

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



LUTHER

MEMORIAL ACADEMY

24 SEPTEMBER 2023
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
LMA Sunday
10:30 am

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.



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!



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
 Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

LUTHER MEMORIAL PRAYER

- P** 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 walking.
God, be in my heart and in my loving.
- C** Amen.

Please be seated.

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY STUDENTS SING

LMA School Song

*Our voices we're raising, in song 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 will cherish each lesson and mem'ries so dear.
God's blessing is o'er us, God ev'r watches o'er us
As forward we travel the paths far and near.*

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

FIRST READING: Wisdom 7:7-14

⁷Therefore I prayed, and understanding was given me; I called on God, and the Spirit of Wisdom came to me. ⁸I preferred her to scepters and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her. ⁹Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem, because all gold is but a little sand in her sight, and silver will be accounted as clay before her. ¹⁰I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light because her radiance never ceases. ¹¹All good things came to me along with her, and in her hands uncounted wealth. ¹²I rejoiced in them all because Wisdom leads them, but I did not know that she was their mother. ¹³I learned without guile, and I impart without grudging; I do not hide her wealth, ¹⁴for it is an unfailing treasure for mortals; those who get it obtain friendship with God, commended for the gifts that come from instruction.

☐ Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40 (*Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by R.*)



Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes.

- ³³ Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.
- ³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- ³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.
- ³⁶ Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain. **R**
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.
- ³⁸ Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.
- ³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.
- ⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me. **R**

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 3:5-11

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. ⁹For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building. ¹⁰According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Let each builder choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.

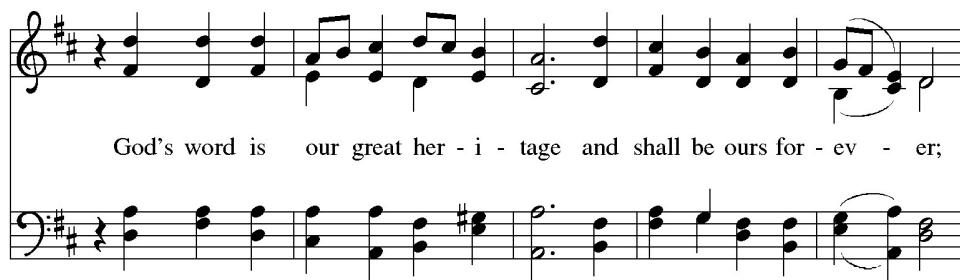
L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

G Thanks be to God.

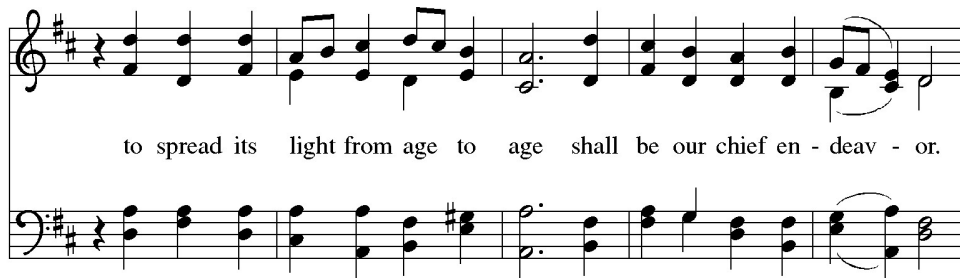
Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

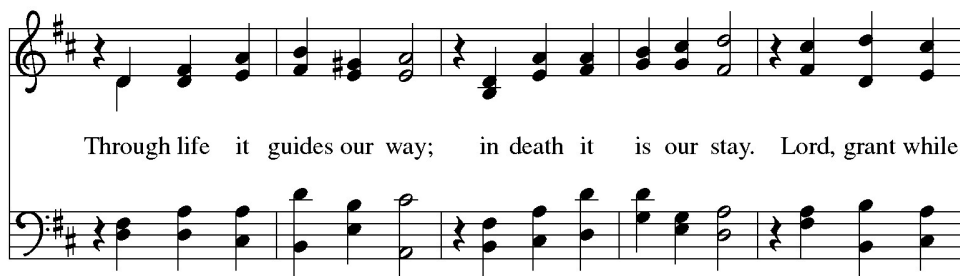
God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



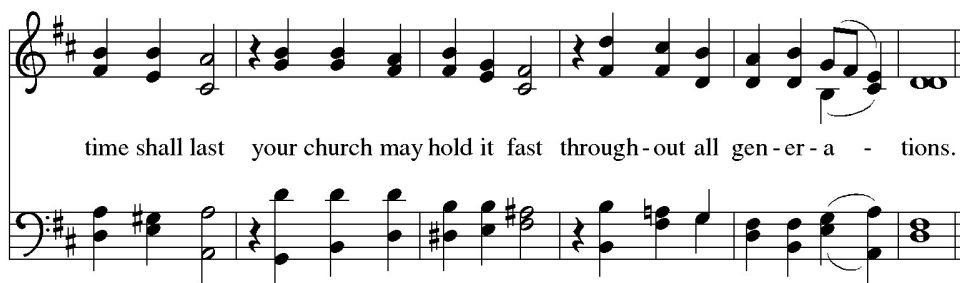
God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

☒ The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 2:40-52

⁴⁰Jesus grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

☒ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

HOMILY

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

Text of this hymn is the work of a Benedictine Sister who is one of the best-known hymn writers in the church today. The hymn tune composer, a 20th century British university professor, organist, and much-decorated musician, is among the most distinguished of modern composers.

His compositions number nearly two hundred, the present one having been published in 1904.

HYMN OF THE DAY

To Be Your Presence

ELW 546

1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your

pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the

ev - er near,
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
love ex - pressed,
church, re - joice,

THE INSTALLATION OF LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY TEACHERS AND STAFF THE OPENING OF THE 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

A O God, everything you do is wonderful, and I know it well.

C Teach us your ways, O God.

A Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light on my path.

C Teach us your ways, O God.

A Jesus said, Let the children come to me.

C Teach us your ways, O God.

THE CHARGE

P 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.

P 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?

R *We will.*

P 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?

R *We will.*

P 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?

C We will.

P 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?

R *We will.*

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

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

O God, source of all goodness: we give you thanks for the gift of reason and the opportunity for education. Bless Luther Memorial Academy, that we may be a place of learning and safety where teachers challenge the minds and nurture the hearts of students. Grant that our teachers and students may work together in mutual respect and find joy in the challenges of academic life; through Jesus Christ, your Wisdom Incarnate.

C Amen.

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

C Amen.

THE PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

A God, be with 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,

C hear our prayer. ▶

A God, be with your creation that even as we enter the season of autumn and watch as leaves turn colors and fall and animals prepare for winter's rest, we may be reminded of your beauty all around us. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God, be with the people of the world that leaders of nations may seek peace and that all who are elected to positions of power may work for the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God, be with people who are sick or suffering in any way, especially Abbie, Winnie, Ann, Lois, Pat, Bob, Brian, Lisa, Jean, Cindy, Ian, Carol, John, Branden, Howie, Melissa, Bertil, Karen, Allison, Audree, Susan, Mark, Michael, Mary, Dean, Bonnie, Suzie, Doug, Jenine, Lisa, Brian, Scott, Cindy, Cassia, Jeff, Matt, Michael, Andrew, Alli, Ben and those whose names and needs we lift up now: _____. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God, be with Luther Memorial Academy, especially our teachers and staff: Michelle, Amanda, Karen, Katie, Beth, Kim, Kevin, Rebecca, Becky, Ciara, Amy, Caryn, A.J., Heidi, Stephanie, Jody, and Jenna. Guide our School Board, John, Natalie, Shannon, Greg, Miriam, Maria, MJ, Jim, and Stan as they make important decisions. Inspire our PTL Board, Kim, Mindy, Paula, and Natalie 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,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God, thank you for those who have gone before us in faith and those whose faith was known only to you. Bring us with them to the fulfillment of your baptismal promises. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God, we give you all these prayers and everything else you know we need and we thank you for hearing, through Jesus.

C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **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.

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

Offering envelopes are located in the pew racks and may be designated by checking the appropriate box.

(Bob Banks, soprano saxophone)

*Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take.
Proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour Lord and King,
That all the world his worthy praise may sing.*

*Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
He will in grace respond to all who call.
How shall they call if they have never heard
The gracious invitation of his word?*

*Go forth and tell! Where still the darkness lies,
In wealth or want, the sinner surely dies:
Give us, O Lord, concern for heart and mind,
A love like yours which cares for humankind.*

*Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide:
Share God's good gifts -- let no one be denied.
Live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose;
Your ransomed powers for his sole glory use.*

*Go forth and tell! O Church of God arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies.
Go till all the nations his great name adore
And serve him, Lord and King, for ever more.*

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy to give you thanks, holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, because all of creation is your crowning glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

*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.*

P Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus invites all to this table. Come, eat and live.

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

The congregation is seated.

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast!
We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.*

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.*

In the mid-1980's this author composed the folk mass La Misa Popular Salvadoreña as a result of a commission from Archbishop Oscar Romero. Romero was assassinated while celebrating mass in El Salvador. Cuéllar was forced into exile for ten years due to threats on his life.

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION


ELW 523

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet *Vamos todos al banquete*

Refrain / Estribillo



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to yu - na mi - sión.
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all

pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do, a - le - gre la
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
 ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
 peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo
 cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
 hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
 geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

- 2 *Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe, donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué.* Estribillo
- 3 *Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad, trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad.* Estribillo

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
 Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955
 Text and music © 1994, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

This hymn was not originally associated with communion, but rather was a gathering song for secret meetings of African slaves who had been forbidden their accustomed use of drums or horn for this purpose. After the Civil War the first two stanzas were added and it came to be used as a communion hymn.

ELW 471

Let Us Break Bread Together

- 1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

- ☐ May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you to everlasting life.
- ☑ Amen.

Please be seated.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

- ☐ God be above you,
in front of, beside, and behind you;
God be in your head,
in your hands, your feet, and your heart;
and the blessing of God almighty,
who is Source, + Wisdom, and Light
be upon you now and always.
- ☑ Amen.

This easy-to-sing folk melody became familiar in England as well as Wales, having been widely published by 1939. The melody is familiar to all at Luther Memorial as it serves as the school song of Luther Memorial Academy, with a text by longtime LMA teacher Cheryl Lucht. The author of today's text, Omer Westendorf, is the author of many hymns in use today. He is also celebrated for publishing The Peoples Mass Book, which with its use of the vernacular implemented the liturgical reforms developed by Vatican Council II.

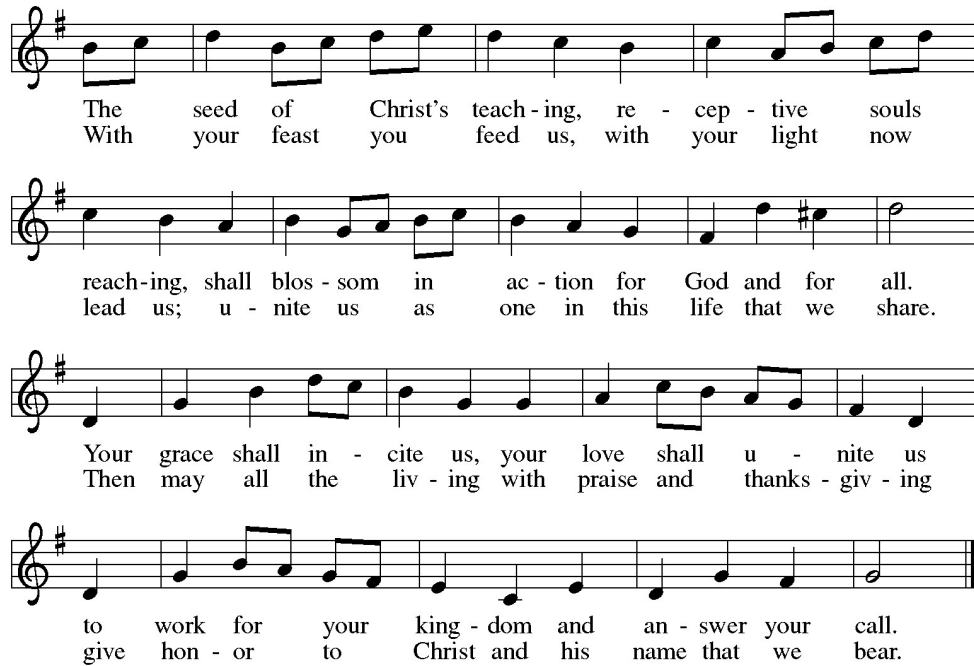
SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,
the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—
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 INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A Go in peace, share the good news.
- B Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

arr. Dale Wood

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor Jay Mitchell
GREETERS – Mexie & Ryan Sands
Isela & Dwight Smith, Julliana Vega-Abreu
CRUCIFER – Kirra DiPaolo
BANNER BEARER – Jaida Fried
ACOLYTES – Simone Boyd, Gia Fracassi
ASSISTING MINISTER – Sutton Rowland
FIRST READING – Holden Harris
SECOND READING – Lincoln McCall
GOSPEL – Jack Bartlett
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Linda Graffius, Kate Martin
USHERS – John Bartlett, Mark Howell, Natalie Montero, Stan Rose
BREAD BAKER – Lois Washill
ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels



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.

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

Please join us in the parlor following worship this morning for refreshments, provided by the PTL, and fellowship.

Adult Forum will be held at 9:10am meeting on the 5th floor.

Confirmation classes for our 10th grade confirmation students will be held from 11:30am – 1:00pm (lunch will be provided). Classes will be held each Sunday through October 22. Youth will be confirmed at our 10:30 service on Reformation Sunday, October 29.

Book Fair is open in the LMA Library this morning. We welcome you to stop in and browse or pick up some great books for Christmas. Thank you to the Werner Book Store for providing a wonderful selection of books for our Fair.

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.

CROP Walk is today with registration at Beach One beginning at 1:00pm. The walk begins at 2:00pm. Make a difference in our community by sponsoring a walker or enjoy the walk yourself. If you are in need of a walker packet, please see Beth Keller. All confirmation students will be participating in the CROP Walk.

Worship

Blessing of the Animals will be held Sunday, October 8 at 1:00pm in our outdoor green space. Bring your furry, finned, feathered and friendly pets to receive their blessing as we give thanks for all of God's creatures. All animals must be either leashed or crated.

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.

Where Is Pastor Jay?

Pastor Jay would love to meet with you! You don't just need to have an emergency to have a great chat. If you want to get together, because Pastor Jay is often away from his desk doing other pastorly things, you should probably call the church office or e-mail Pastor Jay directly at JMitchell@LutherMemorialOnline.org. However, if you just want to drop in on him, for the week of September 24, Pastor Jay's drop-in hours will be Monday from 7:30-9am at Pressed Coffee Shop (8th and Greengarden) OR Wednesday from 3-4:30pm in the office.

Faith Formation

B.A.D. (*Bible After Dark*) is held the **first** Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Brewerrie. Join together with folks from Mt. Calvary as we share in Bible Study and fellowship (with some adult beverages if you would like). We will gather to share from *Bible Stories for Adults* and discussion of what these stories we learned in Sunday School still mean for us today. RSVP is not necessary but helpful. Let Pastor Jay or the church office know if you're interested.

ALT Worship (*A Lutheran Table*) is offered on the **second** Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm for a new worship experience. The service is about 60 minutes and centers around sharing a meal. We begin by preparing the meal and the worship space together and end with dessert and clean-up. All part of the worship experience. We also share in Communion. Come on out for something new and a unique encounter with the Divine!

Dinner with Our Flock is held on the **third** Wednesday of the month; October 18 and November 15. At 5:30 we gather for dinner; the main dish will be provided, please bring a dish to share. A Bible lesson and a craft or activity is held following our meal. A wonderful time for us all to be together.

Stump the Pastor

You will notice a stand in the parlor lobby with many tree stumps on it. You (whoever you are of all ages) are invited to use these to try and stump Pastor Jay. You may ask your question anonymously or you can put your name on the stump. Either way, look for Pastor Jay's response once your stump "sprouts" a tree!

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will welcome Diane Giannelli on Tuesday, October 17 for a presentation on Erie's Underground Railroad. There is a great deal of history surrounding this subject and Diane will share some very interesting details. Please join us in our parlor from 11:30am-1:00pm. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or Norma in the church office, 454-0106, ext. 221, by Sunday, October 15.

Magic Fingers Grace Group gathers in the parlor the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month for knitting and crocheting. We'll be meeting and visiting on September 26 from 10:00am-12:00 noon for a wonderful morning and hope to see you. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Join us for Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 1 at 11:30am in fellowship hall. A delicious main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be provided, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Let's raise a cold glass of beer together and make a toast to Oktoberfest. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, September 25.

Family Scavenger Hunt will be held Sunday, October 1. Be a super sleuth and have an afternoon of fun around Erie solving clues and reaching the final surprise destination. Please see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski if you plan to join in the excitement.

Calling All Trunks! Decorate your car trunk, fill it with treats and join us for our 3rd Annual Trunk-or-Treat in our parking lot on Sunday, October 22. Car set up will be from 12:30-1:00pm. Treating is held from 1:00-2:30pm. Halloween fun with music by DJ Mason, dancing, costume parade and more. Great treats come out of the trunk of your car! Reserve your space today by contacting the church office, Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski.

Cash Bingo will be held Sunday, November 5. Doors open at 12:00 noon with Bingo beginning at 12:30pm. All games are cash prizes of \$50. Tickets are \$20 each and available on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.

Worship Space

St. Zita's Day! All are asked to lend a hand for any time you can share to help with our Cleaning Day on Saturday, September 30 beginning at 9:00am. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. Carpets and floors have been cleaned, painting has been done, and now those cleaning touch ups are needed. Please join us. You are welcome to contact the church office or Les Fobes with any questions. Thank you.

Youth Fundraiser

Get your favorite popcorn at Popluck on Thursday, October 19. Stop in to Popluck, 1535 West 8th Street, throughout the day and let them know your purchase is supporting Luther Memorial. A percentage of your purchase will go towards our youth. And, just for us, they are creating a special flavor of popcorn for October 19.

Paving Project

Parking has improved dramatically with the addition and improvements made over the last few weeks. We continue to ask for your financial support as our Capital Campaign moves forward. Additional commitments are needed as we look to fulfilling our financial goal. Your help and all that you do at Luther Memorial is appreciated; thank you.

College Connections

We have a number of Luther Memorial folks who have journeyed off to college. If you are one of them, or if you love one of them, please let the church office know their name and contact information. Look for future announcements about ways we will continue to keep in touch with them while they are away!

Luther Memorial Academy

Candy is Needed! LMA will be participating in the Erie ZooBoo October 12 – 30. This is an opportunity to spread the word about our great school. Many small treat bags will be prepared to hand out during ZooBoo, and we are in need of approximately 30,000 pieces of candy. Donations may be dropped off in the church or school office. Thank you.

Items to Note

In case of an emergency and unable to reach Pastor Jay, 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.

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon	Winnie Lyons	Bob Giannelli	Ann Flick
Lois Fobes	Pat Gilbert		
Friends and Family:			
Brian & Lisa Davis	Jean C.	Cindy Hessinger	Ian Minner
Carol E.	John Semonis	Jeff Granger & family	Branden Jones
Howie	Melissa	Bertil Carlson	Karen Chilcote
Allison, Audree & family	Melissa Pierce	Susan Brooks	Mark Hadzega
Michael Collins & Mary	Dean Scalise	Bonnie Ford	Suzie Hosterman
Doug & Jenine	Lisa & Brian Adams	Scott Coleman	Cindy B.
Cassia Cabaday			
Grief:			
Shelley Sandquest family	Gloria Rosthauser family	Shirley Brown family	Mike Daniels family
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			

WEEKLY READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

September 25 – Psalm 106:1-12; Genesis 27:1-29; Romans 16:1-16

September 26 – Psalm 106:1-12; Genesis 28:10-17; Romans 16:17-20

September 27 – Psalm 106:1-12; Isaiah 41:1-13; Matthew 18:1-5

September 28 – Psalm 25:1-9; Ezekiel 12:17-28; James 4:11-16

September 29 – St. Michael and All Angels -- Genesis 28:10-17; Revelation 12:7-12; John 1:47-51; 103:19-22 -- *Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.*

September 30 – Jerome, Translator, Teacher, 420 -- Colossians 3:1–11; Psalm 19:7–14; Luke 24:44–48 -- *Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.*

CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	12:00pm	Adult Forum
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26	10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27		
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	1:00pm 5:30pm 6:30pm	Grief Support Group Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29		
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30	9:00am	Church Spic & Span Morning

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023 ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church. Baptism of Mackenzie Jane Kozyk at 10:30am.

Adult Forum will be held in the library at 9:10am.

Confirmation Class for youth in grade 10 will begin at 11:30am.

Oktoberfest will be celebrated at 11:30am.

Family Scavenger Hunt begins at 1:00pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistants	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Liz Stroup
Counters	10:30am	Jean McMillin, Skip Meyn



LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

Welcome to the 47th annual Luther Memorial Academy Sunday. We gather as a school family to worship and celebrate LMA's continued educational mission to the Erie community.

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.

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY BOARD:



JOHN BARTLETT – President
MICHAEL MCCORMICK – Vice-President
NATALIE MONTERO – Secretary
GREG KERN – Treasurer
MIRIAM SCHEID – Assistant Treasurer

MARIA GOELLNER
M. J. HOWELL (Member Emeritus)
SHANNON MCADOO

KATIE ROMBA (Teacher Representative)
JIM WERTZ

Ex Officio:

MICHELLE THOM (School Administrator)
STAN ROSE (LMC Council President)

PASTOR JAY MITCHELL

PARENT/TEACHER LEAGUE:

Parental involvement helps enhance the quality of school life.

KIM WERTZ – President
MINDY BOYD – Vice-President
AMANDA FRIED – Secretary
PAULA NOBLE – Treasurer
NATALIE BARTLETT – Sports
BETH KELLER – Teacher Representative



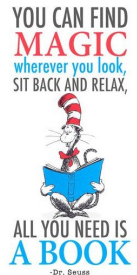
2023-2024 ACADEMY STAFF:

MICHELLE THOM – Administrator
AMANDA FRIED – Office Manager
KAREN SOCASH – Kindergarten
KATIE ROMBA – Grade 1
BETH KELLER – Grade 2
KIMBERLY EVANS – Grade 3
KEVIN SIROLI – Grade 4
REBECCA MCCORMICK – Grade 5
BECKY CAREY / CIARA ADAMS – Grade 6 (English, Reading, Literature)
AMY GILEWICZ – Grade 7 (Math, Social Studies, Art, Study Skills)
CARYN CHLUDZINSKI – Grade 7-8 (Math and Science, Spanish)
A. J. NOYES – Specials; Music, Guidance, Spanish (K-5)
Physical Education
KIM EVANS – Library
HEIDI MYER – Language Development
STEPHANIE SHERWOOD – Reading Specialist
JODY DONOVAN – Math Specialist (Kdg. – Grade 6)
JENNA UHLIG – Math Specialist (Grades 7 & 8)
BETH KELLER (Coordinator) – After School Program
CARYN CHLUDZINSKI – Before School Program
PASTOR JAY & BETH KELLER – Chapel



Luther Memorial Academy Library Book Fair:

Please visit the Book Fair located in our school library. Thank you to the Werner Book Store for providing a wide variety of books for us to choose from. Pick one or two up this morning, and maybe something special for Christmas, too.



Opportunities to Support LMA

- **Members of Thrivent** may designate their Choice Dollars to Luther Memorial Academy by calling Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 by March 15, 2024. It is necessary to call yearly to specify with Thrivent that your donation is to be directed to LMA. Simply specify that your donation is to benefit Luther Memorial Academy regarding the grant opportunity. The more donations that are received will boost our school's chances of being selected to receive this grant.
- **Recycling** – Save your newspapers.
- **Box Tops for education** – Store receipt information for eligible products can be photographed and submitted online or on the Box Tops for education app. The school is listed as “Luther Memorial Learning Center”.
- **Donations of:**
 - Halloween Candy for ZooBoo (30,000 pieces of candy are needed)
 - Bottled waters (small and large)
 - Paper towels
 - Copier Paper
 - Christmas gift bags / tissue paper
 - Small Trinkets for prizes (stickers, tattoos, bracelets, small toys, candy, cars, etc.)