

**Wednesday
Evenings in Lent
2025
(Online)**

**Faith In Action:
The Early Church - Treasures for
Now**

March 12, 2025 7:00 pm

**Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School
9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD
www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363**

Week 1:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.” (Acts 2:42-43). What can we learn for today from the Early Church, those witnesses during and right after the time of Jesus? Each week we will look at scripture and characteristics of the Church then, and lift these treasures for the Church and our lives now. What were these treasures? Each week we behold: 1. Awe + Devotion 2. Bold Witness + Courage 3. Generosity + Gladness 4. Unity + Different Gifts 5. Welcoming and Growing.

Thank you for joining in this Wednesday Evening time of intentional Lenten prayer and reflection.

WELCOME

OPENING LITANY

The prophet Joel calls us to return to the Lord with all our hearts.

Lord, use this holy season of Lent to reorient our lives toward you.

As we raise our hearts in prayer and reflection,

comfort us and fill us with you word and grace.

Bless our worship, our work, and our play.

Move us with bold spirits that we may follow

where you lead in confidence and trust.

HYMN

ACS-1033 NOTHING CAN TROUBLE

(Sung three times)

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te.
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

(Continued on the next page)

na - da te es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515–1582; adapt. Taizé Community
 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Tune: NADA TE TURBE

PRAYER

Loving God, we give thanks for the bold witness of those in the Early Church. Awe and devotion filled the community. We thank you for passion for your word, your will, your way. Bless our Lenten journey. We give thanks for those gone before us who were powerful witnesses of your steadfast love. We pray our witness as well shines in this world today. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989

Music: Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine

Tune: O STORE GUD

REFLECTION

The Early Church: Treasures then for Now:

Awe + Devotion

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE

Treasures: Awe + Devotion

A TIME OF MEDITATION

Music will guide us in a time of reflection

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord watches over your going out and your coming in.
The Lord shields your joys and holds your sorrows.
God bless you ✠ and keep you this day and always.
Amen.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Officiating Minister

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, Senior Pastor

Musician

Adam Scott Graham, Director of Music

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LET'S TALK: FAITH IN ACTION Sunday Mornings in Lent

10:10 a.m. Fireside Room
Coming Highlights

Sunday, March 16

The Call of the Church-At-Large
In Times of Challenge
Special Guest: Bishop Richard Graham
Bishop Emeritus, Metro DC Synod ELCA

Sunday, March 23

Lutheran World Relief
Celebrating 80 Years!
Special Guest: Emma Wagner
LWR Senior Advisor, Congregational Engagement

Sunday, March 30

ELCA Witness in Society
The Call to Advocacy, Fairness and Justice
Special Guest: The Rev. Amy Reumann
Senior Director, Witness in Society, ELCA

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(Through Word, Music, Prayer, Meditation - Rediscovering the Vitality of the Earliest Church for Today)

Wednesday, March 12 Awe + Devotion (Reflection: Pastor Miller)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. **Awe came upon everyone**, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. (Acts 2:42-43)

Wednesday, March 19 Bold Witness + Courage (Reflection: Dr. Paul Wee)

Now when they saw the **boldness of Peter and John** and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. (Acts 4:13)

Wednesday, March 26 Generosity + Gladness (Reflection: Bishop Richard Graham)

God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were **no needy persons** among them. (Acts 4:33) ... they broke bread at home and ate their food with **glad and generous hearts**, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. (Acts 2:46)

Wednesday, April 2 Unity + Different Gifts (Reflection: Pastor Beth Platz)

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (I Corinthians 12:4-7)

Wednesday, April 9 Welcoming + Growing (Reflection: Pastor Franklin Morales)

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the **goodwill of all the people**. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. (Acts 2:46-47)