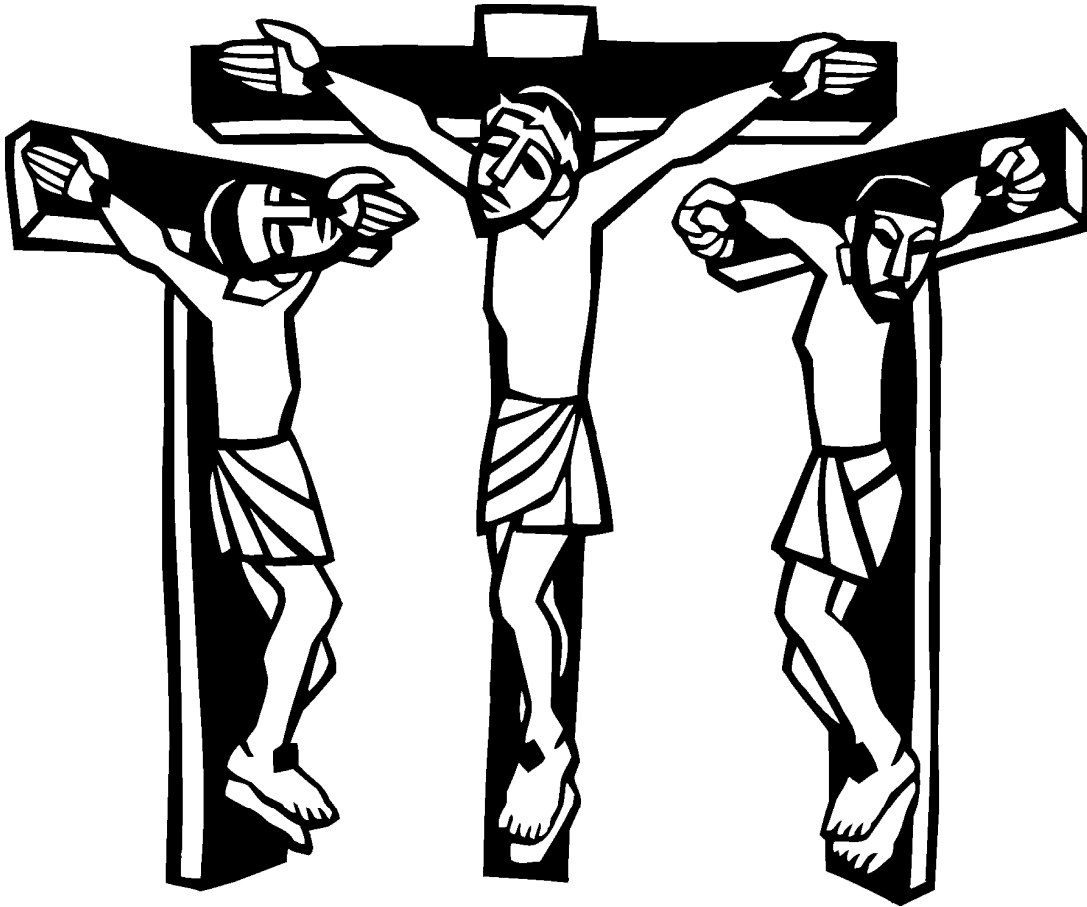


Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



20 November 2022
Christ the King Sunday
10:30 am

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

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

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

BETH KELLER

Youth and Family Ministry

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

BECKY CAREY

Interim Academy Administrator



20 NOVEMBER 2022

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Three • 10:30

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 – "Beautiful Savior"

arr. Cindy Berry, Craig Courtney, John Carter

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lutheran Book of Worship

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

Stan Rose

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

arr. Lloyd Larson

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

☩ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

☩ **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.



P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we have sinned against you
 and our neighbors.
 We have ignored voices
 that call for your justice.
 We have neglected actions
 that witness to your righteousness.
 We have spoken and acted
 in ways that disrupt your beloved community.
 We truly repent of things we have done
 and left undone.
 For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Restore our troubled spirits,
 so that we may live in newness,
 follow the way of the Spirit,
 and build up the body of Christ.
 Amen.

P Rejoice and be glad!
 God hears the prayers of all who cry out,
 and restores us to life through the death
 and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,
 in the name of the Father,
 and of the ✝ Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 855

Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;





and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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.

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray.

☞ **O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD – “God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.”

Today’s reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd.

Judah’s unjust rulers have caused their people, their “flock,” to be scattered.

Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46 (*Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by R.*)



The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our strong-hold.

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. **R**

⁵There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁶God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;
God shall help her at the break of day.

⁷The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away. **R**



⁹Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,
what awesome things he has done on earth.

¹⁰It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;
He breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹¹“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.” **R**

*An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ,
the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.*

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

L The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain: *(Sung once by the choir, repeated by the congregation and repeated after the verse.)*



*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.
(Mark 11:9)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

*Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king,
Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others.*

Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” ▶

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?” ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

- ☐ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Moran

Please stand as you are able.

This hymn text first appeared in a 17th century manuscript in Germany. Today's text is a distinctly Lutheran translation published in Philadelphia in 1873. The tune, a folk melody first heard among haymakers in Silesia, has seen considerable use both here and abroad.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 838

Beautiful Savior



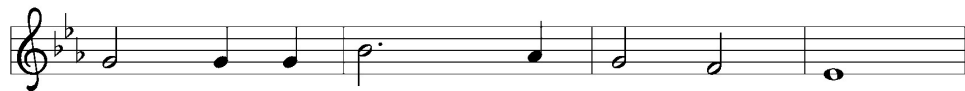
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

APOSTLES' CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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.**

THE PRAYERS *1 Timothy 2:1*

A United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

A We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction, especially our Great Lakes. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastors and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You guide us in all times of our lives. In this time of pastoral transition at Luther Memorial Church, strengthen all congregational members, leaders, and the Call Committee to hold firmly onto the promises of the Gospel, and continually give this congregation your wisdom and guidance. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A We give thanks for all who have died in the faith, especially Robert Pletz and Helen Engesser. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**



☐ Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**AN ORDER FOR THE CONSECRATION OF OUR COMMITMENTS
FOR THE MINISTRY YEAR OF 2023**

*Please mail in your commitment to the church or email it to our Parish Manager Miriam Scheid at
mscheid@luthermemorialonline.org*

☐ Lord God, we will make our offerings for another year of ministry. Receive our commitments as a sign that you are the Lord of our lives. Make us firm in our resolve in giving thanks and faithfully sharing all of your good gifts. Forgive our lack of doing, our lack of giving, and our lack of trust. Guide us in living and acting out of the love you have so generously given us. Make this community of faith a place in which we are nurtured and supported in the faith and encouraged in living as you would have us live.

Into your hands, we offer all that we have; receive us and draw us to you, that we may follow your steps. Enliven us so we may see the needs which surround us, and in our seeing, may we bear your light eternal, now and forever. Bless now what we offer, so people may hear and experience the Gospel.

☑ Amen.

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☑ And also with you.

You are invited to greet those around you in your pew with a word or a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated.

MEAL – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.”

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An Individual Silent Prayer as We Prepare to Make our Offering:

“Jesus said, truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.”

Luke 21: 3-4

ANTHEM – "Messiah Is King"

Jack M. Vogel

*Shout the glad tidings, exultingly sing,
Jerusalem triumphs, Messiah is King!*

*Zion, the marvelous story be telling, Son of the Highest, how lowly his birth!
The brightest archangel in glory excelling, he will redeem thee, he reigns upon earth.
O speak of how he cometh, from nation unto nation,
The marvelous good news let the earth echo round:
Once again shout the glad tidings, exultingly sing, Jerusalem triumphs, Messiah is King!
How free to the faithful he offers salvation, his folk with joy everlasting are crowned.
O Mortals, your homage be gratefully bringing, sweet let the gladsome hosannas arise;
Ye cherubim the full alleluia be singing;
One chorus must resound through the earth and the skies.
Once again shout the glad tidings, exultingly sing, Jerusalem triumphs, Messiah is King!*

Please stand as you are able.

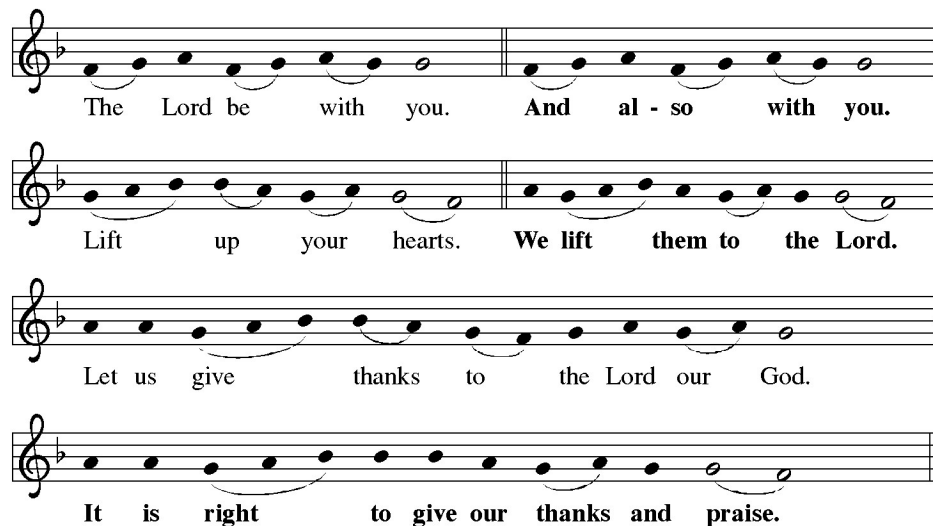


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

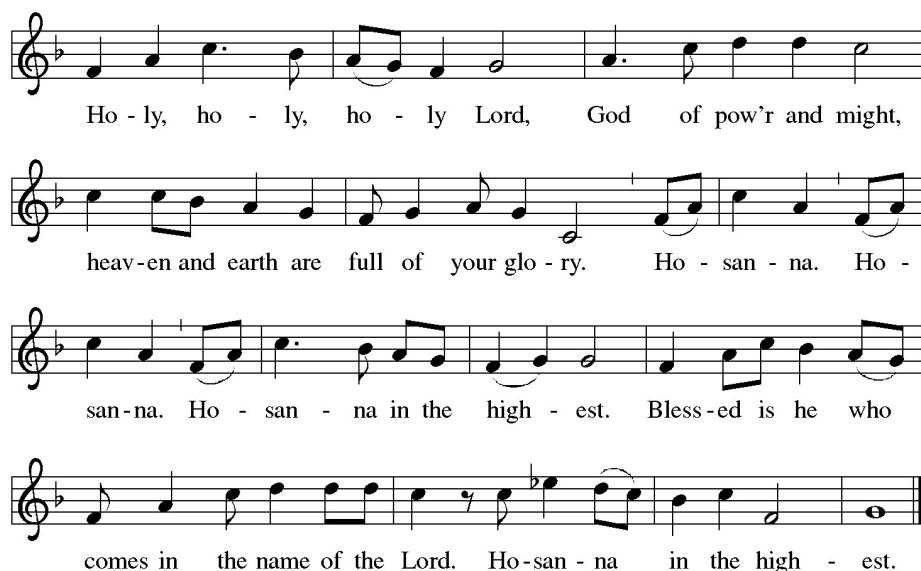
A Blessed are you, Maker of all things.
 As you have entrusted us with all that you have created,
 now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament,
 and send us to those who hunger and thirst,
 for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Matthew 21:9*


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- Holy are you, O God of all the ages,
all that is, is yours.
Past, present, and future,
your word brings life beyond human understanding.

Healing the sick, embracing the poor, breathing life into the dead:
you sent your Son who called to us from a cross,
that the worst of our fears would be removed.

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.”

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
renew our communion with all your saints.
Make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.



Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

C Amen.

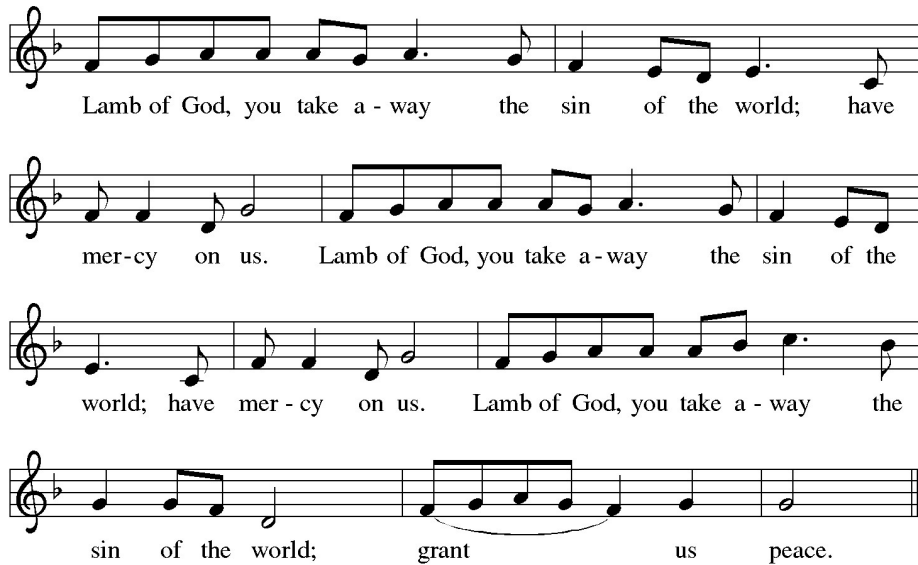
P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C 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***

AGNUS DEI



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ spreads a table before you.
Gather here with all the saints.

C Amen.

P Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

The congregation is seated.

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

O Jesus, our great high priest, be present with us as you were present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread. Lutheran Book of Worship

COMMUNION

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.

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.

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.

This hymn text, whose starting point is Hebrews 13:8, was written on request for a service celebrating the opening of a new building at Cambridge University. The well-known tune has been used with a number of secular and sacred texts.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

WOV 778

O Christ the Same

1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

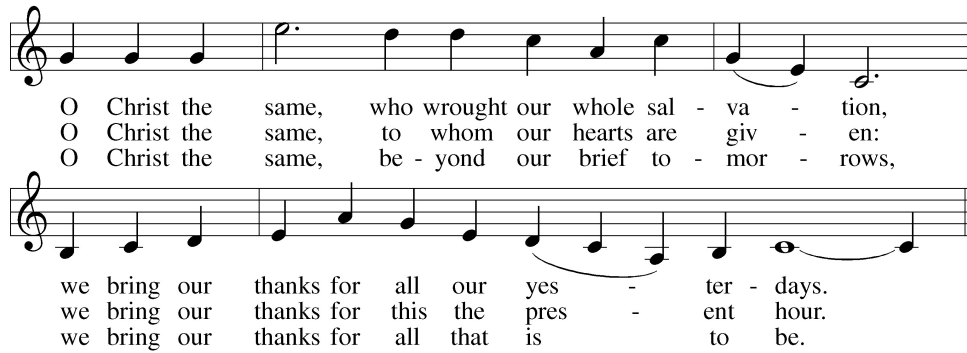
e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
still as of old, up - on your bod - y bear - ing
our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;





O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,
 we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
 Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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** We give you thanks, most gracious God,
 that you have fed us with the bread of heaven
 and given us a foretaste of Paradise.
 Enliven us to be your body in the world
 and to serve those who are in need;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

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

BLESSING

- P** The God of peace,
 who creates all things and calls them good,
 who makes us alive in Jesus,
 and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
 ✠ bless you now and forever.
C Amen.



This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21: 3– 4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 439

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 3 No more dy - in' there,
 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
 Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
 Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A** Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Soon and Very Soon"

arr. Bill Wolaver

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

PREACHING – Pastor Moran

GREETERS – Sue Cappelletty, Sally & Phil McAfee

ACOLYTE – Cecilia Montroy

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham

LECTOR – Diane Banks

USHERS – Sandy Barbaro, Sue Cappelletty, Elaine Kern, Sally McAfee

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my husband, Robert Pletz, by Betty.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my aunt, Helen Engesser, by Harriet DiAndrea.

Welcome to our Visitors!

We extend a warm welcome to those who are visiting with us today. Your presence with us is a blessing! If you have any questions about our congregation or its ministries, please call the church office at 814-454-0106. We are glad to help you in any way we can. Please worship with us again soon!

Today's Events

Congregational Life committee will meet this morning at 11:30 in the conference room.

St. Lucia rehearsal will be held this morning at 11:45 in the main church. All youth and young children are encouraged to participate in this traditional Swedish program which will be held Sunday, December 11 at 4:00pm.

VASA will meet today at 1:00pm.

Homemade stuffed pepper soup will be available for purchase following the 10:30 service this morning. Pick some up for your lunch today. Proceeds benefit our youth. Thank you.

Jigsaw Mania begins this morning! Stop in the parlor following each service to select a jigsaw puzzle to test your skills. When finished, simply return the puzzle to our cart. Books will also be available to sign out. Our Jigsaw Puzzle cart will be available the third Sunday of each month.

Please see Pat Young, Cathy or Skip Meyn with any questions.

Offering envelopes for 2023 are located on the table by the ramp door. To save on postage we ask that you please pick up your envelopes. They are arranged alphabetically. Thank you.

Stewardship

Today is Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the church year. We are asked today to prayerfully consider how we intend to participate in the coming year's ministry through our worship offerings. The results of today's commitment process not only are helpful to the church council in the ministry planning process but they also are helpful to each of us as we budget the use of our resources. None of us can be certain of what the future holds but, one thing is sure. God has promised to be with us, even to the end of the age, and in response, we can confidently promise to be steadfast in our service. With the assurance of God's continuing love and Grace, joyfully submit your commitment by placing it in the offering plate.

Worship

The Prelude brings us together for the beginning of our worship service each Sunday morning. Our worship time together concludes when the Postlude is complete. We ask that the chancel area remain unoccupied during these times of music as live video streaming continues through the entire worship service. Thank you.

Music Ministry

Note that due to the Thanksgiving holiday, our handbell and vocal choirs will rehearse on Tuesday evening this week. We have begun working on music for the Advent and Christmas seasons. It is not too late to join us for music making and fellowship at this special time of the church year. If interested, speak with our cantor, Walt Gaber or any of the choir members and join us on Tuesday and the following Thursdays in December.

Christian Education

Children's Church for PreK – grade 6 will meet Sunday, December 11 from 9:30 – 10:15am and will continue to gather the second Sunday of each month. Our youth in grades 7 - 12 will continue meeting on the third Sunday of the month.

Teachers and helpers are needed for our Children's Church classes. This will only be the second Sunday of each month. If you are able to help monthly or on a rotating basis it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the church office with any questions. Thank you.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Holiday Bingo fun is all set for Sunday, December 4. Doors will open at 12:00 noon; play will be held from 12:30 – 4:00pm in our fellowship hall. Eight games of Bingo will be played with cash prizes. Join us for excitement and mystery Chinese auction, tip boards and much more. Tickets are \$20 and available from Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or the church office. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Magic Fingers Grace Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00-12:00pm. Join us November 22 to visit with friends, chat and enjoy our knitting and crocheting. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes and let us know if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

OWLS Christmas party will be held Wednesday, December 14 in the parlor. Our celebration will be held from 11:30am – 1:30pm with caroling, games and lots of fun enjoying the holiday season. The main dish and dessert for lunch will be provided; we are asking that everyone bring a dish to share. In lieu of a gift exchange, a collection will be taken towards Lutheran World Relief. Please RSVP to the church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 or Jan MacInnes by Friday, December 9.

OWLS are doing some long range planning for a very special event on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. A Valentine's Day luncheon will be held at the Convention Center from 12:00 noon – 2:00pm. There is no charge and parking is free. Only a certain number of reservations are accepted by the Convention Center and these fill up very quickly. Reservations are due by Thursday, December 15. Please contact Jan MacInnes at 833-0476 or Norma in our church office with your RSVP. Thank you.

Outreach Opportunities

ONP, Our Neighbor's Place, supports the homeless community in the evenings of the coldest months from November 16, 2022 – April 4, 2023. The hours are from 7:00pm – 7:00am in three shifts of 4 hours each. This year it will take place at several different church locations. Please consider being a part of this needed outreach as it happens only through the efforts of very dedicated volunteers. Please contact Randy Dehn; Randall.dehn@yahoo.com or 814-323-3723 or Diane Bestvina; dl.bestvina@gmail.com or 814-796-4047 with all your questions and we will be happy to answer them. There are information pages at the welcome table as well as a sign up sheet. We look forward to being a partner with you in this very rewarding ministry.

Family Christmas Dinner will be served to area neighbors on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:00pm at the Bethesda Center, 18th and Walnut Street. This is the 24th year that St. Matthew's began the tradition of serving a Christmas dinner to those in need and we now continue to share that Christmas spirit. Donations of cookies are also needed. A volunteer sign-up sheet is located at the welcome table if you would like to assist beginning at 5:00pm that evening. Please feel free to contact our church office with any questions. Thank you.

"Kids for Kids" annual collection will take place through Sunday, December 4. All money collected will be used to help families at Luther Memorial and Luther Memorial Academy in need during the Christmas season. Monetary donations are appreciated and may be dropped off in the church office or placed in the offering plates marked "Kids for Kids". Our youth, with the guidance of our youth leaders, Beth Keller and Sarah Prylinski, will prepare a merry Christmas for families. Thank you.

Christmas is A-comin'

Hanging of the Greens will take place following worship services on Sunday, November 27. The main church will be decorated beginning at 11:30am. Join us for the fun of decorating our church for the Christmas season.

St Lucia Festival will be held Sunday, December 11 at 4:00pm in our main church. Our first rehearsal is Sunday, November 20 at 11:45am in the main church. All youth and young children are invited to participate in this traditional Swedish program which begins our holiday season. We are excited to offer this beautiful program again this year and look forward to our children taking part. Coffee and Swedish refreshments will be served following the program from a table of lighted candles and beautiful Swedish decorations.

Blue Christmas Service will be offered Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00pm in our main church. For many the holidays are a difficult time, and we invite you to join us for this special holiday service to hear a message of hope and love. A reception will be held in the parlor following the service. The service will be live streamed on www.YouTube/LutherMemorialChurch,Erie,PA and will also be available on our website at www.luthermemorialonline.org the following day.

Christmas lights will sparkle in the windows of our church on Wednesday, December 14 from 6:00 – 7:00pm. Take a little drive and enjoy the crisp winter weather and beautiful lights of the season.

Christmas Dinner will be delicious and easy when you pop a Gahr's Hamloaf in the oven. Orders will be accepted through Sunday, December 4, with pick-up following church services on Sunday, December 18. Order forms are located at the welcome table and in the church and school offices. Cost is \$5 for a 1 lb. hamloaf and \$8 for 2 lbs. Guaranteed to satisfy your tastebuds.

Youth News

Christmas Extravaganza will be a blast on Friday, December 2. Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join in the fun from 5:30 – 9:30pm. We'll have a super Christmassy time wrapping gifts, watching a movie, munching on yummy snacks while helping to make Christmas extra-special for families in need. Food will be provided. RSVP to Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Prylinski or the church office by Wednesday, November 30.

Luther Memorial Church Policy

Masking at Luther Memorial Church is now optional.

In Case of Emergency

In case of an emergency please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. During the weekend and evening you are welcome to contact Norma Buerk at 450-7162 or Linda Graffius at 440-5458. Thank you.

CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21	6:00pm	LMA Legos
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22	5:30pm 6:30pm	Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23	12:00pm	LMA Dismissal
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24 <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>		Church & School Offices Closed
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25		Church & School Offices Closed
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26		

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022 THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Pastor Karen Lundwall will preach at the 8:15am service in Faith Chapel and the 10:30am service in the main church.

Join us for Hanging of the Greens following each service.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Jan MacInnes
	10:30am	Liz Stroup
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeters	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Counters	10:30am	Emma Chaffee, Dave Griswold

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Jan & Skip MacInnes	C. Noelle Partusch	Jane Kinzig	Chickie Braine
Dave Parsh	Walt Gaber	Mark Howell	John Downey
Friends and Family:			
Amy Daugherty	Marie Checkley	Tammy Fuller	Linda F.
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie	Mary Correll	Judy Skoog	Sue O'Mahony
Edie Jackman	Melissa Geiser	Bob Guenther	Christine Norris
Jessica & Damian Ream	Brittani H.	Tom McGrail	Meghan Kessler
Susan Brooks	Kevin	Tom Wilson	Dawn Weborg
Elise VanDamia			
Grief:			
Bob Sadowski Family	Marilyn Schultz family		
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			