

Celebration Lutheran Church

30th Anniversary Celebration

October 28, 2023 • 4:00 p.m.

Order of Worship

~ The Preparation ~

PRELUDE/PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL

Hymn Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

I Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

INVOCATION

Affirmation of Christian Vocation

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the

communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

~ The Entrance ~

GATHERING SONG

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

DIALOG

"This is the day that the Lord has made"

"We will rejoice and be glad in it."

We gather to thank God for the past:

For the places, people and experiences who have shaped our community.

We gather to thank God for the present:

For the vision, service, worship, and witness that come from our community.

We gather to thank God for the future:

For those who will come after us, for the amazing things God has planned for us.

We gather to thank God for our life together:

For our companions on the journey – thank you God!

We gather to acknowledge that "This is the Lord's doing"

"And it is marvelous in our eyes!"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Let us pray...

Amen

~ The Word ~

Sit

READING

Romans: 15: 5-7, 13

After the reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118: 19-24

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ***All Creatures Worship God Most High!***



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor



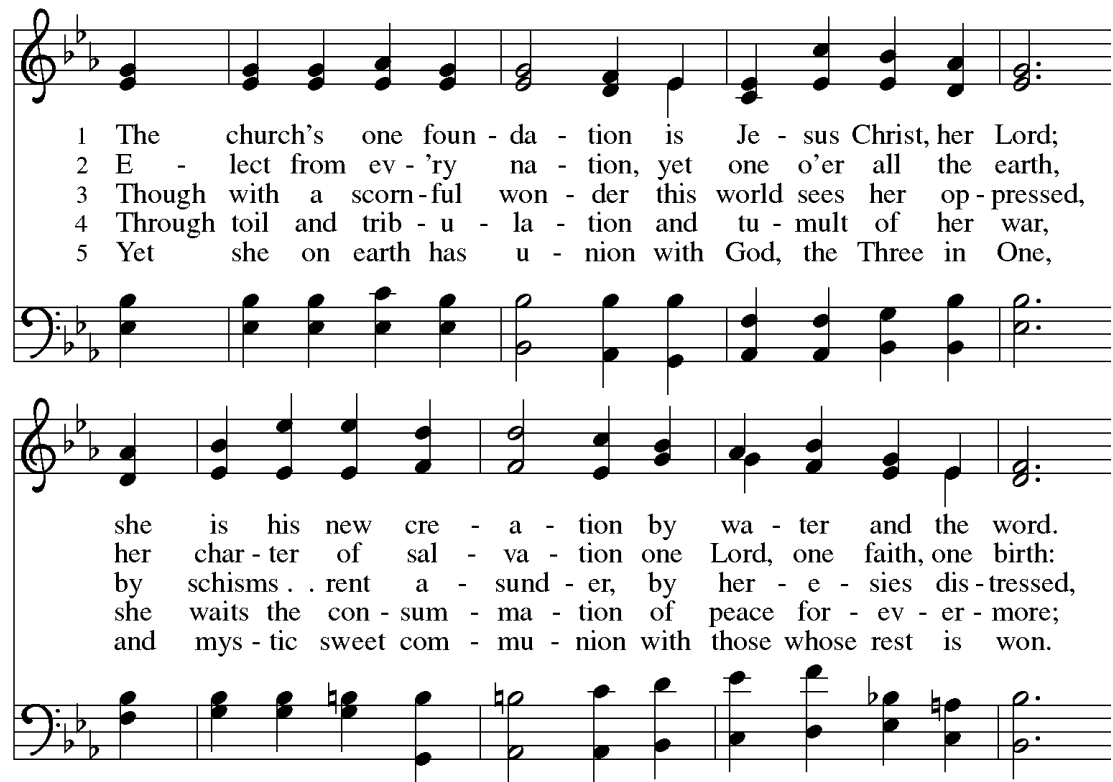
bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
 Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING Luke 6:46-49
*After the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord***
*After the reading: **Praise to you, O Christ***

SERMON Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins, Bishop, Northeastern Ohio Synod

Stand
 WORD SONG ***The Church's One Foundation***



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,
 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

~ Response to the Word ~

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

Prayer response: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

OFFERING *Tithes and offerings are collected during this time to be used for ministry and mission in this place.*

*OFFERTORY SONG **Awesome God**

Our God is an awe - some God, he
reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,
pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!
Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

Chords: Em, C, G/B, G, D, Em, D/E, Em, C, G/B, G, Am, Em/B, Bm7, Em, Am7, Em/B, Bm7, Em

OFFERTORY PRAYER

~ The Meal ~

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Congregation sings the underline texts

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts, oh lift them up. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to thank and praise.

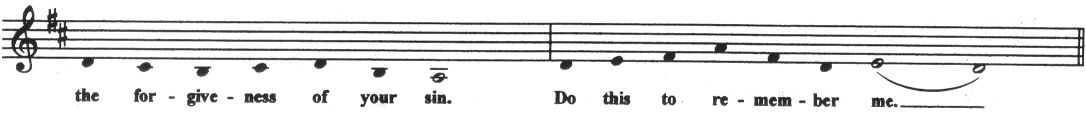
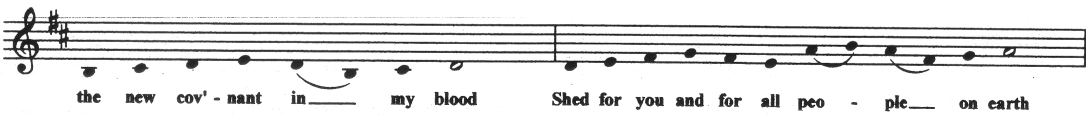
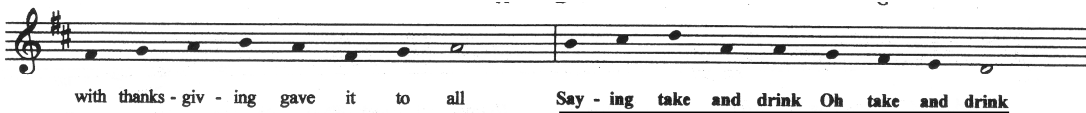
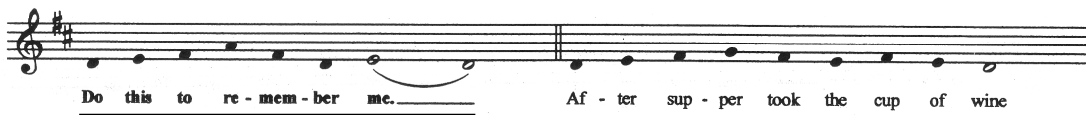
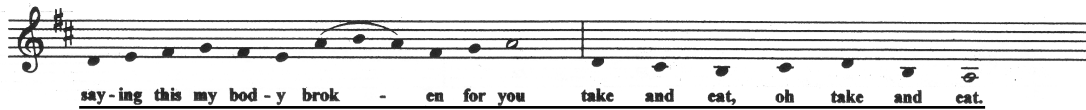
In unending hymn we sing. Holy holy holy Lord,

God of power and God of might Heav'n and earth filled with your glory.

Alleluia Alleluia. In your name you sent the blessed one.

Christ is come oh Christ is come. Hosanna in the highest.

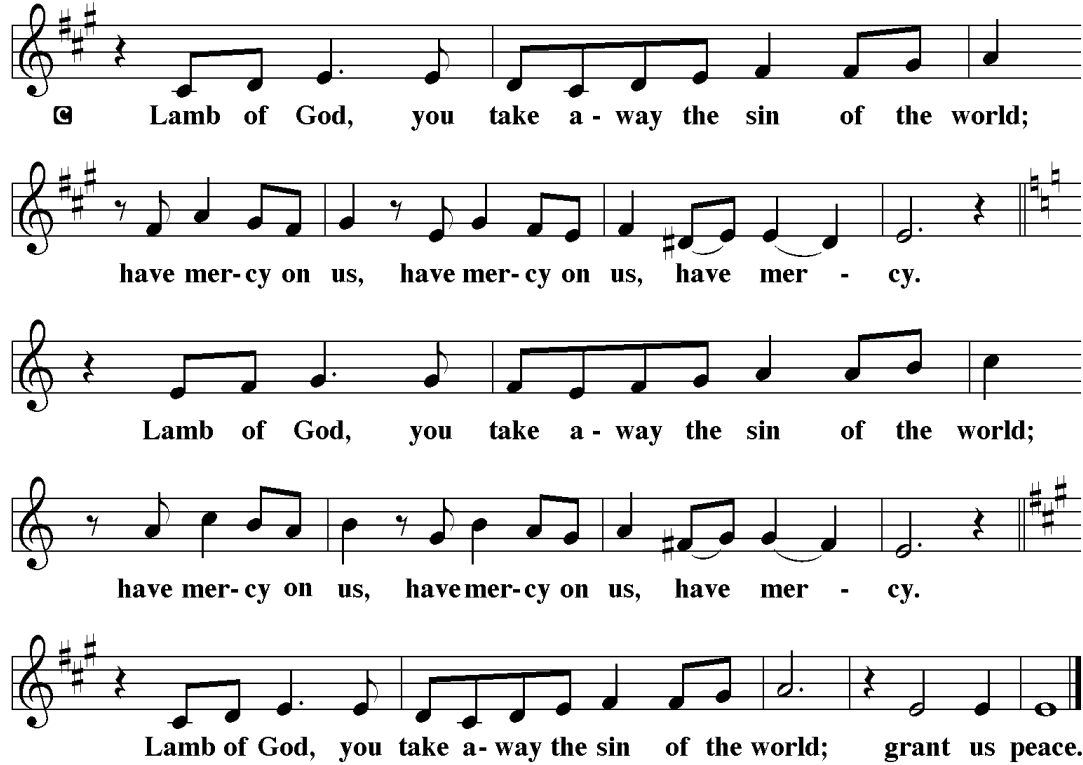
On the night of his betrayal during supper with his friends,



LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO
THE TABLE

All who are seeking Jesus as their Savior and are in need of God's grace and forgiveness are welcome to the Table.

DISTRIBUTION


Pr. Marilyn will explain the communion options.

Stand

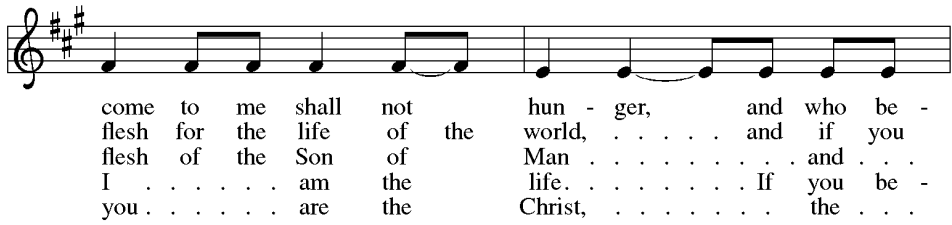
COMMUNION HYMN

I am the Bread of Life

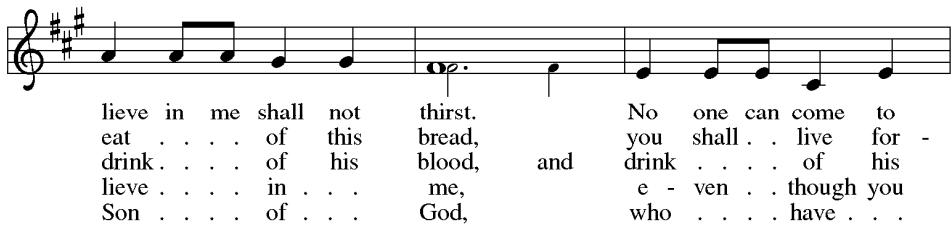
Leader of All



1	"I	am	the	Bread	of	life.	You	who
2	"The	bread	that	. . . . .	I	will	give	is
3	"Un	- less	. . . . .	you	. . . . .	eat	of	the
4	"I	am	the	res - ur	- rec - tion,	. . . . .	
5	Yes,	Lord,	. . . . .	I	be - lieve	that	. . . . .



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and . . .
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, and you shall . . live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in . . . me, e - ven . . though you
 Son of . . . God, who have . . .



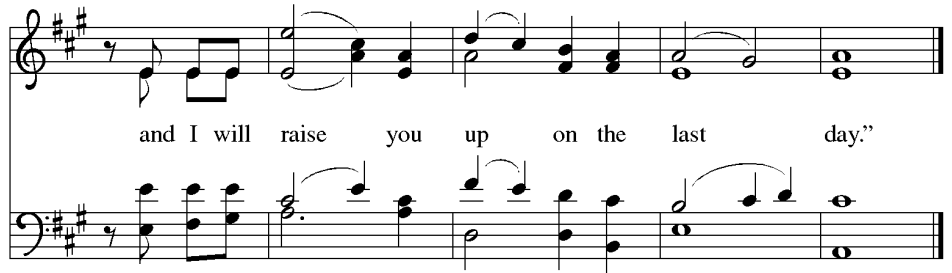
me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world. . . .

Refrain

All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."

SIT
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

~ The Sending ~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAND
BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG ***We are Marching in the Light of God***

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

CELEBRATION LUTHERAN CHURCH 30 YEAR TIMELINE HIGHLIGHTS 1993 – 2023

1990 – 1992 were the years before Celebration was officially organized as an ELCA congregation. Much work, leadership, determination and a desire to fulfill God's calling for a new ministry in the Charon area led us to Organization Sunday – May 16, 1993.

1990 Pastor Randy Olson is called and installed as Mission Developer, and begins door-to-door calling in the Kirtland area. An open house for interested members is held at the parsonage in Kirtland (30 people attended). Sunday evening services continue at the parsonage through May 1991.

1991 Service Committee (forerunner of council) formed; First Worship Service held at Kirtland High School, with sixty prospective members present; first Baptism: Kathryn Jane Haller (b. 5/10/91); first Rally Day to promote Sunday School; first Christmas Eve service, held at Chapel of the Divine Word in Kirtland

1992 Lenten Soup Suppers begin; a retreat was held at Punderson Manor House to create the Mission Statement of Celebration; Charter is opened for the first time; first VBS program held at Kirtland Elementary School; first confirmation: Dawn Michelle Morton; Congregation gathers to dedicate and bless the Auburn Road, Chardon property, and holds a Mission Partner Appreciation Gathering at Notre-Dame Educational Center in Chardon.

1993 First Council is elected (President: Jeff Huntsberger, Vice-President: Jim Paige, Secretary: Sally Podrasky At Large Council Members: Neal Goldsworth, Judy Kesler, Noel Manzi, Mike Morton, Debbie Werronen and Pastor Randy; first budget approved; Pastor Randy Olson called as Celebration's first pastor; Holly Wolanin appointed treasurer; group prayer chain initiated; Celebration was received as the newest congregation at the Northeast Ohio Synod Assembly in Kent Ohio

1994 Property on Auburn Road was paid off with the help from mission partners; Celebration's men's basketball team wins first game in triple OT! Celebration's entry in Kirtland youth soccer league was formed with Pastor Randy as coach; worship service goes "on the road" to Lake Farmpark due to the Strawberry Festival at the Kirtland High School; Companions on the Journey 3-Year Capital Campaign begins; men's breakfast prayer meeting commences

1995 Second anniversary celebrated with (what else) a make-your-own ice cream Sundae party; a second worship service was added, utilizing both the cafeteria and the LGI (Large Group Instruction) room; Rally Day attended by 153; family retreat at Camp Luther

1996 First chalk talk by Bob & Jackie Wolf of Fairport Harbor; annual outdoor service, this year at Girdled Road Reservation; Pharos Bible study informational meeting with fifty people attending

1997 Strawberry Festival parade with Dave Stinchcomb driving his trusty tractor pulling a decorated trailer full of kids; "Hiking with Harriet" (Anderson) every Thursday morning at Chapin Forest, Kirtland; Rally Day was held at Chapin Forest; Celebration participated in CROP Hunger Walk at Geauga County Fairgrounds

1998 "Alive in the Spirit", a 3-Year Building and Mission Renewal Capital Fund Campaign begins; Groundbreaking at 10621 Auburn Road, Chardon; dedication of cornerstone and burial of a time capsule containing a worship bulletin, phone directory, With One Voice hymnal, *Reaching Out* newsletter behind the cornerstone (to be opened in 100 years)

1999 Stone sign erected at the entrance way of the church; building completed; the last worship service at Kirtland High School was held March 21; March 28, a parade of cars travel from High School to 10621 Auburn Rd., Chardon for the first worship services in the new building. Attendance was 275. The building was dedicated in June.

2000 Pastor Randy Olson's accepted a call to a congregation in Wisconsin; his last worship service at Celebration, March 26; call Committee was formed: Neal Goldsworth (chairperson), Sharrie Bulzan, Jeff Huntsberger, Steve Kock, Brenda Swanson and Jeff Werronen, Alternates: Gayle Fecsik and Lee Watson

2001 On June 10, the congregation votes to call Pr. Laura Barbins as Celebration's second pastor; Pr. Laura's first worship service at Celebration is July 16; Wednesday evening prayer services began

2002 A wooden cross was erected and dedicated in the front lawn of the church building; *Towards our Future...Remembering Our Past*: after worshiping for eight years at the Kirtland High School and moving into the new church building was an adjustment for many. A service was held at the Kirtland High School Cafeteria with a pot-luck dinner to remember the years of growing the ministry there and moving towards the future at our new home.

2003 Celebration Lutheran Vision Statement adopted by council, and the congregation celebrates its 10th anniversary Celebration with worship followed by a reception/dinner at Brown Barn in Chardon; congregation purchases a two manual, 34-stop Renaissance Allen Organ with two speakers from the Allen Organ company; Eric Luhta resigned as an accompanist; the organ is dedicated in June, with Bill Patrick, guest organist, Hillcrest Brass Band, Larry Smith, timpani

2004 The First Annual Summer Music Camp was held, and Pastor Laura received her Doctorate degree of Philosophy from Vanderbilt University in Nashville Tennessee

2005 Paving of the parking lot

2006 New Celebration street sign installed

2007 An Eagle Scout project was completed and dedicated – Prayer Path (Matthew McClendon), and Celebration's first pulled pork dinner held

2008 Another Eagle Scout project was completed and dedicated – Outdoor Worship Space (Sam Eilerman); David A. Snyder ordained at Celebration Lutheran

2009 Kt Crecelius ordained in Weaver Chapel, Wittenberg University

2010 Group trip to Germany to follow the steps of Martin Luther and attend the Oberammergau Passion Play

2011 First Dorothy's (Stinchcomb) Porch (free give-away); first Blessing of the Animals; David Well's Concert; chocolate dessert fellowship; contractors hired to repair severe ice damage to the inside of the building, and new roof installed after the original was damaged in a hail storm

2012 Beer & Bible begins; annual Summer Music Camp ends (after 8 years); a new Mission Statement is adopted – "Connecting people to people, connecting people to Christ;" *Beyond our Walls* (The Joy of Generosity) 3-year Debt Reduction Campaign begins

2013 Food Pantry begins (Cleveland Food Bank)

2015 Beyond our Walls Capital Campaign officially ends; the first Polka Worship service is held with the Chardon Polka Band, and Angie Storer is ordained at Celebration

2016 Gail Goldsworth retires as accompanist on October 9 after 22 years of service

2017 Living Well Appeal – new water well purchased and installed; Food, Faith & Fellowship event began (monthly); Bill Patrick installed as organist/accompanist

2018 Congregation approves incurring a debt of \$100,000 for major repairs and replacements, including new HVAC system, and repairs to sanctuary windows, sump pump and septic system; Pastor Laura begins teaching part-time as an Adjunct Professor at Trinity Seminary in Columbus until 2020.

2019 First Annual Beer & Hymns; first Book Study; two Christmas concerts held: Gateway Band – “A Jazzy Christmas” and Olympic Brass – “Silver Bells”

2020 COVID-19 pandemic hit the US in February, leading to statewide stay-at-home order; Facebook livestream (only) worship begins. In June, on-site outdoor worship began, one at 8am (non-singing) and one at 9:30am (limited singing); worship with limited singing returned indoors in September. Also in September, Pastor Laura was elected to the Office of Bishop at the Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly (via Zoom), celebrated her 25th Anniversary of Ordination (September 16), and a Call Committee formed: Monica Saggio (chairperson), Ken Coryell, Libby Franck, Jeff Huntsberger, Lynne Naylor and Donna Noble. In October, worship returned to Facebook Live only, with an exception made for Pastor Laura’s last worship service, which was held indoors. Pastor Jim Kulma was called as ‘bridge pastor’ from November 8 – December 27, and Pastor Jon Paulus is called as our interim pastor beginning January 3, 2021.

2021 Pastor Jon Paulus’ first worship service was January 3; parking lot worship/communion began via Facebook Live and 93.3 FM Radio with lay leaders and song leaders only present in the sanctuary. Worship returned indoors in May, with COVID protocols in place (40 in attendance). In September, the congregation voted to extend a pastoral call to Dr. Marilyn Matevia. Bill Patrick’s last day as organist/accompanist was September 26. Pastor Marilyn’s first worship service at Celebration was October 3 (ordination at Good Soil Lutheran Church in Rocky River on October 17, and installation at Celebration on November 14). Called to Care organized in October, as well, and David Strieter began as accompanist on October 31. Pastor Jon Paulus was honored for his service on November 10. Our first annual “Longest Night” service was held in December.

2022 Called to Care begins monthly intergenerational service projects, such as Health Kits, bag lunches for the homeless and for first responders, and no-sew blankets. Holy Hikes begin as a monthly Celebration ministry. The first annual Pet Blessing and Care Fair is held in October; the event makes the front page of the News-Herald. A joint congregational retreat was held in November with the Community of Saint Hildegard of Fairport Harbor

2023 Began holding a monthly “special topic” presentations after worship (guest speakers, documentaries, guided discussions); hosted and participated in an all-day Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training, led by Mental Health First Aid Ohio; held and participated in a CPR and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) training provided by the Chardon Fire Department, after Celebration was able to purchase an AED with funds from an anonymous donor; Mini Vacation Bible School was held in August for the first time in ten years, with 7 children attending. Our second annual Pet Blessing and Care Fair drew five area rescue organizations, at least 35 blessings, and another first page story in the News-Herald.

We fondly remember the past and have come a long way in our faith and discipleship as "Companions on the Journey." Being "Alive in the Spirit", we look towards the future serving God and his people "Beyond our Walls". May this journey we have embarked on together as children of God be a journey of "Connecting people to people, connecting people to Christ" through faith and love filled with God's amazing grace!

Historians:

Doug & Fran Kepp 1990 – 1993

Jeff Werronen 1993 – 2007

Gail Goldsworth 2007 - 2023

