



WE ARE  
THE CHURCH

ST. LUCAS UCC

*Transforming lives  
as the hands and feet of Christ*

# WELCOME TO ST. LUCAS UCC

## 9:30AM WORSHIP

### April 16, 2023

*You are welcome and invited to join our active faith community. No matter where you are on your journey; no matter where your journey began; we want to replenish your spirit, refresh your faith and support you along the way.*

**Mission:** St. Lucas UCC unites Christians in the worship of God and affirms life-long Christian education, faithful discipleship and caring service in God's name.

**Promise:** St. Lucas UCC members, united in Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, strive to live faithfully, grow spiritually and serve lovingly all of God's creations.

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Love and laughter

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

\* All who are able, please stand.

“...for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” ~Nehemiah 8:10

## Welcome & Announcements

## Ringing of the Bell

## Prelude

### \*The Gang's All Here! (*Psalm 98, adapted*)

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of God's glorious name with your praise!

**People: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice! Say to all the nations, "The Lord rules!"**

Pastor: Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy!

**People: Remember the wonderful works God has done and let the whole world bless our God and sing his praise.**

Pastor: Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, who lives from everlasting to everlasting!

**People: Come and see what our God has done, what awesome miracles God has done for us!**

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### \*Hymn

*This is the Day*

insert/screens

### \*Come Dance With Us, Holy Spirit

**All: We believe in God – you made us! We live, we love, we laugh, because we are made in God's image. We believe in Jesus, who had the last laugh with his resurrection. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, who moves among us, supporting us, encouraging us to joy! Help us to remember that new Beatitude, "Blessed are they who laugh at themselves because they will never cease to be amused." Tickle our souls with the brush of your spirit to renew our worship and our living. Amen.**

### Time with Young Disciples

Michele Ottinger

### Hymn

*Earth and All Stars*

#10

### Scripture

Various

Pastor: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Love and Laughter*

Pastor Vicki

## **The Morning Prayer: The People's Prayer, Silent Prayer, The Lord's Prayer**

Pastor: As we celebrate in this season of resurrection, it's a good thing to pause and remember those who carry burdens that don't need to be carried alone. We pray for those who cannot find their laughter today, for whatever reason. Help us to know who they are and bring them solace.

(Pause for silent prayer)

Pastor: You are the God of love and laughter and we thank you that we are made to care for one another. We know that laughter is the best medicine and we thank you for the prescription of friends and family to make it happen. We thank you for the blessings of this life.

(Pause for silent prayer)

Pastor: God, we pray for those whose laughter now entertains you. Help us to be inspired by them and hear the echoes of their joy in our lives. We name them before you now.

(Pause for silent prayer)

Pastor: May we find the laughter within us that sets our spirits free, and in that freedom, share it with others, even as your son shared his laughter and wisdom with us as he taught us these words....

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **Giving Back with Joy Because We Can** *(offering plates are available at the entrance/exits)* **Offering Prayer**

**All: Our lives overflow with the goodness of God, sharing what we have so abundantly received. When we give out of that goodness, we experience God's joy – we heard you! Continue to bless what we bring now with gladness and gratitude.**

### **\*Doxology #382**

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **\*The Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**All: Bless these gifts, we pray, to ministries large and small. They are but a portion of the inheritance we have received from you. It is with thanks that we commit these gifts to your church and trust that they will be used to further your realm, your kin-dom, on earth. Teach us to give ourselves each day until our life's work is done. Amen.**

### **\*Hymn**

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

insert/screens

### **\*Good News to Go Out With**

### **\*Postlude**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK, APRIL 17—23, 2023

### Monday, April 17

9:15 a.m.	Walking Group	Parking Lot
9:15 a.m.	Preschool Spring Program Rehearsal	Social Hall

### Tuesday, April 18

9:15 a.m.	Preschool Spring Program Rehearsal	Social Hall
10:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Zoom
3:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting	Zoom
6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee	Room 19

### Wednesday, April 19

9:15 a.m.	Preschool Spring Program Rehearsal	Social Hall
6:30 p.m.	Cemetery Board	Room 19
6:30 p.m.	Preschool Spring Program	Social Hall
7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice	Sanctuary

### Thursday, April 20

9:15 a.m.	Preschool Spring Program Rehearsal	Social Hall
6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class	Fireside Room
6:30 p.m.	Preschool Spring Program	Social Hall
7:00 p.m.	PET	Room 19

### Friday, April 21

### Saturday, April 22

5:00 p.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
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### Sunday, April 23

9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	Church School, age 3—5th Grade	Sanctuary/Social Hall
12:30 p.m.	Jesus Revolution Movie	Ronnie's Theatre

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Mary Ellen Cox  
Jessica Crock  
John Gross

Ken Hamilton  
Dave & Janet Johnston  
Chuck & Sue Oertli

Scott Schmidt  
Evelyn Stolz  
Cookie Tunze

## ST. LUCAS UCC STAFF

Rev. Victoria Hampton.....	Interim Senior Minister/Head of Staff
Rev. Dr. Carole Barner.....	Interim Minister of Congregational Life
Seth Carruthers.....	Director of Music
Michele Ottinger.....	Director of Children's Ministries & All Church Programming
Amy Bush.....	Coordinator of Youth Ministries
Lynn Fey.....	Co-Coordinator of Youth Ministries
David Kuhns.....	Saturday Evening Organist
Jeff Wagener.....	Church Administrator
Debbie Heagle.....	Administrative Assistant
Denee Bowers.....	Communications Coordinator
Andrew Richardson.....	AV Tech
Kelly Blessing.....	Preschool Director
Charlie Singler.....	Maintenance Manager
Gurgett Torres.....	Maintenance