

Welcome to St. Luke

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16th, 2026

Hope in the Dark — Psalm 42:5-43:5

The psalmist preaches to his own soul, and who comes to us when our tears are our food and our memories feel like loss. Because He is our salvation and our God, we can keep singing even before the dawn arrives.

INVOCATION

♪ ♪ Hope of the Nations

OPENING PRAYER

THE CALL TO CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved in Christ, the psalms teach us that renewal begins with honesty. We come to the God who lifted us from the pit, who has been our dwelling place in every generation, who reigns in majesty, who restores our joy. Let us confess our sin and our need for God's renewing mercy. Merciful God.

All: We confess that we have trusted our own strength more than Your steadfast love. We have forgotten Your compassion and remembered our failures instead. We have resisted the new song You place on our lips and clung to old fears that weigh us down. Restore us, O Lord. Renew our hearts, revive our hope, and lead us again in the joy of Your salvation.

Assurance of Forgiveness

♪ ♪ "God Loved the World So That He Gave" #571

TODAY'S Scripture Readers are Larry & Patti Balback

FIRST READING Psalm 42:1–43:5 *(Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God..)*

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?” ⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. ⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. ⁶ My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar. ⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me. ⁸ By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life. ⁹ I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?” ¹⁰ My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?” ¹¹ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Psalm 43 ¹ Vindicate me, my God, and plead my cause against an unfaithful nation. Rescue me from those who are deceitful and wicked. ² You are God my stronghold. Why have you rejected me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy? ³ Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. ⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God. ⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

RESPONSE – “Thanks be to God”

SECOND READING SECOND READING Romans 11:1–2a,
13–15, 28–32 (*God will reveal His
mercy to all people.*)

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel?

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead?

²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

RESPONSE – “Thanks be to God”

ALLELUIA - Page 156 in the Hymnal (*Please rise if you are able*)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 15:22–38 (*A Canaanite woman shows great faith.*)

²¹ And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after s.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ And he answered, “It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her,

“O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

RESPONSE – “Praise to you Oh Christ”

APOSTLES’ CREED *(Back page in the hymnal)*

♪ ♪ Christ is Mine Forevermore

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE MESSAGE: Hope in the Dark - Psalm 42:1 - 43:-5

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP *(Please complete the Record of fellowship during the Offering. Located at the ends of the pews)*

♪ ♪ Jesus Paid It All

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

All: Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever, Amen.

THE BLESSING

♪ ♪ Shine Jesus Shine



SCRIPTURE READINGS for August 23rd - Psalm 40:1-13. Romans 11:33-12:8, Matthew 16:13-20

Announcements

WELCOME VISITORS - We are delighted that you have joined us this morning. We pray for the Holy Spirit to richly bless your worship with us, and we invite you to join us again. If you are looking for a church home or have any questions, please speak with the Pastor or an Usher. Being a friendly congregation is a priority here at St. Luke. You can help us by leaving your name and address on the Friendship Register when it is passed down your pew. After the blessing at the end of the Service, greet your fellow worshippers and introduce yourself!

ST. LUKE SERVICES ONLINE - You can watch us online, every Sunday morning, 11:30 a.m. Go to sllc.ca for the link.

DONATE ONLINE - sllcoffering@gmail.com or ask Deb Kroeger for a monthly automatic donation form.

ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are presented by Shirley Wisdahl to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dave Wisdahl.

A 2026 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART is posted on the Bulletin Board. Please sign up for your favorite date(s) to provide flowers for the Altar.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR - Listen to The Lutheran Hour, Anytime, Anywhere! Visit LLL.ca and listen directly through the Lutheran Hour Canada Radio player. No account, no redirects, no fuss. Tune in at your convenience and share the link with a friend or neighbour who needs to hear the Good News. Visit LLL.ca to listen and explore more resources for your faith journey.

OPPORTUNITY BOARD - lots of new posts are ready for your helping hand. As always we are grateful for the ongoing support of volunteers.

YARD CLEAN UP: After receiving a complaint from a neighbour regarding the state of the wooden walkway, created at the back of our property several years ago by a well-meaning neighbour, whose health no longer sustained the repairs needed to keep it safe, we acted promptly to have the large structure removed, just before a visit by a City of Surrey By-law officer who was

responding to the complaint. Due to the state of the play structures and other wood waste that had accumulated a company that specializes in removing waste materials dismantled and hauled away all the broken playground equipment, wooden ramps and wooden garden fences taken down when the chain link fence was installed. There is always something to do to maintain our property in a safe and sustaining way and if you want to know how you can help, please contact Mark Kroeger, who with his many other titles, has taken the lead on maintaining our grounds.

FOOD CUPBOARD: Just a reminder that the cupboard needs to be continually restocked. Post-it notes with specific needs continue to be helpful, see the bulletin board across from the washrooms. We supply a bag of groceries to all who request them, but some of the requests come with specific needs so using the notes are most helpful in keeping the cupboard stocked with items to balance out the requests. As always, Gift cards to a grocery store are also welcome. For a tax credit you need to submit your purchase receipt with the gift card(s) which you can put on the offering plate. Thank you for supporting the needs of the people in our care.

REFUNDABLES - We have hit a new milestone with just a few containers shy of 15,000 from the start of the program. Thank you for your water bottles, pop and beer cans, milk cartons, wine bottles, juice boxes, it all adds up. The current refunded \$\$\$'s will go towards CLWR and their Friends of Creation program whose VBS program is centered around: "Creation Care Quest". More information is available on the VBS display or visit the Canadian Lutheran World Relief website.

SERMON SUMMARY for August 23rd - When God Restores Us 1 - He Drew Me Up from the Pit - Psalm 40:1-13. Psalm 40 proclaims that God rescues us when we cannot rescue ourselves. Christ is the One who lifts us from the pit of sin and sets our feet on solid ground. In Him, God gives us a new song of praise and a new life of hope.

CLASSROOM ROOF - Thank you to everyone who donated towards the emergency cost of replacing the roof over the classrooms and the entrance overhangs.

Your support is greatly appreciated and your donations offer a cushion towards the next unexpected need.

CALGARY STUDENT RESIDENCE VACANCY - do you know a Lutheran student attending the fall 2026 or winter 2027 semester at any of Calgary's post secondary schools? There is a vacancy at the Foothills Lutheran Student Residence, rent is \$2,080 per fourth month semester and includes all utilities. Common spaces are furnished and you will have to bring your bedroom furniture. You will share bathroom with one other student. The residence is a 5 minute walk to the University of Calgary and a 5 block walk to the C-Train station. If you have questions, please contact Heather Sommers at (403) 829-2366 or the church office at (403) 284-1342.

NO SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL for the remaining Sundays in August. Sunday School will resume on September 20, 2026.



THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE



SUNDAY 11:30 a.m. Worship Service w. Communion

St. Luke Lutheran Church



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