

WELCOME TO  
THE CHURCH OF  
**SAINT LUKE**

September 5, 2021 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



17545 Huber Avenue N.W. • Clearwater, Minnesota 55320

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor

**Pastoral Emergencies 320-291-5678**

**Parish Office**

**Hours** ..... Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am-3:00 pm  
Fri. 8:30 am-12:00 pm

**Phone** ..... 320-558-2124

**Email** ..... office@churchofstlukes.com

**Father Backer** ..... Ext1 or fatherbacker@churchofstlukes.com

**Website** ..... www.churchofstlukes.com

**Prayer Line** ..... 320-558-6169

**Trustees**..... Judy Lashinski & Steve LaFond

**Finance Council Chairperson** .....Steve Duncan

**Pastoral Council Chairperson**.....Tony Leither

**Parish Staff**

**Parish Administrator** .....Sue Miller  
Ext 3 or admin@churchofstlukes.com

**Director of Faith Formation** ..... Marilyn Popp  
Ext 2 or stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com

**Music** .....Tammy Reinert

**Mass Schedule**

**Weekend**

Sat. 5:00 pm; Sun. 8:00 & 10:00 am

**Weekday Masses**

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 am

Saturday—9:00am

**Chapel Hours**

Sun.—Sat. 5:00 am to 9:00 pm

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Fri 9:00 am—9:00 pm

**Hospitality after Mass**

Join us in the gathering area for coffee

**Sacraments**

**Reconciliation**

1/2 hour before Daily Mass Tues-Sat

Before weekend Masses:

Sat.- 4:15 PM; Sun.- 7:15 & 9:15 AM

And by appointment

**Baptisms/Baptism Prep Classes**

Prep class required before each baptism, please call parish office to make arrangements.

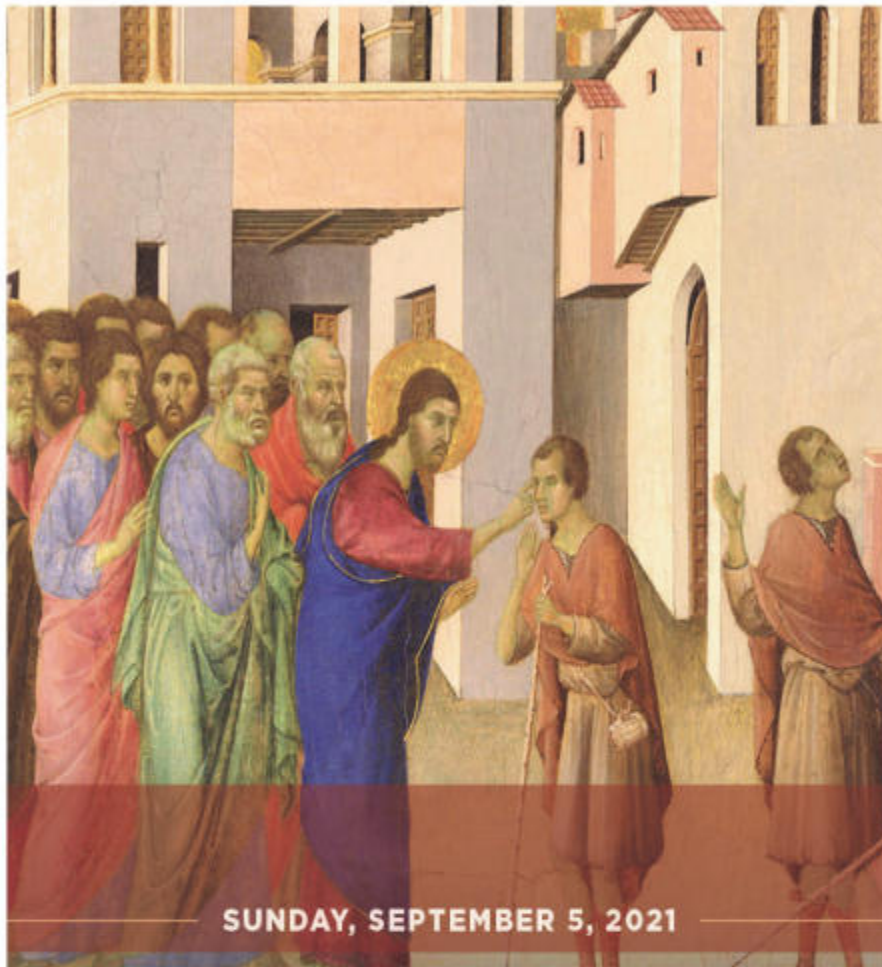
**Weddings**

Contact the parish office one year prior to your requested wedding date.

**RCIA**

Contact: Bruce Fladebo—320-260-3303  
brucefladebo@gmail.com

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/ChurchOfStLukes](http://www.facebook.com/ChurchOfStLukes)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

**23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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# PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Labor Day is the official end of Summer for most. I remember when I was in seminary, we had the Official Return Date, the date you had to be back and moved in ready to go. I have been seeing post on Facebook from parents who have dropped off kids at college. Funny thing is, there seems to be a difference from dropping off the first one and dropping off the last one. A dear family I know will be 'empty nesters' this fall (that is only if you do not count the dog). One daughter is doing a second year with NET Ministries, the other has signed on to a program in West Virginia called "Bethlehem Farm" (they are a Catholic group with a focus of service, prayer, simplicity, and community).

Not having a school, I miss the build up to the first day, the welcoming of the new students and the returning students. That change in schedule of day to day activities. I am sure many of you know what I mean, if you have young children or grandchildren. There is also that feeling of time passing, maybe your child is not going off to college, but are going to a new school (Middle school or High school). There really can be a mix of emotions tied into these changes.

For me, one of the things fall brings is a dying off of my garden. To be honest with you, I think I lost a few plants with the drought this summer. It is still hard to see some of the plants die off. I have started harvesting some seeds from a few of them to carry over for next year. I have yet to dig up my pots, they need to be dug up and put in the basement to replant next year. One of the many lessons the Lord has taught me in the garden, each plant is different and must be cared for in the right way if it is to flourish. Some will go dormant for winter and come back next spring (if they were not killed in drought) others will not survive the cold of winter.

A friend of mine really loves the fall colors and the cooler days. For me, it reminds me too much of what is coming. I know many of you love winter sports or activities like skiing or snowmobiling, but if you are anything like me, winter can be long and hard.

NOTE: with the Delta Variance effecting COVID numbers, we are seeing some places returning to mask use. Many schools are making that call. However, we currently are not under a mandate at the state or local level, or from the Archbishop. I would like to remind you that masks are and always have been welcomed here at St Luke's. We also still have the far sections open for people who would like to social distance. If I receive any directives from the Archbishop I will communicate them as soon as I can. I know I personally have continued to keep a mask in my car. If a location requires it, I will put it on. Or if there is a large group of people close together, I may feel more comfortable masking.

If you want to mask, please feel free to do so. If you want to social distance, please feel free to sit away from others. If you are not feeling well, PLEASE STAY HOME. We all need to be taking care of ourselves as well as trying to protect those around us. Lastly, please keep all of those suffering in your prayers, both from the Pandemic and from the devastation of Hurricane Ida, and the situation in Afghanistan. There is much suffering in our world right now.

Blessings,  
Fr. Backer

**Archbishop Hebda Needs Your Help! Join the Journey this Fall!** It's August and we are planning our Fall and back to School activities, plan to join us this fall to help shape the future of our local Church through the ongoing Archdiocesan Synod process. Archbishop Hebda needs your input in how to best form:

- Parishes that are in the service of evangelization;
- Missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call; and
- Youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young.

Join a small group to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area. There will be small group sessions at St Luke this fall offered at various times and over a 6 week period starting in September. We ask that you help Archbishop Hebda and take part in a small group. Watch for dates! See more at [archspm.org/synod](http://archspm.org/synod).



SYNOD 2022

**Synod Prayer—Year of St. Joseph:** Heavenly Father, who gave St. Joseph to Jesus and Mary as protector and guide, grant that our Archdiocesan Synod, under his protection and guidance, may help us discern your direction for our Church. May we listen as he listened, trust as he trusted, obey as he obeyed, receive as he received, love as He loved, and share in his life of devotion to Jesus and Mary. Amen. St. Joseph, pray for us

## V I S I O N   S T A T E M E N T

*The Church of St. Luke is a Catholic Community, centered in Christ through baptism and formed by the Eucharist.  
We strive to always be a community where every heart is touched by our Christian fellowship.*

## Faith and Family

Today's Gospel invites us to consider how we witness the healing presence of Christ in our care for and ministry to those who are sick. We notice that the deaf man is brought to Jesus for healing by his friends. These people beg Jesus to lay his hands on this deaf man so that he might be healed. Jesus' healing power is shown in his opening of the man's ears and the restoring of his speech. When family members care for one another when they are sick, they bring Christ's healing presence. When we pray for those who are ill, we ask God to show his healing power. When health is restored, we share that good news with others. As you gather as a family, recall a time when a family member was ill. What steps were taken to help restore this family member to health? Talk about what it feels like to care for a person who is ill, and about how it feels to be the sick person being cared for. In today's Gospel, we hear about a time when Jesus healed a man who was deaf. Notice how the man who was cured and his friends could not honor Jesus' request to keep quiet about Jesus' power to heal. We continue to celebrate Jesus' healing presence in our lives by giving thanks to God for the gift of healing and health. Jesus is the great healer. Take some time to thank Jesus for the gifts of health and healing. Pray for those who are sick. After each person is named, pray, "Jesus, heal us."

**Faith Formation :** It is hard to believe that fall is just around the corner. Our Faith formation program will begin in September for youth going into **first grade this fall through 10<sup>th</sup> grade**. We ask that 11-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth attend free of charge to study the Word of God or to help in areas needed. The registration form and letter outlining the program will be sent home via email and is also on the website..

**Fall Adult Studies to begin around mid October:** This fall at the Church of St Luke we will have numerous opportunities for everyone to participate in a small group for the Archdiocesan Synod. This will take roughly 6-8 weeks as various times will be offered to give everyone the opportunity to attend a session. Then around the middle of October we will begin our fall studies. Watch for more details in the up coming weeks.

Nancy Blom, Exec. Dir. Of Rachel's Vineyard, to Speak at Serra Meeting. The Serra Club of Wright County will meet at the Kings House in Buffalo on Thursday, September 9. Our meeting will start with a rosary in the Chapel at 5:10 followed by Mass at 5:30. Please bring your own lunch to have during our social time. At 7 p.m. Nancy Blom will be giving a presentation about post abortion healing. She will share the unique ways that the Rachel's Vineyard program helps women and men of all faiths to heal from their abortion trauma. Nancy has served as the Executive Director of Rachel's Vineyard for over twenty years.

We welcome you to join us and learn more about the Serra Club of Wright County and our ministry. Please call Marian Meyer at 763-497-2371 or Kate Theisen at 952-955-1544 for more information. We usually meet the second Thursday evening of each month at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. Also please visit Serra's website [www.serra.us.org](http://www.serra.us.org)

## Baptism

Attendance at a one hour Baptismal Preparation Program is **required** and parish registration is expected. Please call the parish office a minimum of 2 months prior to your desired date for baptism to register for the Baptismal Preparation classes.

## Weddings

Contact the parish office *one year prior* to your requested wedding date and set up an appointment with Father Backer Marriage Preparation classes and a retreat are required.

**Discernment Opportunity for Young Women** September 24-26 at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo. We are pleased to announce that Fiat Ministries Discernment Retreat is coming to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Single women age 18-28 who are seeking to do God's will are invited to attend. Religious sisters from various orders assist at the retreat by giving talks, leading small groups, giving their testimonies, and providing a joyful witness of what it means to be a consecrated Religious Sister. The Fiat Discernment Retreat seeks to foster prayer, self-knowledge, and authentic discernment in young women to re-center their focus back on God and the universal call to holiness. The cost of the retreat is \$100, which includes meals, lodging, and materials. Registration and more information can be found at [fiatministries.org](http://fiatministries.org).

**Spiritual retreat for Catholic healthcare workers** September 10-12 at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo. Come revitalize your spirit & enjoy the beautiful grounds! As Healthcare Professionals we often face emotional, spiritual & ethical challenges. Enjoy daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, spiritual direction & a series of 5 talks exploring the soul of the healthcare apostolate, the interior life, being sent, the dignity of suffering & the ethos of healthcare workers in this age. Our Retreat Master is multi-talented Dominican Friar, Father Austin Litke O.P. Buckle up for a great ride! For more information and to register, visit [curatioapostolate.com](http://curatioapostolate.com).

**Retrouvaille Marriage Weekend September 17,2021** Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is peer ministries of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information contact the Central MN Retrouvaille Registration Team at 320-255-5314 or email [2016@retrouvaille.org](mailto:2016@retrouvaille.org) or visit our website: <https://www.helpourmarriage.org>

## MISSION STATEMENT

*"We, the community of St. Luke, come together to worship with joy and unity, to guide our children in faith, to show compassion and love towards others, and to work together as a parish family, so that we may be instrumental in building a meaningful and everlasting community to God by sharing our time and talents and following our Lord Jesus Christ."*

### Mass Schedule & Intentions

Tuesday, September 7th

8:00 am † Norm Meier

Wednesday, September 8th

8:00 am Darin & Lori Lenk

Thursday, September 9th

8:00 am † Roger Larry Kantor

Friday, September 10th

8:00 am † Rev. Francis R. Kittock

Saturday, September 11th

9:00 am † Larry Joswiak

Saturday, September 11th

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, September 12th

8:00 am † Larry Reiter

10:00 am † Dolores Popp

### Minister's Schedule For Sept. 11th & 12th

The Ministry Heads will be  
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.

Looking for a ministry in which you can serve the Lord by serving others? Consider volunteering to be a Catechist and help our young people to come to know our Lord and their Catholic Faith. Any adult of any age is welcome. The best gift we can give our youth is Jesus. Email [stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com](mailto:stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com) or call the Formation office.



A Reminder:

The Rosary is prayed daily 1/2 hour before Mass & at 7:30 in the chapel on Mondays.

We could use help as a couple of our usual prayers either moved away or are not able to lead anymore.

Please feel free to join in and lead a decade.

**St. Joseph Prayer Book** Now Available. In celebration of the Year of St. Joseph in our Archdiocese, the celebration committee asked the St. Joseph Business Guild to create and publish a prayer book. The book uses the 10 Wonder concept from the book "Consecration to St. Joseph" by Donald H. Calloway'. Cost of the prayer book is \$2.95. For bulk orders of 25 or more copies, please visit <https://www.sjbusinessguild.com/store>. Smaller orders may be purchased from Leaflet Missal, 976 West Minnehaha Ave., St. Paul, or online at <http://www.leafletonline.com>.

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St. Luke's church family wishes to express our sympathy to Dee Latzka on the passing of Dee's husband Tom.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**Holiday Sale!** With the Festival over, we turn our attention to the Holiday Sale! Please start thinking about Fall and Christmas decorations that you are no longer using and put them aside for our sale, which will be sometime in October.

**FORMED:** Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Check it out, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith this Lenten season. Get signed up!

SIGN UP FREE AT: [FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](http://FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP)

**Natural Family Planning:** NFP offers a scientific and marriage building opportunity by learning about one's fertility. Are you a couple interested in learning more about natural family planning? Are you wanting to follow the church's teaching but unsure exactly how to use NFP effectively? My name is Emily Kirkwold and I am a pharmacist and a natural family planning educator. I teach the Marquette model of NFP. Contact information for Emily, NFP Pharmacist: Website:

[www.nfppharmacist.com](http://www.nfppharmacist.com) Email: [emily@nfppharmacist.com](mailto:emily@nfppharmacist.com)

Phone: 612.547.6659

**Readings for the Week of September 5, 2021**

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37  
 Monday: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11  
 Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19  
 Wednesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23  
 Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38  
 Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42  
 Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/Lk 6:43-49  
 Next Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/  
 Mk 8:27-35

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**St. Luke's Calendar**

Monday, September 6th  
 Office Closed For Labor Day  
 Tuesday, September 7th  
 8:00 am Quilting  
 Wednesday, September 8th  
 Thursday, September 9th  
 Friday, September 10th  
 9:00 am — 9:00 pm Adoration  
 Saturday 11th  
 Sunday 12th  
 9:00 am—12:00 pm KC's Breakfast

**Registration**

Welcome to the Church of St. Luke. Please call the parish office to become a registered member.

**Prayer Line 558-6169**





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 Visit [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) or contact:  
 Ron Shatek, Grand Knight  
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 KofC meeting reminder:  
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 to the lake,  
 on your  
 way home.”**

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