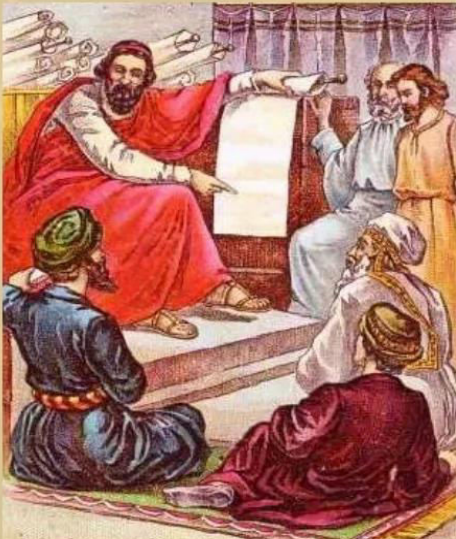


May 3, 2026

***ST. LUKE'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS),
Pickwick, MN***

Website: stlukespickwickwels.com / Email: stlukespickwick@outlook.com

Acts 17:2-3



**...reasoned
with them
out of the
scriptures,**

Welcome to our Guests

Thanks for joining us! We are gathered here to be strengthened in the faith through the Word of Jesus, the Son of God, who has come to forgive and save us. If there is anything we can do to better serve you, please let us know.

Note: We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper today. As Scripture teaches, our church body believes that communion is an expression of common faith and fellowship between everyone at the communion rail. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of the WELS and ELS come forward for communion today. If you would like to know more about becoming a member of the WELS, please speak with Pastor Neumann before or after the service. Thank you.

5th Sunday of Easter

Theme: Jesus Lives to Be The Only Way to Heaven!

Opening Hymn: #147 Like the Golden Sun Ascending, v. 1-5

The Common Service

(please stand)

(on p. 15 of our Red Hymnal)

Invocation

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (sung ♪): Amen.

Confession of Sins

M: Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Kyrie

C (♪): Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Absolution

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

C (♪): Amen.

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Gloria in Excelsis

C (♪): Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of God the Father: have mercy on us. For you only are holy: you only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray. / O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ

our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. / C:
(♫) Amen. / (please be seated)

THE WORD

First Lesson – Acts 17:1-15 (sermon text)

When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said. Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.



But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason’s house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: “These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar’s decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus.” When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men. But when the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, some of them went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up. The believers immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed at Berea. Those who escorted Paul brought him to Athens & then left with instructions for Silas & Timothy to join him as soon as possible. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 33 – *The earth is full of the goodness of God, the goodness of our God*

(found on page 79 at the front of our red hymnal, *Christian Worship*)

Epistle Lesson – 1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: “*See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame*” (Is 28:16). Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “*The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone*” (Ps 118:22) and, “*A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall*” (Is 8:14). They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. / *(please stand)*

Gospel Acclamation

M: Alleluia. I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia.

C (♩): Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Lesson – John 14:1-12 / C (♩): “Glory be to you, O Lord!”

Jesus said: *“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”* Thomas said to him, *“Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”* Jesus answered, *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”* Philip said, *“Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”* Jesus answered: *“Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do whatever I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”* / **M:** The Gospel of the Lord.

C (♩): Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

ALL: 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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. / (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day: #356 You are the Way; through You Alone, v 1-4

SERMON by Pastor Neumann on Acts 17:1-15

The Word Works!

Create in Me

C (♩): Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation & uphold me with your free spirit. Amen.

Offering of Thanksgiving

Visitors: We are very glad you are worshiping with us today. Please don't feel obligated to give an offering. **ALL: Please greet and introduce yourself to those around you.**

+ Rite of Confirmation for Olivia Aldinger +

Duet by Sam Aldinger & Rachel Fabian: 'This Is My Word' by Pepper Choplin (ASCAP)

[Video Service Ends – Minister offers the blessing to our online viewers.]

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C (♩): And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C (♩): We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C (♩): It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, / *and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. / Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:*



Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

C (♩): Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and Earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, *“Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”*

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, *“Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”* / **M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. / **C (♩): Amen.**

Agnus Dei (O Christ, Lamb of God)

C (♩): Oh Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Oh Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Oh Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

Distribution

Communion Hymn: #308 As Surely As I Live, God Said, v.1-7; **and**
#315 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face, v. 1-6

Song of Simeon

C (♩): Lord now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of the people Israel.

Closing Prayer

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C (♩): And his mercy endures forever.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C (♩): Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C (♩): Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #332 – God My Children With My Blessing, v.1-4

Today's Door Offering: Mission Work in Brazil

Bible Study: Today we continue our Sunday AM Bible study on 'The Parables of Jesus,' after the service concludes. We will meet upstairs in the sanctuary today.

St. Luke's Elders: With full support of the church council, Tim Albrecht, Alex Ellinghuysen, Scott Fabian, & Bud Krause have agreed to serve as Elders with Pastor, and began training this past week. They will be installed during worship next Sunday. Our thanks to them for serving!

Take Me Out to the Ballgame: Join your fellow church members at the La Crosse Loggers game at Copeland Park on Saturday, June 27th. The cost is \$25/person (\$17/ for 12 & under), which includes your seat and a pre-game buffet supper of ballpark fare at 5:30pm before the 6:35pm game. Sign-up in back of church so we can reserve your place!

Sullivan's Boat Trip: Join us on Sunday, July 26th for a late afternoon boat trip on the river and then supper at Sullivan's afterward. The cost is \$20/person for the boat trip (plus the cost of your supper at the restaurant) with a maximum of the 1st 45 people registered and paid setting sail. There will also be room for about 5 more people at the restaurant who don't participate in the boat trip but join us there afterwards. Please sign-up on the sheet in back of church and pay Rachel Fabian within a week or 2 of signing up to hold your spot if you are taking the boat trip.

This Week at St. Luke's

Monday: Women's Bible Study, 6:30 PM.
Wednesday: Family Bible Study w/meal at Swogger's 6 PM.
Thursday: Worship Service, 6:30 PM

Happy Birthday: Donna Borkowski (6th) / **Happy Anniversary:** None

May Church Cleaning: Holli Wieser by 5/3; Paula Klawiter by 5/10; Bonnie Meyerhoff by 5/17; Jess McCann by 5/24/2026; no one scheduled for 5/31.

May Ushers: Denny Allen, Dennis Papenfuss, and (council rep) Dean Morgan.

May Bulletin Sponsors: Denny & Debi Allen in memory of Bryant Allen. Bill & Tara Suffrins in memory of Dean and Beverly Suffrins.

Looking Ahead:

WELS Evangelism Seminar: 5/16 Bethel, Galesville, 9AM-2:30PM. Sign-up by TODAY, so they know how many they are preparing a FREE lunch for. (Carpooling is available, if needed).

NEW Summer Bible Study: Since the Family & Women's Bible studies take the summer off, & it is light out longer so people don't mind driving after supper, Pastor will offer a mid-week summer Bible study on the book 'Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up' from CPH which discusses the various versions of Jesus that are touted & worshipped in today's Christian world. The 8-week class will meet Wednesdays at 6:30pm starting June 17th at church. Sign-up in back of church by May 24th so books can be ordered (if you already own the book, please indicate that on the sign-up sheet). Join us as we rejoice in the TRUE Jesus of Scripture and his love!

In Our Entryway, please help yourself to FREE:
Keurig Coffee, Hot Chocolate, & Hot Apple Cider
Meditations (devotional booklet), “Forward in Christ” & MLC’s “In Focus” Magazines, & St.
Luke’s Church Calendars for the month

St. Lukes Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS), Pickwick MN

Church (507) 454-1380
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Pastor: Steven L. Neumann
Cell Phone #: (262) 308-7666
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Musicians
Connie Hagedorn
Kris Swogger

Church Council Members

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Jim Albrecht, Financial Sec. (1st Term – 2027), ltcattle@acegroup.cc , 507-643-6126
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Kurt Swogger, Properties (2nd Term – 2028), kurtswog@yahoo.com , 507-313-0013
Dean Morgan, Properties (1st Term – 2029), deanm@hbc.com , 507-450-3663

St. Luke’s Lutheran Church of Pickwick accepts the Bible as the inspired inerrant Word of God. We believe that God created the entire universe in six natural days out of nothing by his almighty Word. We believe that humankind fell into sin and is totally corrupt, dead in trespasses and sin, and doomed to hell. We believe that God out of love for us humans sent his own Son who became human, lived a perfect life in our place, and suffered eternal death for us. We believe that God the Holy Spirit uses this Gospel message in Word and Sacraments to create faith in us and thus make Jesus’ saving work ours. St. Lukes Evangelical Lutheran Church is a gathering of Christians that exists to teach and preach the Word of God in all its Truth here among us and to all the people of earth, and to worship God and serve our neighbor in love as Jesus calls us to.

If you or someone you know might be interested in joining our congregation, Pastor offers a NO COST / NO OBLIGATION class that goes over the main doctrines of the Christian faith which also does serve as a Preparation to Take the Lord’s Supper & New Member Class, if so interested. Speak with Pastor for more specifics. He runs that class whenever there is someone interested; and he schedules it on days and times that work best for those expressing interest.