

## Welcome to St. Luke's Lutheran Church

St. Luke's Lutheran Church is a place to call home. Through God's word and the two sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ makes himself present here and now to welcome sinners home to God's love and forgiveness. We at St. Luke's want you to hear this



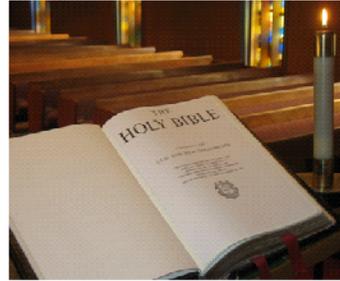
good news (gospel) for a living faith in Jesus Christ. That is why we strive to teach and preach the gospel as purely and clearly as possible so that you can hear God speaking to you. This defines St. Luke's mission to be a "genuinely Lutheran" church.



## What do Lutherans believe?

### Scripture Alone sola scriptura

Lutherans believe that the Bible is the word of God. The Bible is composed in two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.



Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ makes the Bible come alive and creates the faith which makes sinners right before God. This teaching is called "justification by faith alone." Sharing this good news (gospel) at the heart of the Bible is the mission of Christ's church.

### Word Alone and Faith Alone solo verbo et sola fide

Lutherans understand Sin as unbelief in God as the only true God. Our broken relationship with God can only be made right (justification) through faith alone in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through Christ's life, death, and resurrection, God has revealed his love for us in an almost unbelievable way. Through word and faith alone, the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens us in one true faith in Jesus Christ. Despite our remaining sin (unbelief), we are sanctified and reconciled with God through word and faith alone and given God's promise of eternal life.

## Grace Alone and the Cross Alone sola gratia et sola cruce

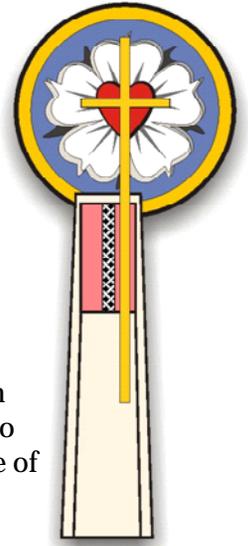
As sinners, we human beings rebel against God. Simply put, we do not want God to be God. Instead, we want to make our own gods, or we want to make God in our own image, or we even want to make ourselves God.

So, God has taken decisive action. God has sent his Son, Jesus Christ, whom we sinners crucified, to bring us into a right relationship with God. Only a gracious God could so freely give of himself to remove us from our sin and set us free to live with God forever. The cross of Christ is the eternal expression of this gracious love of God.

As St. John writes, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, in order that all who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Likewise, St. Paul firmly believed that "nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:39).

The cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ demonstrate God's invincible love for all humanity for all time. This promise of eternal life is God's gift of grace given only in the word of the cross of Christ.



## Who are Lutherans?

The name "Lutheran" describes Christians who cherish the theological insights of Dr. Martin Luther. Luther was an Augustinian monk and professor of theology at the University of Wittenberg, Germany in the early 1500s. After a thorough study of the Bible, Luther noticed that many of the practices of the Roman (Catholic) Church conflicted with the gospel teachings in the Bible. So, Luther sought to make the truths of the gospel known to both the pope and the public.

Luther's courageous efforts to reform the church won him both friends and enemies. In time, these efforts took hold, and today the Reformation has spread to all the world.

Jesus said, "If you remain in my word, ... you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32).



## What are Lutherans?

As Christians, Lutherans are Protestants. In fact, Lutherans are the original Protestants. The name Protestant was first used in 1529. That year, princes and bishops loyal to the pope tried to reverse the Reformation. In response, reform-minded princes and nobility "protested" against such actions. Since that time, the name "Protestant" describes all Christians who put biblical teaching before the religious rites, rules, and restrictions required by the papal church.

## St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Worship  
Sunday - 9:00 am

Sunday School  
(for all ages)  
Sunday - 10:30 am



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A Member Church  
of the  
Fellowship of Evangelical Lutheran Churches  
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# Welcome

to  
St. Luke's  
Lutheran Church



We are called  
as a community of Christians  
saved by grace  
-through faith alone in Jesus Christ-  
to spread the Holy Gospel  
in word, sacrament and action  
soli deo gloria.