
Through the prophets you called your people to be
a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.

*In the night... (The pastor proclaims the Words of Institution,
concluding)...Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

Sit

LAMB OF GOD (*Administrants commune*)



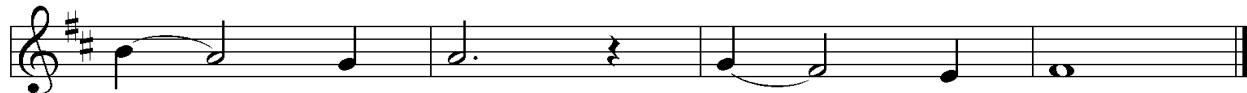
C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer- cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer- cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION (*Congregation Communes*)

All are invited forward. If you do not normally take communion, please cross your arms and you will be given a blessing. Children who do not take communion will receive a piece of bread with the words "Take and Eat." Visitors, if you commune in your home congregation you are welcome to commune here. (If you prefer juice rather than wine, please take one of the pre-filled glasses.)

As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen

Stand

BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

SENDING

CANTICLE

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev- 'ry- one what he has done.

Let ev- 'ry- one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud- ly bear his name.

He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood

you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

C Amen.

BLESSING

P May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN LBW 383 *Rise Up, O Saints of God*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Arise, O Christian People*, setting by Anne Krentz Organ



PRAYER LIST

FROM OUR ST. LUKE FAMILY:

Fred Lewis; Jan Ogurcak; Jeanne Marquardt; Linda Wolfe; and our homebound members.

Family and friends mourning the death of Hank Knaus.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Jill Baker (*Daughter of Nancy McCarty's cousin*).

For servicemen & women serving in posts far from home, and our servicemen & women readjusting to their lives here in the States.

For persistence and strength for those going through all types of recovery.

After 4 weeks' names will automatically rotate off, you may call the Church Office at 570-323-7309 to have them put back on the Prayer list.

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 2026

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in honor of our grandchildren, Ben, Jacob, Gracie and Luke Soars by Carol and Chris Metzger.

AND FEBRUARY 1, 2026

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Taylor J. Ertel by Kay, Ned and Amy.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TODAY: Feb 1st Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

8:00AM – In-person Service

9:15AM – Adult Sunday School, Bell practice, Fellowship Meeting

10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream

SERVING AT THE WORSHIP SERVICE

8:00 AM:

Lector/Administrant: ***Feb 1st – Ed Kelley; Feb 8th – Ed Kelley***

10:30 AM:

Altar Care: ***January – February – Sondra Fisher; March – Cindy Belles***

Assisting Ministers: ***Feb 1st – Charles Mahler; Feb 8th – Marilyn Eshleman***

Lectors; Feb 1st – Wilma Reeder; Feb 8th – Melanie Taormina
Communion Helpers; Feb 1st – Patricia Durand; Feb 8th – Janice Ogurcak
Greeters: Feb 1st – Karen & Mark Bergren; Feb 8th – Cindy & Terry Belles
Ushers: Feb 1st – Jere Eshleman; Feb 8th – Boy Scouts Sunday
Acolyte: Feb 1st – Lily Judge; Feb 8th – Luke Edmonds
Live Stream Assistant: Feb 1st – Brad Nason; Feb 8th – Charles Mahler
Offering Counters: Feb 1st – Nancy McCarty & Marilyn Eshleman;
Feb 8th – Terry Belles & Sondra Fisher

THIS CALENDAR WEEK: Feb 1st – Feb 7th

Feb 01 – 5:00PM – Cub Scouts – Bell Hall
Feb 02 – 9:00AM-3PM – Sew Fine Quilters – Bell Hall
– 6:00PM – Executive Committee Meeting
Feb 03 – 9:30AM – Pericope – Library
– 2:00PM – Parish Visitation Corp (PVC)
– 3:00PM – Service Meeting
Feb 04 – 7:00PM – Worship & Music Meeting - Library
Feb 04 – 6:00PM – Outreach Meeting
– 7:00PM – Choir Practice
Feb 07 – 7:00AM-2PM – Annual Pre-School Breakfast

NEXT SUNDAY: Feb 8th Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

8:00AM – In-person Service
9:15AM – Adult Sunday School, Bells, Fellowship Meeting
10:30AM – In-person Service & Livestream, Bells playing during service,
Coffee Hour after service

ANNOUNCEMENTS



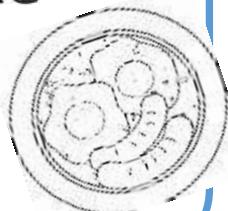
Pancake Breakfast Benefits Pre-School at St Luke

Feb 7, 2026*, 8:00- 11:00 am

\$10 Adults, \$5 children, Under 3 free
Take out is available

Come join us for delicious pancakes, fresh sausage, and scrambled eggs.
Also includes fruit, juices, coffee, tea, apple sauce, and hot cocoa

*Snow day Feb 14



ATTENDANCE – Please remember to register your attendance online using the **QR code on the back of the bulletin or fill out an attendance card** located in the back of the pew. Thank You!

PRAAYER CHAIN UPDATE If you or someone you know needs prayer, please call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363 or Karen Bergren at 570-220-3201 to start the prayer chain. If you want the name to be on the bulletin prayer list call the church office at 570-323-7309.

SEW FINE QUILTERS - Come join the fun for our *Quilt Day* making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the Gate House, Shepherd of the Streets, and Project Linus. Please join us on **Monday, Feb 2nd from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Bell Hall**. Come and go as your time permits. No quilting experience is needed! **BYOB – Bring Your Own BAG packed with a lunch – beverages will be provided by the church**. Any questions call Cindy Belles at 570-419-1363.

SHAWL MINISTRY When members or friends of the congregation experience trying times or milestones of great joy, we present them with a prayer shawl as a visible sign of our prayers for them. Shawls can be knitted or crocheted at monthly meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (Sept.-May) or any time at home. **The next meeting is on Tuesday, February 17th from 9:30 am -12 noon in the Lounge. All are welcome!** Any questions, call Nancy McCarty 570-419-7827.

PARISH VISITATION CORP (PVC) meets next on **Tuesday, February 3, 2026 in the Library at 2:00PM**. Any questions, please contact Cindy Belles.

SERVING (Lectors, Assistant Minister, Communion Helper, or Live Stream Assistants) If you would like to help serve in our 8:00AM or 10:30AM worship service(s), please contact Diane Kohler at 570-419-7085 or email kohlerdede@gmail.com or Pastor Jeff at 570-323-7309.

GREETERS Anyone interested in serving as a greeter, please contact the church office at 570-323-7309.

USHERS Anyone interested in serving as an usher, please contact Nancy McCarty - nmac7149@gmail.com or 570- 419-7827 or the church office at 570-323-7309.

FROM THE FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY Please consider volunteering for Coffee Hour! All coffee, tea, paper products, etc. are in the kitchen. Volunteers are asked to provide snacks, such as muffins, donuts, cookies, etc. Please contact Ruth Croyle at 570-433-3873 or Jeanne Yaggi at 570-329-6980 if you would like us to help you set up for Coffee Hour or if you have any questions.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS AT ST. LUKE

DANIEL'S CLOSET needs your help! Seasonal clothing and accessories are needed for all ages, from infant through adult. **Seasonal clothing (no summer clothing at this time and please NO hangers)** for infants, children, and adults, as well as accessories (belts, ties, shoes, purses, backpacks/bags, suitcases, etc.). All clothing must be bagged, no loose clothing, please. A collection box is located in our West Hall or items can be taken directly to Redeemer Lutheran Church at 1101 Washington Blvd., Williamsport.

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS Items needed are of regular sizes not trial: Deodorant (men/Women), Toothbrushes & Toothpaste (adults/kids), Wipes, Powder, Baby Oil, Baby wash, Baby shampoo, Bars of Soap (men/women), Shaving Cream and Razor (men/women), Hand Lotion, Tissues, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Laundry Pods, Bath Towels & Wash Cloths (new/slight used), Full & Queen Sheet Sets (new/slightly used), Winter Coats (new/slightly used) *These hygiene items are collected in the West entryway.*

THE FOOD PANTRY Your help is desperately needed! Food supplies are very low. Below is a list of items that the UCLC Food Pantry needs:

Coffee and Tea bags	Hamburger Helper
<u>White Sugar</u> and Brown Sugar	Canned Spam & Canned Ham
Boxed Potatoes	<u>Beef Stew</u> & Saltine Crackers
Wide Egg Noodles & Ramon Noodles	Flour, Salt & Pepper
Alfredo Sauce	Small Mayonnaise
<u>Canned Chicken & Canned Tuna</u>	Canned Beets & Canned Carrots
<u>Peanut Butter</u> and Jelly	Pork & Beans and Hearty Soups
Cake Mixes & Frosting	<u>Canned Pineapple</u>

These items are collected in our West entryway. After office hours' drop-offs: Bell Hall foyer entrance. **Items in BOLD UNDERLINED** are needed the most.

STAFF AT ST. LUKE



Pastor Jeffrey LeCrone, Pastor
Email: pastor@stlukeluth.comcastbiz.net



Karen Spencer, Office Coordinator
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Rebecca Ciabattari, Music Director
Email: beckyciab@gmail.com



Chris Knaur, Sexton
Email: info@stlukeweb.com



Melissa Eshleman, Business Manager
Email: businessmanager.stlukeluth@gmail.com

REMINDERS: Office hours – M - F 9:00AM-1:00PM
Bulletin **deadline** – WEDNESDAY 9:00AM
Spectrum **deadline** – 15th of each month
Council Pack **deadline** – FRIDAY 9:00AM before Mtg
Office E-mail – info@stlukeweb.com
Office Phone – 570-323-7309
tinyurl.com/StLW



ORDER YOUR EASTER PLANTS

We are now taking orders for Easter plants. Flowers can be presented in honor of or in memory of friends or loved ones and will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Payment is due with the order of \$10.00 each. Please make checks payable to St. Luke Church with "flowers" on the memo line. **DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 23RD.** Thank you!



PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

*Print the name of the person from whom the flowers are from **EXACTLY** as you would like it to appear in the bulletin*

I would like to purchase Easter flowers:

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

TULIPS:

RED PINK PURPLE YELLOW ORANGE

WHITE EASTER LILY

Number of tulips: _____ @ \$10.00 each = _____ Total

Number of lilies: _____ @ \$10.00 each = _____ Total

Please make checks payable to St. Luke with FLOWERS on the memo line.

If you need more space, write on back or use another form

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