

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



9 May 2021
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. WILLIAM COLEMAN, *Pastor*

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

Pastor Emeritus

WALT GABER

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. ROY WASHILL

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL

Pastors in Residence

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

Director of Care & Health Ministries

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

BETH KELLER

Youth and Family Ministry

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

CHRISTOPHER A. PAUL

Academy Administrator



9 MAY 2021

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion • Setting II • 8:15 & 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 – "My Song Is Love Unknown"

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

Michael Burkhardt

Donald Johns, John Carter, Gordon Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P As brothers and sisters in Christ, we walk, act, speak and live all our lives with the love of Christ Jesus. We now approach the throne of God, giving thanks for the ways we have lived out that love, while also admitting those times we have failed.

C Amen.

P Let us open our hearts in the presence of God and one another trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful and just God,

C Come into our lives in a new way.

Call us away from the voice of the world to listen to your commandment to love one another.

Guide us to seek out the lost and least, the forgotten and lonely.

Remind us that when we love one another, we know your love.

In the name of Christ, our Shepherd, we pray.

Amen.

P In this is love,

that Jesus died for us and for the world.

In the name of + Jesus Christ,

I announce on this joyous day, that your sins have been forgiven.

Let the deep love of God cast out fear,

fill you with joy, and inspire you in living for others.

C Amen.

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together).

The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come,

and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "good cheer") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

ENTRANCE HYMN

LBW 315

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy

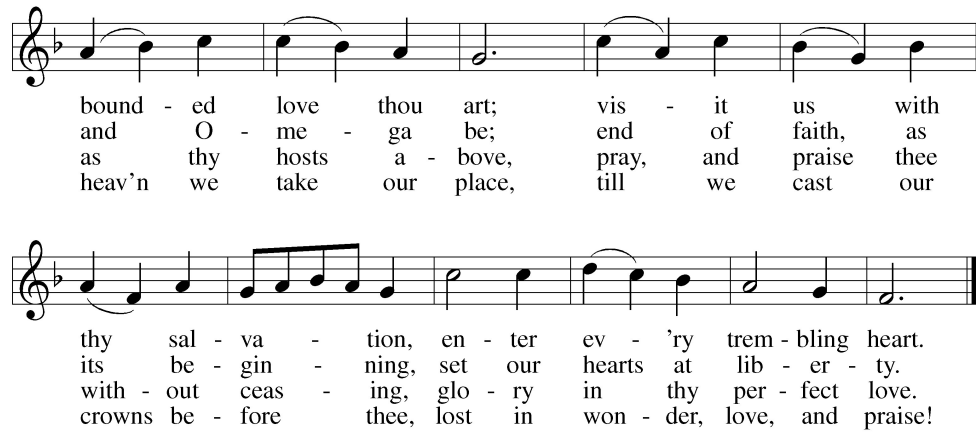


hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha -
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in





bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

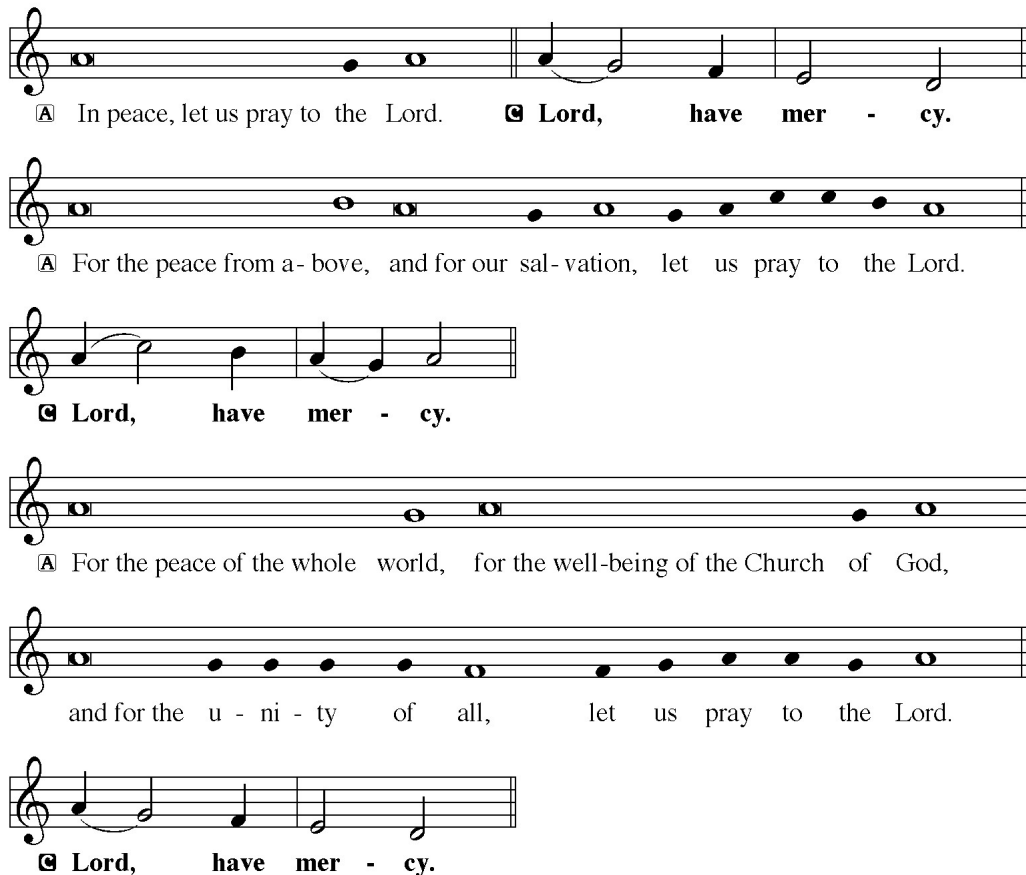
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Please remain seated.

GREETING 2nd Corinthians 13:14

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- 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.

KYRIE Luke 17:13



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

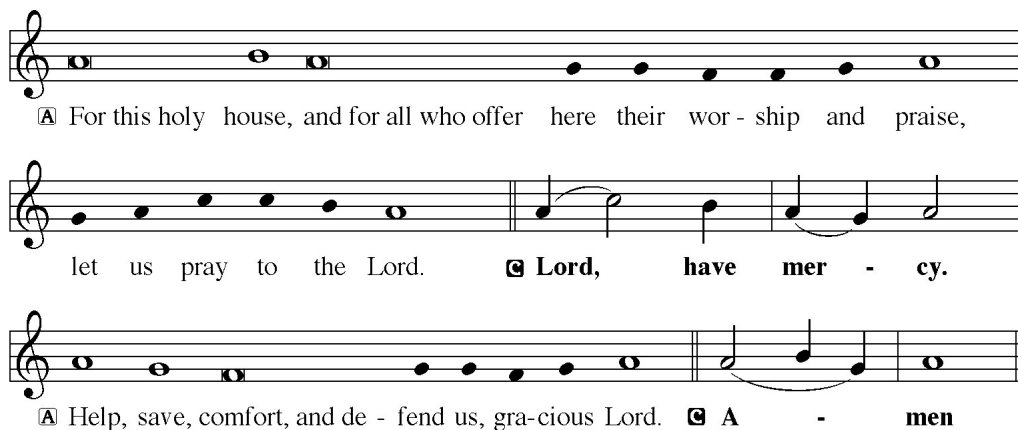
C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.





A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. B Lord, have mer - cy.
 A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. B A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE *Luke 2:14*



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.
 B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:
 We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
 You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
 You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY *Ruth 2:4*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON – Love My Kids *(10:30 am Service)*

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

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98 *(Spoken responsively by whole verse.)*

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments.
Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

☒ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead.
Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

☒ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Coleman

Please remain seated.



*The opening line here could equally well have been a courtier's lament for a secret affair,
but it soon becomes a path into a vivid and poignant reflection on Christ's Passion.
This 17th-century text is beautifully embraced by its sensitive and lyrical 20th-century tune.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Song Is Love Unknown

WOV 661

choir only

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
5 They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made a -

me, love to the love-less shown that they might love - ly
stow; but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would
sing; re - sound-ing all the day ho - san - nas to their
spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their
way; a mur - der - er they save, the prince of life they

be. Oh, who am I that for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suff - 'ring goes

my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
who at my need his life did spend!
and for his death they thirst and cry.
them - selves dis - please and 'gainst him rise.
that he his foes from thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683
Music: LOVE UNKNOWN, John Ireland, 1879–1962

NICENE CREED

**☩ We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**
Through him all things were made.



For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS *1 Timothy 2:1*

A Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

A Eternal, loving God, your people have been born anew by water and the Holy Spirit. Renew us always through your forgiveness, and use us to lead others to living waters. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Holy God, you give us children to love and to teach. We offer our thanks to our parents and teachers who faithfully have shared the Gospel with our children. Plant these seeds of faith deep in their hearts so they may bear good fruit in their lives. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You bring about justice and peace through your people. Support those who work for justice and healing, especially nurses within the Erie community and this community of faith. Open our eyes this week to see ways we can be helpful and make a difference in the places we live and work. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You are victorious over sin, death, and all that separates us from you. Draw near to all who feel alone in illness or crisis, especially our loved ones, those names on our prayer list and those names we now name aloud.....Fill them with your healing presence. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A For those who yearn for meaning and community with others, that the Holy Spirit lead them into this ministry to hear the Gospel; for those visiting Luther Memorial Church today; and for those who are searching for answers. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.



A Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives, especially Martha Bert Sturtevant, Pastor Richard Schultz, and John Quinn. Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Blessed God, you have loved us, chosen us and appointed us to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last: honor the faithful prayers of your people, that all the earth may abide in your love and know the joy of your friendship, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

A The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. *Romans 16:16*

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

arr. Dan R. Edwards

Please stand as you are able.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
as you were made known to the disciples.
Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,
that we may be your risen body in the world.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Matthew 21:9*

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 him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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

- P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover
from death into life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

- P** O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast. Grace our meal with your presence.

- C Come, Holy Spirit.**

- P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

- C Come, Holy Spirit.**


- P** With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.


- C Amen.**


- 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.

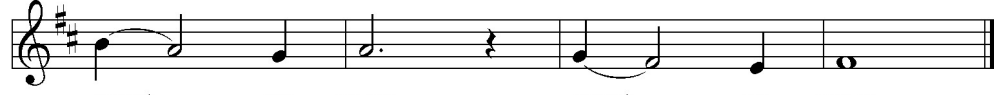
Matthew 6:9

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, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

-  The risen Christ invites us to this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.
-  Amen.

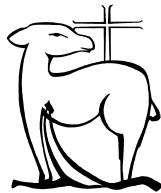
Please be seated.

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

*Please come forward by the center aisle **and maintain appropriate physical distancing.** Receive the bread and return to your place by the side aisle.*

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

COMMUNION John 1:29



Text and tune of this hymn are of unknown origin, although conjectures are many. The meter is one found in several ballads of the day, which can be traced to a 16th century song published in Scotland.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 666

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Please remain seated.

BLESSING

A The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection
you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life,
and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection
that we may show your glory to all the world;
through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

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

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

A May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem,
“An die Freude” (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's Ninth Symphony.*

The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

SENDING HYMN

LBW 551

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant-ing bird, and flow-ing foun-tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Please stand as you are able.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE Luke 7:50

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – Toccata on "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Walt Gaber

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor William E. Coleman
ACOLYTES – Gabe & Mitch Stroup (10:30 am)
ASSISTANT MINISTERS – Rob Benacci (8:15 am)
Liz Stroup (10:30 am)
LECTOR – Cathie Dugan (10:30 am)

Choir:

Patricia Boyd, Molly Gaber,
Carol Carlson, Mary Laver,
Bob Banks, David Ruler,
Jonathan Gaber, Ken Kraut, Otto ‘Skip’ Meyn



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our mother, Martha Bert Sturtevant, by her children, Susan, Roger, Bob and Dave.

Lectern flowers are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for Pastor Richard Schultz’s years of ministry and service by his wife, Lois, and family.

Columbarium flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of John Quinn by Bill Braendel, Jr.

We would like to recognize our high school and college graduates. Please contact Norma in our church office by phone, 454-0106, ext. 221, or email, nbuerk@luthememorialonline.org, by Sunday, May 16 with the following:

For our high school graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. High School they are graduating from
3. Future plans; college, service, etc.

For our college graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. College they are graduating from
3. Degree

Pastor Mumford continues to receive care in a long-term rehab skilled nursing facility. Cards and notes for Pastor are much appreciated and Mary asks that they be mailed directly to the rehab facility as her visitation is limited; Riviera Palms Rehab Center, Room 155, 926 Haben Blvd., Palmetto, FL 34221. Thank you.

Live Streaming 10:30am Worship Service

Luther Memorial Church is open for **worship and ministry activities** (following all health and safety protocols as done previously). Sunday services are held in person at 8:15am and 10:30am in the main church.

Our 10:30am worship service is live streamed on our church YouTube Channel using our new camera equipment. The service will not be on Facebook Live. As you will be able to see, the new camera equipment will allow for more movement of our worship leaders, along with a much enhanced sound quality.

To watch the worship service on YouTube live, go to YouTube, and in the search bar, type in “Luther Memorial Church, Erie Pa”. Subscribe to the channel. We understand this will be an adjustment for some, but if you have any problems or questions, please reach out to Pastor Coleman or Norma Buerk.

Opportunities for Worship and Prayer

Sunday Morning Worship – In-person worship at 8:15am and 10:30am; also live streamed on our church YouTube channel at 10:30am, with the recording posted to the Church Webpage by 12:00 noon.

Tuesday Morning Prayer – Live on LM Facebook Group page at 9:00am, and available to watch a recorded version on our Church Webpage and YouTube Channel on or before 10:00am.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Live on LM Facebook Group page, Church Webpage and YouTube Channel at 10:00am.

Thursday Evening Prayer – Live on LM Facebook Group page at 6:00pm, and available to watch a recorded version on the Church Webpage and YouTube Channel on or before 7:00pm.

Opportunities for Christian Education

First Holy Communion classes continue on Sundays, through May 23 at 9:15am in fellowship hall. Classes are offered in person and on Zoom by our instructors, Ann Flick and Beth Keller. Masks are worn and all safety protocols are followed. Children will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday, June 6 at the 10:30am service.

Pastor Coleman will meet with 7th, 8th, and 9th grade youth of Luther Memorial Church on confirmation class Zoom meetings at 1:00pm on the following Sundays.

- **May 9 – 7th Grade**
- **May 16 – 8th Grade**
- **May 23 – 9th Grade**

Children's Church families are meeting weekly via Zoom from 6:30-7:00 on Wednesday evenings. We look forward to seeing you at our next gathering on Wednesday, May 12.

Luther Memorial Church's 7th, 8th and 9th graders will be attending **Confirmation Camp at Camp Lutherlyn** from June 13 to June 17, 2021. Information has been sent to all parents and students about the details of Confirmation Camp. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

Luther Memorial Church's 10th students will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday during the 10:30am service, on Sunday, May 23, 2021.

Worship

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

Opportunities for Fellowship

Magic Fingers Grace Group would love to see some more familiar faces join us on Tuesday mornings to knit and crochet. Masks are worn and safe distancing protocol is followed. We gather in the parlor the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Put a spring in your step and join us May 11 and May 25 from 10:00am-12:00 noon. Please contact Norma in the church office or Jan MacInnes with any questions, 454-0106.

Music Ministry

We know that most of you (*hopefully everyone*) have greatly missed singing as a congregation in our worship services. Once it became suspected - and then obvious - that the COVID-19 virus is most commonly spread through aerosols exhaled from an infected person, we decided that we should forego singing whenever we gathered for worship. Now, we need to decide when and how to reintroduce that essential part of our worship.

The two mitigating actions we think will have the most effect on reducing the risk of singing in church are **vaccinations** and **ventilation**. As more and more of us have been vaccinated, all indications are that a return to previous practices is becoming safer, although the impact that COVID-19 variants may have in the next few months is unknown. As the weather permits, we will also be able to return to worshipping in a room with open windows and fans providing better ventilation.

When we begin to ease back into congregational singing, you can expect the following:

- Begin to sing parts of the liturgy since the liturgy is the "work of the people" and most of those are short and involve relatively quiet, meditative singing.
- Sing the "Sending Hymn" since everyone will leave the building within a few minutes of that activity.
- Sing fewer verses of hymns to reduce the singing duration.
- Continue to be led by the recorded organ and choir music so that we can experience a full sound without increasing our exhalation and exposure.
- Continue with our practices of mask wearing and distancing while beginning to gently raise our voices, albeit in a subdued manner.

Our choir is also considering when and how to resume rehearsals and singing together. When asked how they, as individual singers, will decide when it is safe to sing together, the most common response has been "when everyone in the choir has been fully vaccinated." We also plan to hold shorter rehearsals in well-ventilated rooms (*or even out-of-doors, weather-permitting*) and will gather in church as a choir only for the duration of a psalm or anthem. Otherwise, the choir members will participate in worship as a congregant under the constraints listed above.

Worship practices during the pandemic have been a core discussion of the monthly church council meetings and recently we have been discussing this return to singing. When a consensus has been reached that the risk has sufficiently decreased (*through decreasing incidence of the virus in our community and through our proposed mitigation practices*) you can expect that we will move forward. Please continue to pray for wisdom and guidance for those that must make these decisions and for all of us who desire both to worship as fully as we can while considering the health and well-being of our neighbor.

Opportunities for Service

Pastor Coleman receives many requests for help and service so below are some of those requests. If you are interested in hearing more about them, or letting him know you are willing to help, please let him know and he can give you details and connect you to these service opportunities.

- Church member, Ellen DiPlacido leads the Emmaus Garden which grows food for the Emmaus food pantry. If you like to garden and have time on Saturday morning, this would be a great way to serve.

Health Information

Contact phone numbers and websites to help with obtaining information on how and where to obtain the Covid-19 vaccine is below.

AHN (St. Vincent)	814-CONNECT	814-266-6328	AHN.org
UPMC(Hamot)	844-UPMCVAC	844-876-2822	vaccine.upmc.com
LECOM	866-LECOM19	866-532-6619	lecom.eventbrite.org

Summer Camp

Registration for summer camp at Lutherlyn has begun. Information can be found at the welcome tables at each entrance and also by visiting www.lutherlyn.com. For additional information, please contact the camp office at 724-865-2161 or registrar@lutherlyn.com.

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 10

TUESDAY, MAY 11	10:00pm	Magic Fingers Grace Group
	6:00pm	Church Council via Zoom and in person

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12	6:30pm	Children's Church via Zoom
	7:00pm	Worship & Music via Zoom

THURSDAY, MAY 13	3:00pm	Organ Lesson
	6:00pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Handbell/Choir Zoom Chat

FRIDAY, MAY 14

SATURDAY, MAY 15

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 **THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Pastor William E. Coleman will be preaching at the 8:15am and 10:30am services in the main church. The 10:30am service will also be live streamed on our church YouTube Channel. The recorded service will be available by 12:00 noon and can be viewed on Luther Memorial Church's website at www.luthermemorialonline.org by clicking on the tabs of "Resources & Online Worship" and "Sunday Morning Worship, Daily Prayer and Bible Study".

First Holy Communion class will be held at 9:15am in person and via Zoom.

Grade 8 confirmation students will Zoom with Pastor Coleman at 1:00pm.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Joanne Dahlstrand family	Dorothy Overberg	Judy & Robert Crissman	Cathy MacGregor
Mike Daniels	Dorothy Respecki	Roy Washill	Bill Grande
Bob Peterson	David Ruler	Bill Brandt	Pat & Henry Gilbert
Brent Young	Grace Petron	Laura Beth Kraut	Shirley Brown
Cindy Treiber	Jack Tell	Linda Soles	Steve Narusewicz
Dave Mumford	Jessica Copfer	Lois Fobes	Suzanne Franks
Chickie Braine			

Friends and Family:

Debbie	Patty Chadwick	Ellen Schauerman	Bobbi MacInnes
Patrice DiTullio	Kristen	Larry E.	Tom W.
John & Naomi Howard	Jonathan	Jesse McFadden	Betsy
Madison & family	Ed Hokaj	Elijah Montero	Ray Polasky
Linda Sutto	Linda Grimm	Amanda Toms	Johnny Heubel
Carol & Frank V.	Edna Pett	Philippe Pierre	Katrina Foltz
Amy Johnson-McDougall	Jeff F.	Kimberly Ferry	Juan Esparza
Amanda, Joe & Mitchell S.	Clarice Moore	Don Ingram	Vicki
Linda & Woody F.	Julie Pond	David	Debbie S.
Matt Kinzig	Paul Spierling	Joan Torrelli	Mitch Dougan
Mike Cesnick & family	Ben Young	Pamela Hagele	Pam Torrelli
Chet & Pam W.	Bill	John Shafer	Norman Jensen
Baby Mike Campbell	Aiden Mack	Marie Checkley	Kim Hunkins
Jennifer Young (not related to Pat)	Ethan Polasky	Julie	Betsy
Laurie, Eric & family	Tom Kraut	Kayley Prinzi	Brandy Dyne
Brandon Jones	Bruce Elfvin	Clarence Chase	Joyce DiMichele
Suleski family	Lucia Doyle	Jeff F.	June Madurski
Brandon & Stacey Campbell	Stephany Bourne	Jay Henry	Sue Gerke
Tom McGrail	Kathryn P.	Dr. Carl Seon	Sam Ruma
Grace	Dave Cooney	Patty Meadowcroft	Nancy Ritzmann
Jim Haskins	Dennis Chevalier	Mike B.	Ben Nalepa
Marilyn Schultz	Theresa Abrams	Sonya Kisak	Frank Nalepa
Sherry Johnson	Sue Daniels	Andrew Dahlstrand	Logan
Tricia Swinehart	Shannon Walters	Dorothy McCarty	Ron Ruff
Bishop Michael Lozano	Chris Wygant	Steve & Leah W.	Daisy C.
Judy Oosterkamp	Chris Hunter	Patrick L	Amy
Bob Guenther	Jim Schumacher	John King	Liam
Roger Smith & family	Leola Weist	Joe Gross	

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Michael Stickner	Matt Anderson	Stephen Benacci	Andrew Watson
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