

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

Ministers- Every Member of the Congregation

August 10, 2025

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



We are the People of the United Methodist Church

Our Vision~ “Share Love and Give Hope”

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Goodness of God

Leon Beaudin, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Char McGrath, Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

From the rising to the setting sun,

God summons us.

In the perfect beauty all around us,

God brightens our hearts.

When we worship with acts of love and mercy,

God is pleased to give us the kingdom.

Come! Let us justice and righteousness be our worship.

HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, dress us for action, for the world is in need of our care. Turn us from our selfish ways and help us share the fat of this good land. For when we refuse and rebel, we reap what we have sown. Your care and compassion call to us. Your grace and mercy reach out to us. Heal us day, and may it be your good pleasure to give us kingdom. In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Philippians 2:1-11

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

UHM 189

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 2

MESSAGE The Blessed Life in the Son of God (1)

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Lord I Want to Be a Christian

Leon Beaudin

DOXOLOGY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of grace and glory, transform these gifts into vessels of your love and mercy. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may our offering bring treasure from above. May these gifts bring justice and righteousness to your children everywhere. In the name of Jesus, the Son of God, we pray. Amen.

HYMN Jesus Shall Reign

UMH 157

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

People get ready.

We are dressed for justice.

People get ready.

We are dressed for peace.

People get ready.

We are dressed for service.

Make the light of Christ, the Son of God, shine for all nations.

Amen.

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune in C

Leon Beaudin, Organist

Sermon Summary

The Blessed Life in the Son of God (1) – Psalm 2

Summary: God, who is in heaven, has manifested his almighty power of reign through his anointed, the Son of God, even in confrontation of the rebellion of the kings and the nations on earth, so that all human beings may be blessed through him.

A. God's blessing and reign through his anointed will be forever, not shaken by the rebellion of the early kings and nations against him

While Psalm 1 focuses on Israel as the community of God's people, Psalm 2 focuses on the individual, the anointed one of God. In this psalm, the blessed people are "all who take refuge in" the anointed of God, the king of Israel. The destiny of the people of Israel and God's blessing on them will depend on their relationship with the anointed one. This psalm is based on God's covenant with David through Nathan the prophet (2 Sam. 7:8-9, 16): "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be prince over my people Israel... I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth... Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever."

The nations and their kings conspire and stand against the anointed of God. They make a coalition against him and reject him. Their rebellion against the anointed is no less than the rebellion against God because God exercises reign through the anointed.

The authority of David, the king, came from God alone. God chose and anointed him not because of his human conditions but because of his understanding of God and his faith in God. "People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Sam. 16:7). By God's sovereignty, God let Samuel the prophet anoint David as the king of Israel (1 Sam. 16:12-13).

B. The story of David and Goliath exemplifies God's reign through his anointed in confrontation of the rebellion against him

After being anointed, David faced Goliath, a champion of the Philistines. Goliath ridiculed the armies of Israel. In fact, his ridicule was against God. At that time, the war between tribes was the war between their local deities. David heard his mockery of the armies of Israel and said, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that

he should defy the armies of the living God?" (1 Sam. 17:26) Goliath also ridiculed David, the anointed one, who came from pasture, saying, "Am I a dog, that you come to

me with sticks?” and cursing him “by his gods” (1 Sam. 17:43). David struck him down and killed him. In confrontation with Goliath the Philistine, David showed his consciousness as the anointed of God and his knowledge of God, who let him be anointed as the king of Israel. He called “the God of the armies of Israel” “the Lord of the hosts” or “the Lord Almighty” (1 Sam. 17:45). The Lord, the God of Israel, is the almighty God, whose rule and power are everywhere. His rule is universal. God the Lord anointed him to let all the earth know “that there is a God in Israel” (1 Sam. 17:47). Goliath represents the nations and the kings of the earth who defy the anointed of God and his rule. God showed his universal kingship through David the anointed. That is what God intended to do through the descendants of David; God will establish his kingdom through them. His kingdom is universal, extended to all nations and all kings, and his kingship over them will be exerted through David and his descendants: “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill” (Ps. 2:6).

C. The community of Israel living in the messianic expectation, the coming of God’s reign through his anointed, Messiah

According to Old Testament history, the dynasty of David went into downfall because of its disobedience to God. The people of Israel read Psalm 2 not as a royal psalm but as a messianic psalm with expectation of the coming of the Messiah to establish God’s house and God’s kingdom on earth.

D. Psalm 2 fulfilled in Christ, God’s anointed and the Son of God; God the Almighty revealed in Christ the crucified

Psalm 2 is the royal psalm for David and his descendants and, further, the psalm of the Messiah, the anointed one of God. God will build up his kingdom on earth through the house of David, through which God will show his universal rule to the world. However, the royal family of David fell and was kicked out of the throne of Israel and exiled to a foreign land because of their disobedience to God, his reign, and his covenant. God’s promise with David to make his kingdom “sure forever before” him is made real through Christ, the Son of God, “who was descended from David according to the flesh” (Rom. 1:3).

All nations, including Israel, did not welcome Christ, the Messiah, the anointed of God, who came from the genealogy of David. They conspired, took counsel together against the Lord and his anointed, and tried to release themselves from the reign of God (Ps. 2:1-3). But God, who “sits in the heavens, laughed and had them in derision

and made his anointed, the Jesus whom they crucified, “both Lord and Messiah” (Ps. 2:4-6; Acts 2:36). This is the gospel of God’s kingdom, the Christian gospel. This is the paradoxical drama of God’s salvation history: Human beings crucified Christ, and God

made him the Lord and the Messiah, to whose name everyone and everything in heaven and earth and under the earth should be subdued (Phil 2:6-11).

Jesus Christ, “who was in the form of God,” “emptied himself, taking the form of a slave and being born in human likeness.” “And he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.” “Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:6-11).

Christianity is the religion of paradox: crucifixion is the way of Christ to be enthroned as the Lord and the Messiah over all nations (John 3:3:14-15, 17:1-5), and God showed his power and wisdom through Christ, the crucified Lord (1 Cor. 1:24). God established his reign through Christ, the crucified Lord.

E. Christian Discipleship in rejoicing in Christ the Son of God and participating in his ministry to liberate the people from the evils of the world, injustice, oppression, and alienation

First, God’s reign is universal. It extends to all nations. And God’s kingdom comes from Zion, Israel, where God has set his king, Christ the Lord, who came as a descendant of David (Ps. 2:6). Discipleship begins with the confession of Christ the crucified Lord, in whom we have received forgiveness of sins and been saved “from this corrupt generation” (Acts 2:38, 40) and leads us to bring everything into the reign of Christ. The disciples of Christ are those who have seen the vision of God’s kingdom in Christ, that is, God’s almighty power and wisdom in Christ lifted to the cross. Their knowledge of Christ the Son of God is the basis and security of their life. The knowledge of Christ leads them to unite with those suffering from evil, alienation, injustice, and conflict for their liberation.

Second, there is nothing to intervene in the coming of God’s kingdom on earth. Even death could not hold Christ in its power (Acts 2:24). God is transcendent over human and earthly conditions, not being interrupted by them in achieving his salvation. God showed the omnipresent power and omniscient wisdom through Christ. He is the Almighty God. “What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?” (Rom. 8:31-32) “Anything (else) in all creation” cannot interrupt our relationship with God and his work of salvation for us (Rom. 8:38).

The Families of

Pat Ferranti (sister of Carol O'Neil and Janet Zerby)
Betty McDonald (friend & family member of Sally Cadarette)

Pray For

Sue Lind
Tom Piotrowski (brother-in-law of Jan Deming)
David (the grandson of Joan R. Gray)
Barb Meyer
Leslie Wisniewski
Nancy (the stepsister of Kathy Dewitt)
Ann Davis
Greg Preston
Bob Pierce, Sr.
Betty Martinek
Jane Russell
Melissa Morin

Shut-ins

Ann Davis, Bob Davidson, Florence Decker, Sandy Gillam,
Marletta Gross, Susan Hendrickson, Betty Martinek, Barb Meyer, Melissa Morin,
Phyllis Finn, Ruth Matherne, Jane Russell, Jacky Sansburn, and Roger Trerice.

Lift up in prayer all who are enduring the pain of war, the impacts of climate change, violence, hatred, poverty, and loss. Pray for unity and the freedom we find in Christ to strengthen our nation. Remember our church family, especially those facing loss, illness, weakness, and hardship. And seek blessings for the ministry of St. Luke's UMC.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:6-7)

Requests will be kept on the list for 1 month. If you would like your prayer request to remain on the list or be re-added, please let us know. SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST through our website, email office@stlukesumcni.org, by filling out a connection card, located on the pew backs, or the Prayer box located in front of the church.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Golden Friends event will be on TUESDAY September 2nd at The Silver Palace, 1500 Woodside, starting at 12:00 pm. The registration sheet is available on the “Sign-Up” bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall, with a deadline of August 24th. For more information, please reach out to Judy or Joe Fleming.

Become a part of the Missions from Home movement. The simple act of flattening and inspecting your shopping bags before donating saves the sleeping mat weavers a good amount of time. Donated bags that are clean, free from rips and tears, and flattened will really speed up the weaving process. To date, Mission Needleworkers have completed 17 sleeping mats, which means approximately 12,000 shopping bags have been kept from landfills and transformed into a protective barrier for those in crisis situations. Bags can be left in the basket on the Missions table.

Help Us Grow Young Hearts in Faith! Our fall Children's Sunday School kicks off on September 7, and we're looking for kind-hearted folks to help lead the way. If you feel called to teach or simply want to learn more, please reach out to Janie Good or the church office. Your time and care truly make a lasting impact. If you're already on our teacher list but can't participate this fall, thank you for your past support—please let us know so we can update our roster.

Setup for the Rummage Sale will take place Sunday through Wednesday, August 10–13. The sale runs from Thursday, August 14, to Saturday, August 16. We welcome donations of baked goods such as cookies, brownies, and homemade bread. Volunteers are needed for setup on Sunday (following worship) and Monday through Wednesday starting at 9 AM, as well as during the sale days. Tear down will take place after the sale ends on Saturday. Please drop off rummage items in Room 4. *Note: We cannot accept mattresses, box springs, tube TVs, computers, or exercise equipment.*

Through the month of August, the Missions work area will be collecting snack items for our young neighbors at Bush Elementary School. Individually wrapped packages of granola bars, fruit snacks, animal crackers, etc. can be left on the Mission table near the main entrance. Many thanks.

Salvation Army Soup Kitchen Volunteer Sign-Up. Help serve at the Matthew 25 Café by prepping, cooking, serving, and cleaning up for soup kitchen guests on Saturday, August 16, from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Location: 410 10th St, Bay City. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

United Methodist Community House Mitchell Motor Coach Bus Trip – Grand Rapids MI. Hosted by the United Methodist Women in Faith. UMCH is all about community. Since 1902, they have been meeting the needs of and offering opportunities to children, youth, adults, seniors, and families. Located in the heart of Grand Rapids, they are committed to serving a diverse population and continue to adapt programming to best serve those who need most. **EVERYONE WELCOME!** Sign up with Gloria Gonzales, Becky Scott or Brenda Scramlin. Checks may be made out to United Women in Faith. For more information see the UWIF Bulletin board across from the church library.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DATE: Wed. Sept 10, 2025• TIME: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm• Park & Ride from Meijer Wilder Road• Sign-up deadline is today	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$40 per person (<i>payment due at sign up</i>) includes ride, driver tip & lunch at UMCH• Limited seating
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AV Fundraising update

Our A/V Task Group is working to enhance our sanctuary and online audio/visual experience. After consulting with Simoni Systems, we found our current A/V system outdated and difficult to use. We plan to start with upgrading the sound system, which will cost around \$16,000.

An anonymous donor has pledged to match up to \$7,500 in congregation donations made by mid-October. So far, we are 65% towards our goal of \$8,500.

St. Luke’s is growing thanks to your support. Let’s make this “SOUND” investment together!

Dan Morgan & Henry Roeder, Fundraising Co-Chairs
Leon Beaudin, Master of Sound

Sun Aug 10-Sat Aug 16, 2025

Annual Rummage Set-up & Sale

Actual sale is 14th – 16th

Tue Aug 12, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Aug 13, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu, Aug 14, 2025

8a – 4p Rummage Sale

6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study – Cotton Patch Gospel

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Fri Aug 15, 2025

8a – 4p Rummage Sale

Sat Aug 16, 2025

8a – 4p Rummage Sale

9:00 am U.M.M. Breakfast @ Krzysiak's

9:30a–1:30p Salvation Army Soup Kitchen
Volunteers L-TBD

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Mon Aug 18, 2025

6:30 pm UWif Executive Meeting

7:00 pm Sanctuary in use/Leon demo of organ

Tue Aug 19, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

6:30 pm Missions Meeting in Esther's Parlor

Wed Aug 20, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Aug 21, 2025

6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study – Cotton Patch Gospel

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Aug 23, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Mon Aug 25, 2025

6:30 pm Governance Board Meeting

Tue Aug 26, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Aug 27, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu Aug 28, 2025

6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study – Cotton Patch Gospel

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Aug 30, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Mon Sep 1, 2025

All day Labor Day

Tue Sep 2, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Sep 3, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Sep 4, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Sep 6, 2025

9:00 am U.M.M. Breakfast @ Krzysiak's

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Tue Sep 9, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Sep 10, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu Sep 11, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Sep 13, 2025All day Church reserved / Carnival to benefit
BARE charity

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sun Sep 14, 202510:00 am Worship Service / UWif and Missions
Sunday**Tue Sep 16, 2025**

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Sep 17, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu Sep 18, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Sep 20, 2025

9:00 am U.M.M. Breakfast @ Krzysiak's

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Mon Sep 22, 2025

6:30 pm Governance Board Meeting

Tue Sep 23, 2025

10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Sep 24, 2025

10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu Sep 25, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sat Sep 27, 2025

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Sep 28 – Oct 26, 2025

[UWif] Cookie Dough Sale

Sun Sep 28, 2025

6:00 pm Central Bay District Charge

Conference (Zone 4)

Volunteers

Serving This Sunday

Liturgist
Char McGrath

Children's Church
Sheila Good and Brenda Toyzan

Ushers
Henry Roeder, Joe Fleming,
and alternates

Serving Next Sunday

Liturgist
Eric Ives

Children's Church
Becky Scott and Linda Manyen

Ushers
Henry Roeder, Joe Fleming,
and alternates

Acolytes

(varies week to week)

**Connor Yagiela, Lauren Yagiela, Jazzlyn Jones,
Kyliana Green, Ethan Lanava**

Altar Flowers

The signup form for arranging altar flowers to adorn the sanctuary during Sunday's Worship service is available on the bulletin board designated for sign-ups.

Stay Connected

Address

206 Scheurmann St
Essexville MI 48732

Phone

Church: 989-893-8031
Parsonage: 989-894-2453

Office Hours

Tue & Wed 9-3, Thu 9-12

Email

office@stlukesumcmi.org

Online

<https://www.stlukesumcmi.org>

Online Giving

<https://stlukesumcmi.org>

Click on "Give" in top menu bar

To Sign up for our E-newsletter

<https://stlukesumcmi.org/newsletter-subscribe>

August 7, 2025 Newsletter

<https://bit.ly/newsletter-2025-08-07>

Staff

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Leon Beaudin

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AV Coordinator

Andrew Felch
avtech@stlukesumcmi.org

Christian Education Coordinator

Janie Good
christianed@stlukesumcmi.org

Adult Sunday School

Fall, Winter, Spring
9:00 am in Esther's Parlor

Children's Church:

Following Children's Message
in Classroom 3