

*Welcome to*  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
*of the Erie Lutheran Parish*



2 MARCH 2022  
Ash Wednesday

*On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.*

## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

### LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

*Pastor Emeritus*

WALT GABER

*Cantor*

RON KING

*Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity*

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL

THE REV. KAREN PARSH

*Pastors in Residence*

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

*Director of Care & Health Ministries*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

*Youth and Family Ministry*

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

CHRISTOPHER A. PAUL

*Academy Administrator*



**2 MARCH 2022**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**12:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

### LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Luther Memorial is Christ's church that brings its ministry to northwest Pennsylvania within the context of its Lutheran heritage.

As a church that ministers to the community, it seeks to be an inclusive congregation providing a welcoming environment for all to worship, learn, and enhance both personal spiritual growth and fellowship.

***GATHERING – “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”***

**PRELUDE** – Chorale Prelude on “O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall”

J. S. Bach

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

### GREETING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*



**PSALM: Psalm 51:1–17** *(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways to offenders,  
and sinners shall be restored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.  
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

*Because of the coming Day of the LORD, the prophet Joel calls the people to a community lament.  
The repentant community reminds God of his gracious character and asks God to spare the people,  
lest the nations doubt God's power to save.*

**FIRST READING: Joel 2:1–2, 12–17**

<sup>1</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,  
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

<sup>2</sup>a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains  
a great and powerful army comes;

their like has never been from of old,  
nor will be again after them in ages to come.



<sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the LORD,  
 return to me with all your heart,  
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;  
<sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing.  
 Return to the LORD, your God,  
 for he is gracious and merciful,  
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
 and relents from punishing.  
<sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,  
 and leave a blessing behind him,  
 a grain offering and a drink offering  
 for the LORD, your God?  
<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
 sanctify a fast;  
 call a solemn assembly;  
<sup>16</sup>gather the people.  
 Sanctify the congregation;  
 assemble the aged;  
 gather the children,  
 even infants at the breast.  
 Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
 and the bride her canopy.  
<sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar  
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.  
 Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,  
 and do not make your heritage a mockery,  
 a byword among the nations.  
 Why should it be said among the peoples,  
 "Where is their God?""

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10**

<sup>5:20</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,  
 "At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
 and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

<sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said to his followers:] "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. For truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>16</sup>"And whenever you fast, do not look ashen, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**MEDITATION**

Pastor Lundwall (12:00 pm Service)

Pastor Moran (7:00 pm Service)

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Text for this hymn is the work of an English lawyer, member of Parliament, and later governor of Bombay. The tune's composer was born in Wales, worked in an iron foundry in Danville, PA, but made such an impression with his musical talent that he was sent to Cambridge where he earned a doctorate. After a brief return to Danville, he went home to Wales, where he earned national renown.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 601**

**Savior, When in Dust to You**



1 Sav-ior, when in dust to you low we bow in hom-age due;  
2 By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,  
3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,  
4 By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,





when, re - pen - tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes;  
by your days of deep dis - tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,  
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,  
by the vault whose dark a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God,



oh, by all your pains and woe suf - fered once for us be - low,  
by the dread, mys - te - rious hour of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r,  
by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice,  
oh, from earth to heav'n re - stored, might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord,



bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
turn, oh, turn a fa - v'ring eye; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
lis - ten to our hum - ble sigh; hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
bend - ing from your throne on high, hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.  
Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903

*Please be seated.*

## INVITATION TO LENT

- ☞ Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

- ☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

- ☞ Most holy and merciful God,  
☞ **we confess to you and to one another,  
and before the whole company of heaven,  
that we have sinned by our fault,  
by our own fault,  
by our own most grievous fault,  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**



**P** We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**C** **Have mercy on us, O God.**

**P** Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**C** **Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

**P** Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.  
May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*People may come forward and stand to receive the ashes.*

*Ministers mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:*

**P** Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

*After those who desire ashes have received them, all may kneel or sit, and the minister continues.*

**P** Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**C** **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

**P** By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

**C** **bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

**P** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**C** **Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

**A** Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Renew your church, O God. When we have drifted from our call to proclaim repentance and to guide your people toward justice, lead us back to you. Encourage believers who hold the church's doors open to those who have felt excluded. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** Renew your creation, O God. Transform parched places into watered gardens and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring. Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation to become responsible stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** Renew our civic life, O God. Teach those in authority to advocate for the liberation of all who are oppressed and grant them courage to make difficult decisions. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** Renew our lives, O God. Spare your people from diseases of the body, mind, or spirit and send healing to those overcome by illness or grief. Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**A** Renew this congregation, O God. During these forty days of Lent, confirm our sense of mission and expand our imagination for ministry. Deepen our faith, increase our love, and draw us into your unfolding work of healing and restoration. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** As we mark ashes on our foreheads, we give you praise, O God, for all the saints who died and yet are alive with you. Receive us with them into your eternal embrace. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## VOLUNTARY – “O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall”

J. S. Bach

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** We lift up our hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** We give thanks for the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give our thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

☐ In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

☑ Amen.

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

☑ **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. *Matthew 6:9***

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Jesus draws the whole world to himself.  
Come to this meal and be fed.

☑ Amen.

*The congregation is seated.*

*Today's service is a celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the gifts of bread and wine, bringing forgiveness of sins and new life to all who receive this sacrament. All baptized Christians who come at our Lord's invitation are welcome at His table of grace.*

*Please come forward by the center aisle and maintain appropriate physical distancing. Receive the bread from the pastor then proceed to the assisting minister who will be holding a tray of cups with wine, and also cups with grape juice. Take a cup and then return to your seat by the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers are on the stand in front of the baptismal font.*

*If you are not going to receive Holy Communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.*

## COMMUNION

*When the author of this hymn became an invalid and grew depressed over her inability to lead a more active life, she wrote this hymn, which helped both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth. It has ever since served as a source of solace for many. The tune, from the pen of a well-known composer, was written for a different hymn, but the composer later adapted it to the current text.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**ELW 592**

**Just As I Am, without One Plea**



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
 man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871  
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*Please stand as you are able.*

**BLESSING**

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

- A** Blessed Jesus,  
 in this rich meal of grace,  
 you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.  
 Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope  
 to a world in need.
- C** Amen.

**SENDING** – “God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.”

**BLESSING**

- P** You are children of God,  
 anointed with the oil of gladness  
 and strengthened for the journey.  
 Almighty God,  
 motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
 † bless you this day and always.
- C** Amen.

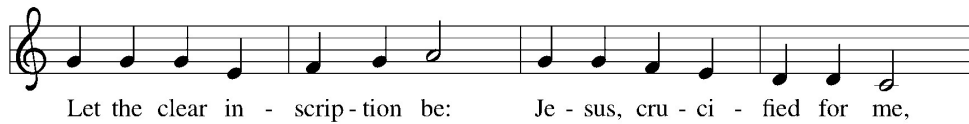
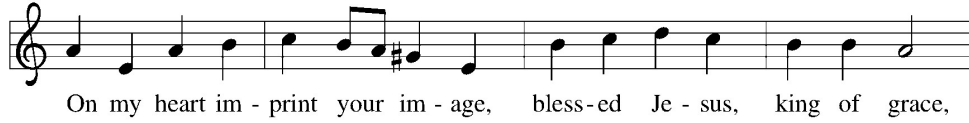
The author of this text is the first great hymn writer of Denmark. He was the major contributor to a hymnal published in 1699 and popularly known as Kingo's Hymnal.

The melody was penned by a prolific composer in early 18th century Germany;

**SENDING HYMN**

**ELW 811**

**On My Heart Imprint Your Image**



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt.  
Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

**DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL**

- A** Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE – Prelude in G Minor**

J. S. Bach

**Your Ash Wednesday offering may be placed in the offering plates near the doors. Thank you.**

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

*12:00 NOON SERVICE*

*PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Karen Lundwall*

*ASSISTING MINISTER – Roberta Lobaugh*

*ORGANIST – Mr. Bill Lasher*

*7:00 PM SERVICE*

*PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Brian Moran*

*ASSISTING MINISTER – Michael Snider*

*LECTOR – Pat Bellingham*

*ORGANIST – Mr. Bill Lasher*

**Thank You** for gathering here in worship today. We hope you will experience personal enrichment and spiritual growth through your participation in our weekly Lenten series. No offering is received during the service; however, a collection plate has been placed by the door for the convenience of those who wish to make an offering.

**Some suggestions** for your Lenten discipline are found in the purple flyers on the welcome tables.



**SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Michael Snider** will be preaching at the 8:15am and 10:30am services in the main church. The 10:30am service is live streamed on our church YouTube Channel; go to YouTube, in the search bar type in “Luther Memorial Church, Erie, PA”. Subscribe to the channel.

**The recorded service** is also available on Luther Memorial Church’s website at [www.luthermemorialonline.org](http://www.luthermemorialonline.org) by clicking on the tabs of “Resources & Online Worship” and “Sunday Morning Worship, Daily Prayer and Bible Study”.

**Children’s Church** for Prek-Kdg. will be held at 9:30am.

**First Holy Communion** class will be held at 9:30am.

**WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT: MARCH 9 – APRIL 6**

**Lenten services** will be held each Wednesday in Lent at 12:05pm in the main us in the observance of a holy Lent and be changed by the grace of God. Lenten offered this year, but we are hopeful they will resume next year.



church. Come join meals will not be

**Topics for Weekday 12:05 Worship Service**

March 9	“Who Will Separate Us from the Love of Christ”	Pastor Karen Lundwall
March 16	“Love Does No Wrong to a Neighbor”	Pastor Karen Parsh
March 23	“The Greatest of These is Love”	Pastor Kristen Papson
March 30	“Love Your Enemies”	Mr. Ron King
April 6	“Perfect Love Casts Out Fear”	Pastor Brian Moran

**Worship**

**At Luther Memorial Church** we are thankful that we are able to provide at home communion. Understanding that the bread and wine is a sustaining gift from Jesus that is blessed and received in community, we now have available bread and wine in individual packets that, after being blessed on Sunday morning during our worship, will be available for those worshipping from home to pick up at the church during the week. The intention is that you take home enough bread and wine for each member of your family for the month. During our worship service, those worshipping from home would set before them the consecrated bread and wine, and then receive the bread and wine during worship. To make arrangements to pick up the bread and wine from the church please contact Linda Graffius by email at [lgraffius@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:lgraffius@luthermemorialonline.org), Norma Buerk by email at [nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org), or by calling the church office at 814-454-0106, ext. 221.