

# **St. Luke's United Methodist Church**

**Rev. Seok Nam Lim**

**Ministers- Every Member of the Congregation**

**August 17, 2025**

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**



**We are the People of the United Methodist Church**

**Our Vision~ “Share Love and Give Hope”**

# GATHERING

**PRELUDE**                      Come, Thou Fount                      **Leon Beaudin, Organist**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**                      **Eric Ives, Liturgist**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Give ear, God of all people.

**Stir up your strength and deliver us!**

Once you rescued your children from bondage.

**Now set your people free.**

Look down from heaven, God of hosts.

**Turn to us anew and see us in our need.**

Restore us, God of Creation.

**Let your face shine upon us.**

May our suffering cease.

**May all your children be saved.**

**HYMN**                      Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah                      **UMH 127**

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Come, God the Spirit. Hear our prayers and songs of praise. We join voices from ancient times, that placed their trust in you in days of joy or pain. Inspire us in this hour, that we may never surrender to despair. Renew in us enduring faith, even as we join eternally in song. In the name of Christ Jesus, God the Son, we pray. Amen.**

# **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT**                      **Matthew 3:13-17**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**                      **Rev. Seok Nam Lim**

**HYMN**    Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart VS 1, 3, 4,+ 5                      **UHM 500**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**                      **Rev. Seok Nam Lim**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 2

MESSAGE The Blessed Life in the Son of God (2)

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

## OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Spirit Song

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 Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

UMH 462

## SENDING FORTH

### BENEDICTION

Rev. Seok Nam Lim

Truly we are surrounded  
**by a great cloud of witnesses.**

Let us live and love,  
**as these examples of faith have shown us how.**

Let us fix our eyes upon Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  
**until we arrive at his kingdom.**

May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit be with you all through  
your life journey, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

POSTLUDE Sortie

Leon Beaudin, Organist

# Sermon Summary

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

**Summary:** The decree of the Lord to make David the Son of God and to give him the nations as his inheritance has been achieved in Christ, through his sinless life and his prayer.

### **1. The Kingdom of God for All Nations—God’s purpose to call David “my Son”: “You are my Son; today I have become your Father (today I have begotten you).” (Ps. 2:7)**

**a. The Davidic kingship by God’s promise:** The Davidic king is the Son of God by birth and by promise. What God will do through David and his offspring is to give them all nations as an inheritance. God the Father will deliver his kingship to his Son so that his Son will rule the people living in the whole world, and his kingship will be extended to the ends of the earth. It is the confirmation of the covenant God made with David and his offspring, his house: “I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me” (2 Sam. 7:12-14).

**b. The Davidic kingdom for all nations:** The wisdom and blessing of God are not only for Israel but also for all the kings and rulers of the earth. These teachings are for every nation. What is wisdom for all of us? It is to “serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling” (Ps. 2:11). In Proverbs 1:7, “the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge.” What is more, in Psalm 2, those who live in the fear of the LORD are those who “kiss the Son,” so that they will be saved from God’s wrath and judgment (Ps. 2:12). The conclusion of Psalm 2 is that the blessed are “all who take refuge in” the Son of God (Ps. 2:12).

**c. The Davidic kingship according to God’s salvation history:** The God of David is the same God who created human beings in the image of God and commanded them to “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over” all creatures on earth (Gen. 1:27-28). The God who called David to become his Son is the same God who called Abraham out of his

homeland to make him a blessing to all humankind (Gen 12:2-3). Through the Davidic king, God will bring salvation to all nations and establish his kingship on earth.

## **2. The Failure of the Davidic Kingship**

However, the dynasty of David was unfaithful to God, the Lord, and was punished. The Davidic king failed to represent God's kingship on earth and to be a blessing to all humankind. David and his offspring were called the Son of God. God said to David, "When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings" (2 Sam. 7:14). Because of the sinful nature of David and his offspring and their unfaithfulness to God, his decrees and promise could not come true through them.

## **3. God's Steadfast Love through Jesus Christ, the Son of God**

God's steadfast love for David and his offspring is manifested in Christ Jesus, the Son of God. God called him, "as he came up from the water" after being baptized at the Jordan River, "My Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt. 3:16-17). The writer of Hebrew also testifies to the relationship of Jesus Christ with God by quoting Ps. 2:7, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you" (Heb. 1:5). God appointed him "heir of all things" (Heb. 1:2). God the Father inherited everything in the world to Christ, the Son of God. God's promise to David about the establishment of his kingship has been fulfilled through Christ, the Son of God.

"The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands (John 3:35), so that "whoever believes in the Son has the eternal life," being redeemed from their sins and God's wrath to come (3:36). In Psalm 1 those who are delighted with the Word of God are blessed, and in Psalm 2 those who listen to Christ, the Son of God, through whom God speaks to us today, are blessed; they "follow him because they know his voice" (John 10:4).

## **4. How Jesus achieved God's promise through Davidic kingship: How we should live as the children of God**

**First, Jesus has no sin.** Even though he is the same as God, the exact representation of the image of God, "he himself is subject to" our human

weakness and “in every aspect has been tested as we are, yet without sin,” so that he becomes “a great high priest” for us, in whom our sins are washed out (Heb. 4:15, 5:2). Even to the point of death on the cross, Christ was obedient to God and “made perfect” to become “the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him” (Heb. 5:8-9). In Christ we will never lose our hope of “receiving mercy and finding grace” from God; what we need to do is that, whenever we need God’s forgiveness and help, God’s providence, we are encouraged to get access “to the throne of grace with boldness” (Heb. 4:16). We are God’s new creation in Christ, in whom we have the assurance of God’s love, from which there is nothing to separate us (Rom. 8:39).

**Second, Christ achieved God’s promise to David through his prayers.** In Ps. 2:8, God commands David to ask of him so that God may “make the nations” his heritage and “the ends of the earth” his possession. Christ fulfilled his role as the Son of God through prayers. In his earthly life, his prayer always preceded his ministry. When he “was praying” after being baptized, “the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came upon him from heaven, and the voice of God, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved,’ came from heaven” (Luke 3:21-22). Heb. 5:7 summarizes how he took care of his ministry: “In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.” Our prayer is an expression of our submission to God. In our prayers, God will show his power of salvation. God will work through our prayers. God will let his kingdom come upon us when we pray. God knows our weakness and fragility. But when we pray, the Holy Spirit will empower us to overcome our weakness and the vanity of this world.

# The Families of

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

## Pray For

Joe Fleming  
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.

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

*(John 14:27)*

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@stlukesumcmi.org](mailto:office@stlukesumcmi.org), by filling out a connection card, located on the pew backs, or the Prayer box located in front of the church.

# CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rummage Sale Success!** A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's annual rummage sale a tremendous success! From the tireless volunteers who spent countless hours setting up, organizing, and running the event, to the generous donors who provided baked goods and filled our tables with treasures—your hard work and support made all the difference. The turnout was incredible, the energy was high, and the community spirit was truly inspiring. We couldn't have done it without you!

**The next Golden Friends event will be on TUESDAY September 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## **Sunday School Kick-Off – September 7!**

We're launching a new season of Sunday School on Sunday, September 7, and everyone's invited!

- Adults will meet at 9:00 AM before worship for a time of learning and discussion.
- Children will begin their class in Room 3 following the Children's Message during worship.

Whether you're diving deeper into Scripture or exploring Bible stories for the first time, this is a great opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship. Let's start the season with open hearts and curious minds—see you there!

## **Thursday Bible Study – Hebrews**

Dates: September 11 – December 18, 2025 (13 weeks)

Textbook: *Hebrews: Race to Glory* by James Reapsome (InterVarsity Press, LifeGuide Bible Studies, 13 Lessons)

- September 11, 18, 25 & October 2 – Led by Henry Roeder, Lay Servant
- October 9, 16, 23 & 30 – Led by Brian Scramlin, Lay Servant
- November 6, 13, 20 & December 4 – Led by Dave Talaga, Lay Servant
- December 11 – Led by Pastor Seok Nam Lim

**United Women in Faith  
Executive Meeting**

Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Missions Meeting  
in Esther's Parlor**

Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**Missions**

**Weaving Hope with Plarn**

Turn everyday plastic bags into *plarn*—plastic yarn used to weave durable, water-resistant sleeping mats for people facing homelessness. These mats provide comfort and dignity while keeping thousands of bags out of landfills.

Join the Wednesday Weavers every week at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. No experience needed—just willing hands and a compassionate heart. You can also help by donating clean, flattened bags (free of rips and tears) in the basket on the Missions table. To date, our Mission Needleworkers have completed **17 mats**, repurposing around 12,000 bags. Make a difference—one strand at a time.

**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.

**Through the Kroger Community Rewards program**, Kroger donates to local organizations based on the shopping you already do. The more our supporters shop, the more St. Luke's earns! It's easy to get started:

1. **Create or sign in to your digital Kroger account** at [kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com)
2. **Link your Shopper's Card** to St. Luke's United Methodist Church
3. **Shop and swipe**—that's it!

Kroger's mission is to uplift communities and promote healthier lives. By linking your card, you're helping St. Luke's continue its outreach, care ministries, and community programs—all while buying your groceries.

Let's make every cart count for a cause!

**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
- 5:30 pm Girl Scouts – Big Class Room

**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**

- 7:30 am UWif Bus Trip to UM Community House, Grand Rapids
- 10:30 am Wednesday Weavers
- 6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

**Thu Sep 11, 2025**

- 6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study for Hebrews
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

**Sat Sep 13, 2025**

- All day Church reserved / Carnival to benefit BARE charity
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

**Sun Sep 14, 2025**

- 10:00 am Worship Service / UWif and Missions Sunday

**Tue Sep 16, 2025**

- 10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up
- 5:30 pm Girl Scouts – Big Class Room

**Wed Sep 17, 2025**

- 10:30 am Wednesday Weavers
- 6:30 pm Needleworkers Meet-up

**Thu Sep 18, 2025**

- 6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study for Hebrews
- 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**

- 6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study for Hebrews
- 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)

**Tue Sep 30, 2025**

- 10:30 am Needleworkers Meet-up
- 5:30 pm Girl Scouts – Big Class Room

**Wed Oct 1, 2025**

- 10:30 am Wednesday Weavers

**Thu Oct 2, 2025**

- 6:30 pm Thursday Bible Study for Hebrews
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

**Sat Oct 4, 2025**

Central Bay District Annual Meeting, Alma UMC

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

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

# Volunteers

## Serving This Sunday

**Liturgist**  
Eric Ives

**Children's Church**  
Becky Scott and Linda Manyen

**Ushers**  
Henry Roeder, Joe Fleming,  
and alternates

## Serving Next Sunday

**Liturgist**  
Sue Lind

**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**

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## 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](mailto: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 14, 2025 Newsletter

<https://bit.ly/newsletter-2025-08-14>

# Staff

## Pastor

Rev. Seok Nam Lim  
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Mobile: 347-885-1948

## Office Manager

Sheila Good  
[office@stlukesumcmi.org](mailto:office@stlukesumcmi.org)

## Organist

Leon Beaudin

## Accountant

Donna Gross  
[accountant@stlukesumcmi.org](mailto:accountant@stlukesumcmi.org)

## AV Coordinator

Andrew Felch  
[avtech@stlukesumcmi.org](mailto:avtech@stlukesumcmi.org)

## Christian Education Coordinator

Janie Good  
[christianed@stlukesumcmi.org](mailto: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