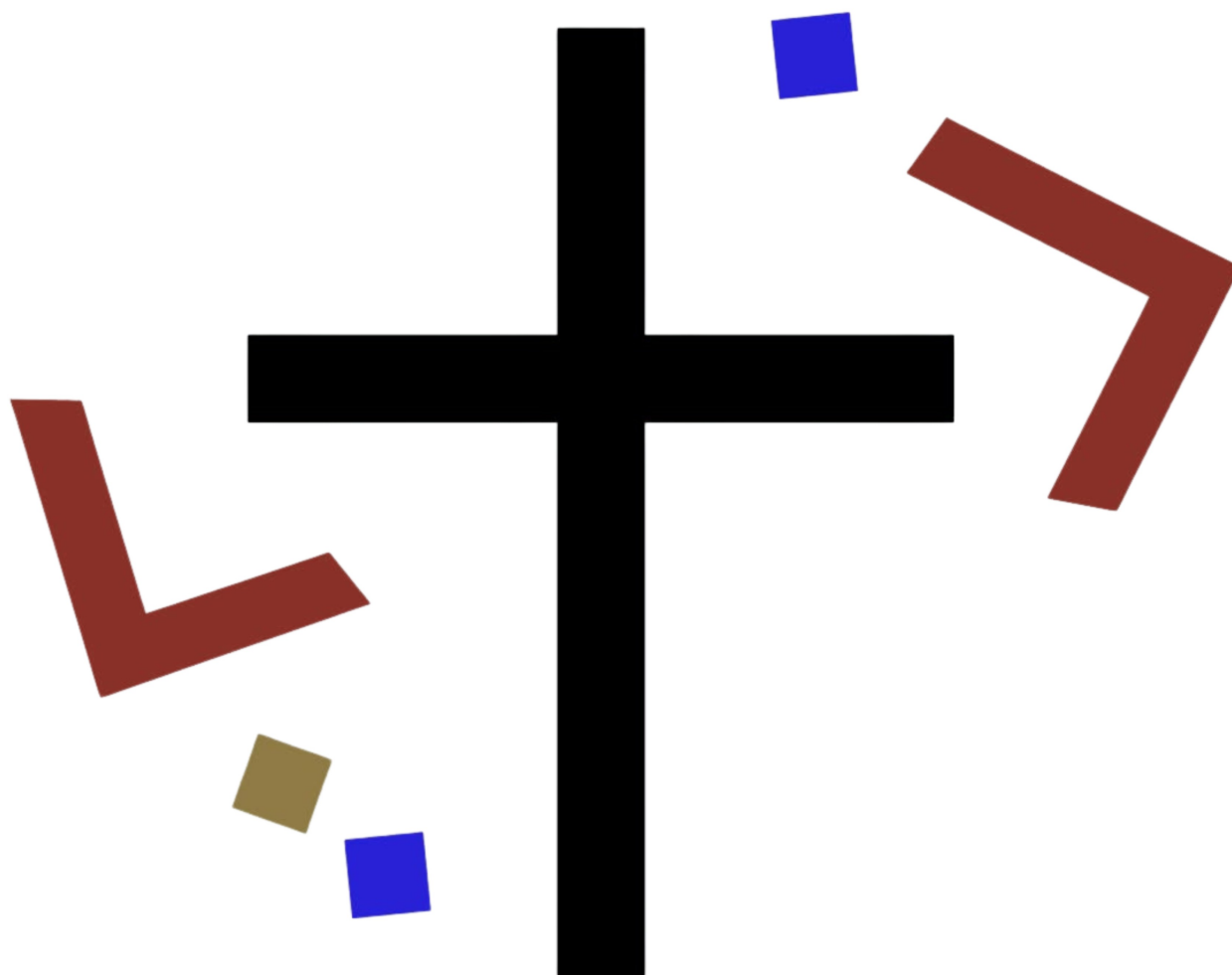


WELCOME TO
**LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH & ACADEMY**



27 SEPTEMBER 2026
LMA SUNDAY

10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

Cantor

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH,

THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM

LMA Principal

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

WELCOME!

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

Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Luther Memorial Academy opened its doors in September, 1976, with one Kindergarten class. A grade was added each year and the first eighth grade graduation took place in 1985. We have developed an outstanding reputation in Erie for academic excellence, strong values, and community spirit. Our goals are to provide, in a Christian atmosphere, a high-quality education; to develop the child's full potential; to encourage special interests and abilities; and to have an atmosphere of courtesy and respect which leads to healthy discipline.

~ Here are a few notes to help you participate in worship today: Almost everything you need is in this bulletin, including hymns. You are invited to participate with the words in **bold type**. You are invited to stand as you are able where indicated.

~ **You don't need to disconnect here!** You don't need to turn off your phone, but please place it in silent mode. Feel free to take pictures—of our building, of worship, but ask permission for any people-pictures. We ask that you not use flash during this worship service. Post your favorite quote from the sermon or verse from a hymn...just be sure to check in and let your friends know where you are!

~ **Restrooms** may be found out either door at the front of the Sanctuary. There is an accessible ramp through the doors near the pulpit. At the top of the ramp(s), follow signs to the restrooms. A fully accessible restroom is available through the parlor.

+ + +

PRELUDE – "The Ash Grove"

A.K. Organ

WELCOME FROM PASTOR JAY

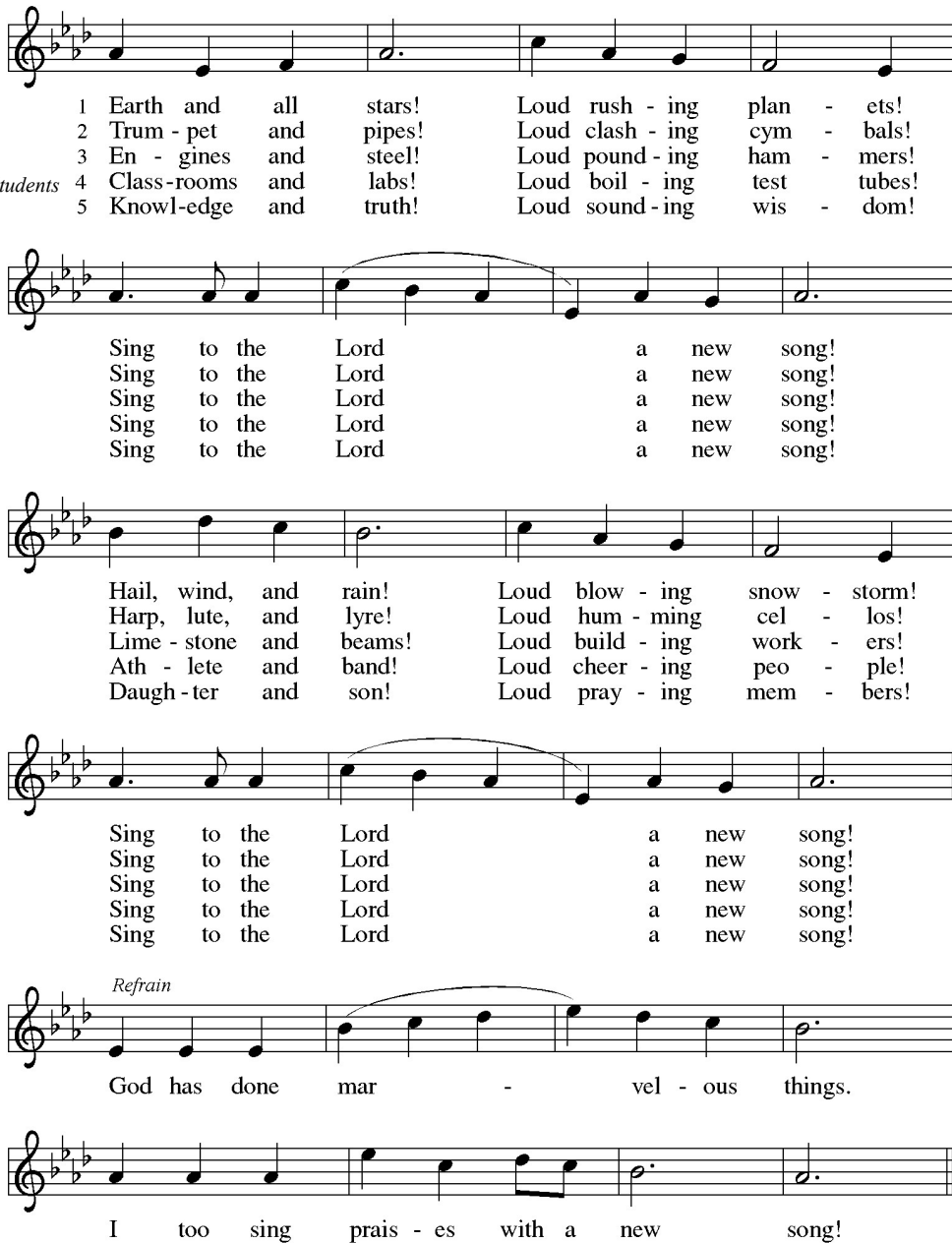
Please rise in body or spirit

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 731

Earth and All Stars!

LMA Students



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!

Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

God has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too sing prais - es with a new song!

OPENING SENTENCE

Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's reign now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME FROM MRS. THOM

HYMN OF PRAISE

LORD, BE GLORIFIED

(Sung by LMA students)

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song...

In your church...

In your world...

LMA SCHOOL PRAYER

Let us pray.

God, be above me to protect me.

God, be in front of me to guide me.

God, be beside me to befriend me.

God, be behind me to encourage me.

God, be in my head and in my learning.

God, be in my hands and in my helping.

God, be in my feet and in my going.

God, be in my heart and in my loving.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6, 9-12a (Kalani S.)

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her animals; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her female servants; she calls from the highest places in the town, "You who are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity and live, and walk in the way of insight."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:12-18 (Liam W.)

Darkness is not dark to you, O God;

the night is as bright as the day;

darkness and light to you are both alike.

For you yourself created my inmost parts;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I will thank you because I am marvelously made;

your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

**My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book;
my days were fashioned before they came to be.

How deep I find your thoughts, O God!

How great is the sum of them!

If I were to count them,
they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21 (*Alanna R.*)

For this reason, I bow my knees before God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through the Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to that One be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit to greet the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lis-ten to the word that God has spo-ken; lis-ten to the One who is
close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be - gan cre - a - tion;
lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:40-52 (*Catalina K., Dariel L.*)

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Mary and Joseph had taken Jesus to the Temple and were blessed by Simeon, when they had finished everything required by God in the Law, they returned to Galilee and their own town, Nazareth. There Jesus grew strong in body and wise in spirit. And the grace of God was on him. Every year Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up as they always did for the Feast. When it was over and they left for home, the child Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents didn't know it. Thinking he was somewhere in the company of pilgrims, they journeyed for a whole day and then began looking for him among relatives and neighbors. When they didn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem looking for him. The next day they found him in the Temple seated among the teachers, listening to

them and asking questions. The teachers were all quite taken with him, impressed with the sharpness of his answers. But his parents were not impressed; they were upset and hurt. His mother said, “Young man, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been half out of our minds looking for you.” He said, “Why were you looking for me? Didn’t you know that I had to be here, dealing with the things of my Father?” But they had no idea what he was talking about. So he went back to Nazareth with them, and lived obediently with them. His mother held these things dearly, deep within herself. And Jesus matured, growing up in both body and spirit, blessed by both God and people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.

REFLECTION

Pastor Jay

After a brief silence for reflection, as the music sounds, please stand to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

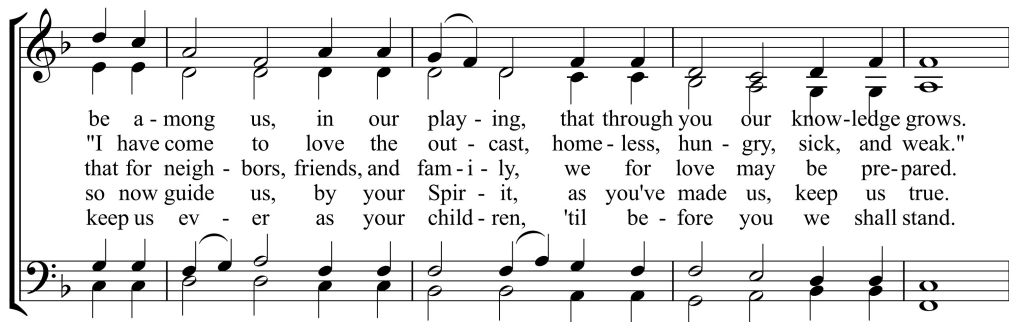
CHILD OF GOD AND SOURCE OF WISDOM LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY ANNIVERSARY HYMN

This hymn text was written by The Rev. Jay C. Mitchell based on Luke 2:52, Psalm 90:12, Psalm 36:9. The hymn weaves the story of the boy Jesus in the Temple with our own learning today, seeing Jesus as the source of Wisdom.

Child of God and source of Wis - dom, be our fu - ture as our past.
Child of Ma - ry, God as child, to the eld - ers you were kind,
Child of Heav - en, still a child, still you grew in age and height.
Child of Earth en - throned in heav - en, we who now your I - mage bear:
Child of God and source of Wis - dom, mov - ing for - ward from our past,

O - pen to us worlds of know - ing, fill our minds with vi - sions vast.
still you taught them all they need - ed, through your teach - ing op' - ning minds.
E - ven like us, with all Wis - dom, sought to share with us God's light.
hold us, help us, list - en to us, we who lift to you our prayer.
you walk with us, help - ing, teach - ing, in - to fu - tures blest and vast.

You come to us, young and hum - ble, from your heart cre - a - tion flows,
Child of Naz' - reth, stu - dent, rab - bi, in your words we hear God speak,
For us, in us, by us, through us, may we al - so God's light share,
As you've guid - ed gen - er - a - tions, learn - ing, grow - ing, shaped by you,
In our learn - ing, in our grow - ing, in our play - ing, in your plan,



Tune: BEACH SPRING: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985.; arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress

OPENING OF THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

with INSTALLATION OF STUDENT COUNCIL, INSTALLATION OF SCHOOL BOARD, and INSTALLATION OF FACULTY AND STAFF

For the marvels of your creation, (*Najhay J.*)

we praise you, O God.

For the opportunity to explore and study, (*Gianna C.*)

we praise you, O God.

For those who guide us, teachers and mentors, (*Journee W.*)

we praise you, O God.

Teach us your ways and guide us in your path, for you are the creator of all that is seen and unseen. (*Virginia J.*)
Amen.

INSTALLATION OF STUDENT COUNCIL

Council Members, you have been elected by your peers to serve as leaders at LMA. You have been given responsibility to not only speak up for yourselves, but for your fellow students, too. You have dedicated yourselves to help when needed and to represent LMA outside of school. Are you willing to do this?

Yes.

You have agreed to regularly meet together to talk about the needs of the students and of LMA as a whole. In so doing, you must be respectful of many viewpoints and ideas and work together for the whole school. Are you willing to do this?

Yes.

Finally, you are meant to be leaders, but leaders do not lead without a community. Are you willing to listen to your fellow students; to be kind and helpful and to encourage others to get involved in the community?

Yes.

Then, I officially install you as the Student Council of Luther Memorial Academy for the 2026-2027 Academic Year. May God bless your work.

Amen.

INSTALLATION OF SCHOOL BOARD

School Board Members, you have been chosen to serve the LMA Community. You each possess great gifts from God and are called to use them to the good of all. You have also each, now been given great responsibility to serve this community. Will you use your gifts, as God gives you ability and as this community has need?

We will.

In your service on the School Board, you are to listen and learn, to challenge and grow, and to share in the love of God that this community seeks to share with our students. You are to advise and help, to participate and attend, and to be open to the ways you are called to use your gifts here. Will you, with God's help, commit to this service?

We will.

While your service is to this community, it is not to only focus inward on our needs directly. You are to speak of LMA well and share widely of the good being done here. You are to invite and encourage others to know the great ministry being done here through education and learning, through service and challenge, through fun and play. Are you willing to share all that is done here with the wider community?

We will.

I officially install you as the 2026-2027 School Board for Luther Memorial Academy. May God bless you richly as you share your gifts

with us.

Amen.

INSTALLATION OF TEACHERS

Teachers, you are entrusted with great responsibility and, we hope, with great joy in caring for and teaching our children. But you do not do it alone. I invite you to turn and face the assembly.

LMA Students, I invite you to stand. Will you try your hardest this year to learn and grow, to be kind and honest, helpful and happy?

We will.

LMA Parents, I invite you to stand. Will you support our teachers, at home with your children as they learn and grow and here at LMA with events and activities?

We will.

Luther Memorial members, I invite you to stand. Will you continue to pray for and encourage our entire LMA community as they together learn and play, grow and flourish in the coming year?

We will.

Teachers, you may turn around. Will you give wholly of yourselves to your charge: to foster the growth of our children in body, mind, and spirit? Will you play with and cheer them on? Will you take time for your own growth and renewal?

We will.

May almighty God who has given you the will to do these things, bless you with the ability to fulfill them.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Let us pray: Dear God, as we start another year in school, we ask your blessing on all your children. As our children do the very important work of being students, bless them with: eagerness to learn, that their world may grow large; respect for teachers and students, that they may form healthy relationships; love for nature, that they may become caretakers of your creation; happiness when learning is easy and stick-to-it-iveness when it is hard; faith in Jesus as their best teacher and closest friend. We ask that you would protect these, your own children. Watch over them and keep them safe as they travel to and from school. As they learn, help them also to discover the different gifts that you have given each one of them to be used in your work in the world. As they hear the many voices that will fill their days, help them to listen most carefully for your voice, the one that tells them you will love them always, no matter what. Guide all of us of every age to grow in understanding you and your creation and deeper relationship with one another and with you. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

We begin this academic year in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYERS

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and all of God's good creation.

God, bless your Church that bishops, pastors, and deacons lead your people faithfully and that all of us may proclaim the Good News in our daily lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (Tessa B.)

God, bless people who are sick or suffering in any way, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now: _____. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (*Ajak M.*)

God, bless Luther Memorial Academy, especially our teachers and staff: Michelle, Amanda, Meaghan, Maria, Beth, Deborah, Karen, Michelle, Ciara, Elizabeth, Caryn, A.J., Kim, Rebecca, Braxton, Jamarja, Heidi, Stephanie, Jody, Ellen, Julie and Gretchen. Guide our School Board, Preeya, Susan, Sharon, Isela, Les, Greg, A.J., Miriam, M.J. and Pastor Jay as they make important decisions. Inspire our PTL as they plan fun and fellowship. Journey with our alumni wherever they may be. May the year ahead be full of growth, and challenge, and fun. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (*Anniyece T.*)

We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed, especially C. Richard and Dorothy. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** (*Komeko B.*)

God, we give you all these prayers and everything else you know we need and we thank you for hearing, through Jesus. **Amen.** (*Yanis B.*)

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please share greetings and gestures of peace with those around you. Please be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED



An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering this morning goes to the ongoing work of Luther Memorial Church and Academy. Using the envelopes in the pew racks, you may designate a particular ministry you would like to support. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Additionally, you may visit <https://bit.ly/LMCDonate> or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.

OFFERTORY – "Neno Lake Mungu"

A. K. Organ

Please rise in body or spirit as the gifts are presented.

OFFERING HYMN

ACS 1092

A musical score for a hymn in G major (one sharp). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
2 Been so good, been so good, been so
3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my
4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you,

Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
good, I just want to thank you, Lord.
friend, I just want to thank you, Lord.
Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.

Text: Traditional
Music: THANK YOU, LORD, Traditional

OFFERTORY PRAYER (*Mira B.*)

Let us pray.

Thank you, God, for everything you have given us. We give back just a little of what we have received from you. Use these gifts and us to bless the world around us. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 right that we give you thanks, God. We join with all of your creation: sun and moon and stars; birds and plants and our pets; with our parents and grandparents and best friends and we say thank you.

We thank you for all the ways you have shown your love to us: for our parents and those who take care of us, for our teachers and pastors and people who teach us, for our coaches and mentors who help us to grow up. We also thank you for the people in the Bible stories we tell.

We especially thank you for Jesus. He showed us your love and he also taught us how to love one another like you love us. One way he showed us your love was having a meal with his friends. At that meal, he took bread and gave thanks. He broke it and gave it to his friends and said: Take this, my friends, and eat it. This is my body and it's given for you. Do this when you remember me. He also took a cup and gave it to his friends to share and said, take this, friends, and drink some of it. This cup is a new promise from God for you to let you know that your sins are forgiven. Whenever you share this drink, remember me.

And still today when we share bread and a cup, we remember not just that one time Jesus shared this meal, but that Jesus is here with us now and everywhere. And for that we are so thankful.

Our thanks we give to you, O God, along with our honor and respect and love and when we give that to you we join our voices and our hearts with all those who have come before us and with all your angels and say:

Thank you, Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (*Emerie B.*)

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Whenever we share this bread and cup, Jesus is here.

Come to the table!

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

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is, himself, present whenever we feast together. **You** are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine. Gluten-free wafers are available for those who need them; please let the pastor know. Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray. All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor. If you cannot come to the Table, the Table will come to you. Please let a neighbor know to tell Pastor Jay that you need the Sacrament brought to you.*

HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ELW 482

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1967 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Ask the Complicated Questions



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.
 2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,
 3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,
 4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes
 fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing
 test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from
 truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock-ing,





Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984
 Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version
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 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Samya W.*)

Let us pray: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

LMA SCHOOL SONG (*words by Cheryl Lucht, former LMA teacher*)

LMA Students, along with alumni, faculty, and staff will sing the School Song which will directly lead into the Sending Hymn which all are invited to sing. Students will process out and to Faith Chapel. Parents may meet their children in Faith Chapel after the hymn.

*Our voices we are raising
 in songs we are praising
 to Luther Memorial our tribute we give.*

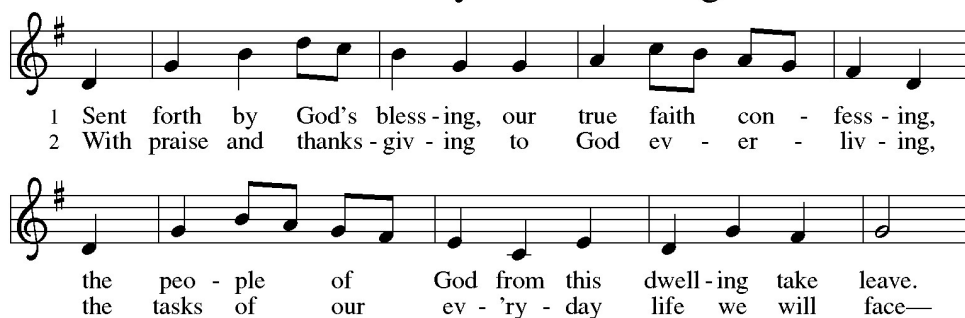
*Your truth and your honor
 we wear as a banner
 learning to serve well as long as we live.*

*The ideals will be forever.
 Your gifts will sustain us ever.
 We'll cherish each blessing and mem'ry so dear.
 God's blessing is o'er us, he e'er watches o'er us,
 as forward we travel the paths far and near.*

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547





The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing
to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL (*Heaven T.*)

Go in peace. Imagine more!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Jubilate"

N. Rawsthorne

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor Jay Mitchell

GREETER – Susan Forsythe

CRUCIFER – Maddie W.

BANNER BEARER – Jaileee W.

ACOLYTES – Rylee N., Ren W.

GIFT BEARERS – Elijah D. & Jaiyana D.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Zach Middaugh, Stan Rose

USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Carl Moore, Michael Patterson, Betty Pletz

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp

VIDEO STREAMING – Christy Adams



Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the teachers, staff and students of Luther Memorial Academy by Mrs. Susan Belott and Mrs. Pat Young, former administrator and secretary of LMA.

Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of C. Richard Overberg and Dorothy Overberg by their family.

Please join us in the parlor for refreshments following worship this morning. Thank you to our PTL for providing this time of fellowship.

Today's Events

Crop Walk will take place this afternoon at Presque Isle with registration at 1:00pm and the walk beginning at 2:00pm. The Walk will begin at Beach 1. Luther Memorial (both Church **and** Academy) will have a shared Team as part of LMA Sunday celebrations. If you are unable to walk, consider making a donation to someone who is walking.

Worship Next Week!

In celebration of San Francesco d'Assisi (St. Francis of Assisi), we will be welcoming our furry, fluffy, and four-legged friends to worship with us at the 10:30 AM service. We will remember St. Francis, celebrate God's good creation, and bless our animal friends. Please remember all pets must be leashed or crated for the duration of worship. All pets must play well with others. If your animal companion cannot fulfill these requirements, consider bringing a picture for blessing.

Faith Formation

*Faith Formation brochures are available at the Welcome Table.
Class dates are listed for children, youth, confirmation and adults.*

FAITH5! Join us for our new program called Faith5: Cross+Gen. This program gathers all ages around various topics to share in single "eduworship" opportunity. We will gather in the Parlor at 9:15am on the Second Sunday of each month and share a chance for everyone from our oldest to our youngest members to share and learn and grow and have a fun time growing deeper and broader and higher and further in faith together! It won't be the same without you! Our next Faith5: Cross+Gen gathering will be Sunday, October 11. See you there!

Bible After Dark (BAD) meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. **YOU** are invited to join us on Tuesday, October 6.

Brown Bag Bible (B³) gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. We will continue our study on the book of Revelation. Our next gathering will be Thursday, October 1.

We will again celebrate Confirmation on Reformation Sunday this year. If you are in 9th or 10th grade, please let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in being confirmed this year. If you are planning on being confirmed, mark your calendars for the Sundays of October after the 10:30 service with Pastor Jay in the conference room!

Worship

Bless This Night, an evening prayer service from Holden Village is held each Wednesday in September as we keep the Season of Creation. We gather at 6:30pm in the Luther Chapel. Hope to see **you** there!

Opportunities for Fellowship

L.I.A., Lutherans in Action, gather the second Tuesday of each month to help with community and service projects. Bring the family down and lend a hand. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski at 814-882-1695 as outings are also posted on the app. We're hoping you can join us.

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. Join us October 13 and October 27 for knitting and crocheting. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Contact Norma in the church office or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Oktoberfest, our annual delicious feast, will be held Sunday, October 4 at 11:30am in fellowship hall. The main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be served, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Raise your glasses and cheer – Oktoberfest! RSVP to the church office by today.

OWLS will be dining out at the Waterford Hotel on Wednesday, October 21. Join us for great conversation and delicious food at 11:00am. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476, or the church office by Friday, October 16.

Trunk-or-Treat with family and friends on Sunday, October 18. Dress in costume, decorate your car, load it up with some treats and let the fun begin. Set-up in the church parking lot will begin at 12:30pm. Treating will be held from 1:00-2:00pm. Music by DJ Bill Mason, prizes, a costume parade, and of course, treats will make this a super fun day. Please see Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or contact the church office to sign up and decorate your car.

Music Ministry

Presque Isle ProMusica invites you to “Sing Democracy 250” on Saturday, October 17 at 7:00pm at Luther Memorial Church. As 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of our country, ProMusica will join with orchestras and organizations in each of the four corners of Pennsylvania in presenting two original compositions commissioned for Orchestra and Choir honoring our vast history. A reception will follow.

Contemporary Integrational Orchestra Project will present “October Spooktacular” on Saturday, October 24 at 7:00pm. Come in costume for a haunting harmonious night of your spooky favorites! Halloween music at its finest; directed by Sally “Switchblade” Santon and conducted by Todd “Sweeny” Maki. A reception will follow.

Community Events

Rev. Tom Glasoe, pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Wesleyville, is writing a memoir about his journey which begins in an orphanage in Vietnam. A fundraiser party is being held on Saturday, October 3 from 2:00-3:30pm at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 2216 Peach Street. Everyone is welcome to attend as he shares his story. There will be live music, refreshments and a silent auction. Proceeds will go towards the publication of his book.

“Wings of Wonder: Pennsylvania Birds of Prey” will be presented by the Tamarack Wildlife Center at Faith Lutheran Church, 5414 E. Lake Road, on Monday, October 5 at 6:00pm. Get up close and personal with some of Pennsylvania’s magnificent birds of prey. The program is suitable for Kdg.-12 and adults. Light refreshments will be served.

Julia’s Cash Bash will be held Saturday, October 10 from 5:00-9:00pm at St. Francis Ushers Club, 9085 Main Street in McKean. Support the building of the Julia Hospice and Palliative facility and join us for a fun evening. Tickets are \$30 and include a full dinner, dessert, coffee, pop AND a chance to win cash prizes; 1st prize of \$1,000, 2nd prize of \$500 and 3rd prize of \$100. Contact Linda Graffius at 814-440-5458 for tickets.

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and cards following my fall this summer.

Jessica Copfer

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Lois Smith
Diane Parsons	Judy Karney	Karen Zamperini	Kate Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Mary Mumford	Paul Meucci	Brian Hubbard
Ella Graffius	Les Fobes		

Friends and Family:

Hannah Jacob	Gail Lesuer	Linda F.	Erin N.
Brian Doersch	Jim Scobel	Ellie	Peggy S.
Kimberly Dunahue	Peter Maker	Shirley	Brynlee
Kevin Soles & family	Kathy Colvin	Anthony Benacci	Susan Sasala
Jessica Kinzig	Katja & family	Kathy Nicewander	Connor
Lisa E.	Mary Phipps	Nichole Jones	Linda & Brian
Lynn			

Grief:

Mary Lou Breyley family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	Justin Gajewski

CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 10:00am Pericope

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30	11:00am	Student Council
	6:30pm	<i>Bless This Night:</i> Evening Prayer for the Season of Creation Newsletter Mailing

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1	12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
	1:00pm	Grief Group
	5:30pm	Handbells

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 10:00am Quilting

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Francesco d'Assisi, Renewer of the Church

Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church.

Choir rehearsal will be held at 9:20am.

Oktoberfest will be celebrated at 11:30am.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Beth Keller/Sarah Prylinski
Counters	10:30am	Barb Dennison
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Welcome to the 51st annual Luther Memorial Academy Sunday. We gather as a school family to worship and celebrate LMA's continued educational mission to the Erie community.

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY STAFF

FACULTY

MS. MEAGHAN WOOD, *Kindergarten*
MISS MARIA INSANA, *First Grade*
MRS. BETH KELLER, *Second Grade*
MS. DEBORAH BARGER, *Third Grade*
MRS. KAREN SOCASH, *Fourth Grade*
MRS. MICHELLE HARRINGTON, *Fifth Grade*
MISS CIARA ADAMS, *Sixth Grade*
MS. ELIZABETH KANTZ, *Seventh Grade*
MS. CARYN CHLUDZINSKI, *Eighth Grade*
MRS. A.J. NOYES, *Health, Community Outreach, Art*
MRS. REBECCA MCCORMICK, *Spanish*
MR. BRAXTON BEAULIEU, *Music*
MR. JAMARJA HINES-TATE, *Physical Education*

LIBRARY

MRS. KIM EVANS, *Librarian*
MRS. JULIE BALDWIN, *Library Aide*

ADMINISTRATION

MRS. MICHELLE THOM, *Principal*
MRS. AMANDA FRIED, *Office Manager*
THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD

ELECTED

MRS. PREEYA MONTROY, *PRESIDENT*
MS. SUSAN FORSYTHE, *VICE-PRESIDENT*
MRS. ISELA ABREU-SMITH
MRS. SHARON DOWNEY
MRS. JACKIE MESSENGER
MRS. KRISTINA STOVALL

EX-OFFICIO

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*
MR. LES FOBES, *Congregation President*
MR. GREG KERN, CPA, *Parish Treasurer, TREASURER*

CONSULTATIVE

MRS. MICHELLE THOM, *Principal*
MRS. A.J. NOYES, *Faculty Representative*
MRS. MIRIAM SCHEID, *Parish Manager*

EMERITA

MRS. M. J. HOWELL

PARENT TEACHER LEAGUE

MRS. AMANDA TORRES, *PRESIDENT*

MS. MEAGHAN WOOD, *VICE-PRESIDENT*

MRS. AMELIA MOTSCH, *SECRETARY*

MRS. PAULA NOBLE, *TREASURER*

LMA Dates

School pictures will be taken on Monday, October 5 so pick out your favorite outfit and be ready to smile. Retakes are scheduled for Monday, November 2.

In recognition of Indigenous Persons Day LMA will be closed on Friday, October 9 and Monday, October 12.

Trunk-or-Treat with Luther Memorial, family and friends on Sunday, October 18. Dress in costume, decorate your car, load it up with some treats and let the fun begin. Set-up in the church parking lot will begin at 12:30pm. Treating will be held from 1:00-2:00pm. Music by DJ Bill Mason, prizes, a costume parade, and of course, treats will make this a super fun day. Please contact the church or school office to sign up to decorate your car.

Annual Halloween Parade will be on Friday, October 30 at 11:00am. Parents are invited to come and enjoy the costumes. Weather permitting the parade will take place outdoors in costume. In case of inclement weather the parade will be held in the main church. Dismissal will be at 11:30am. Please do not line up for the ride line until after the Halloween Parade.

Middle School Halloween Dance is scheduled for Friday, October 23 from 6:30-8:30pm. Cost for LMA students is \$5; guests are \$8.

Additional monies for school equipment, supplies, and special projects are available through the Thrivent Choice program. The Thrivent Choice program enables every member of Thrivent to designate where funds from their Thrivent membership are to be dispersed ~ Luther Memorial Church and Luther Memorial Academy are designated recipients of Thrivent Choice Dollars. Please donate funds to LMA by looking into the financial services provided by Thrivent (life insurance, annuities, Medicare supplements, etc.). Visit their website at www.thrivent.com or we welcome you to speak with our Thrivent representative, Terry Hokaj at 878-5727. Terry is also a member of Luther Memorial Church.