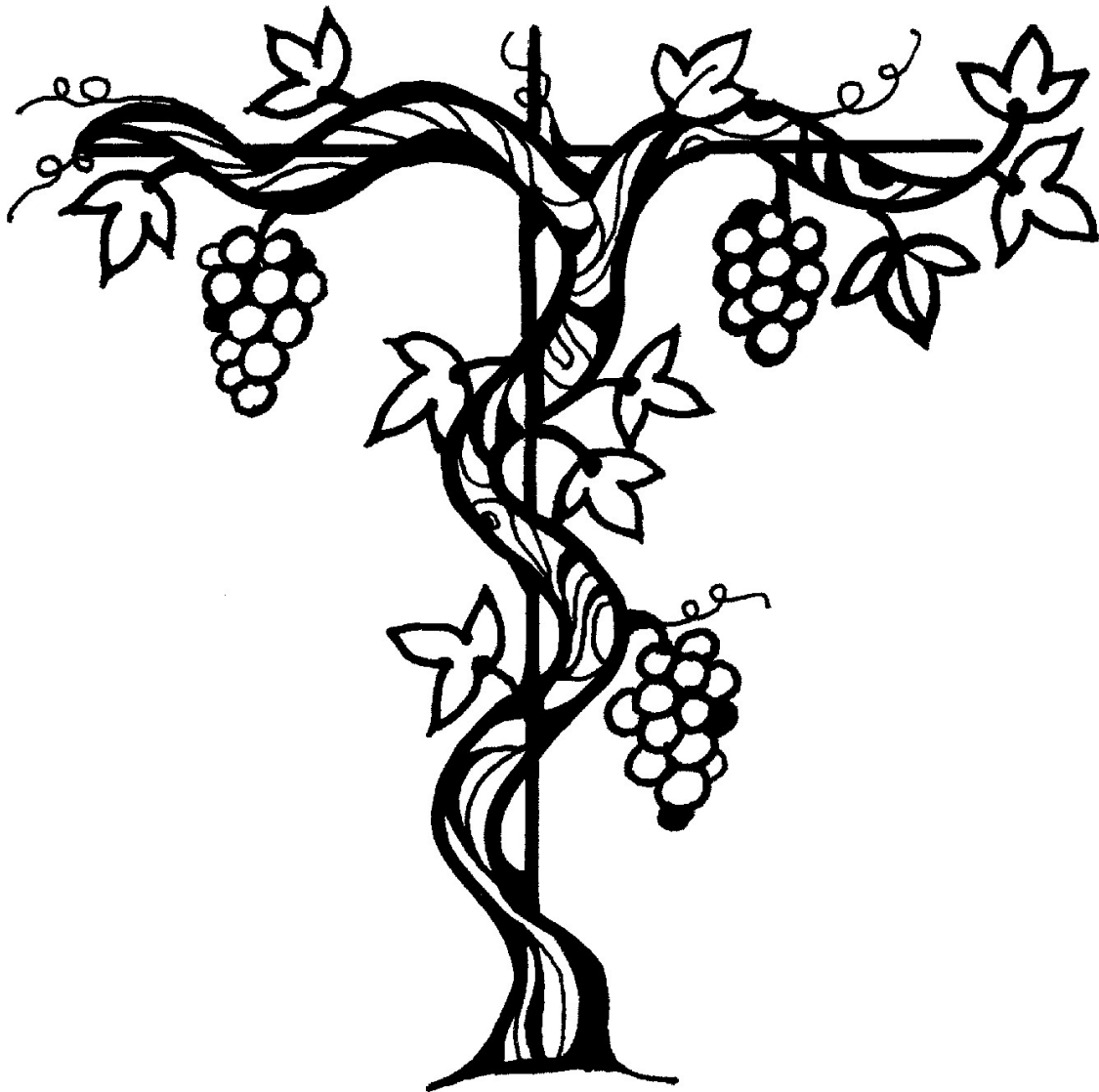


*Welcome to*  
Luther Memorial Church



7 SEPTEMBER 2025  
**THE 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
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*

RON KING

*Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity*

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!*

~ 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. Hymns are included in this bulletin, however if you need larger print, hymns may be found in the back of the red hymnal using the number indicated (#). Please join in singing all the music! Today especially we raise our voices in praise!

~ **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!

~ **We welcome** all of God's children **no matter your age**. Wiggles, dancing, and singing welcome! Together we raise a joyful noise. If you would like a children's bulletin, a soft toy, or a book, they're near the ramp door (out the doors next to the pulpit on the long Welcome Table).

~ **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.

~ There are **hand fans** available on the table by the pulpit. Please help yourself and remember to return after worship this morning.

+ + +

**PRELUDE** – "Toccatta in C"  
 "Fugue in C"

J. Pachelbel

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**ONE:** In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin  
 and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
 by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
 have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
 so that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,  
 to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING HYMN**

**ELW 556**

### **Morning Has Broken**

The musical score for 'Morning Has Broken' is presented on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staff, with three verses provided. The first verse is: '1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has'. The second verse is: '2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first'. The third verse is: '3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the'. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature.

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## OPENING SENTENCE

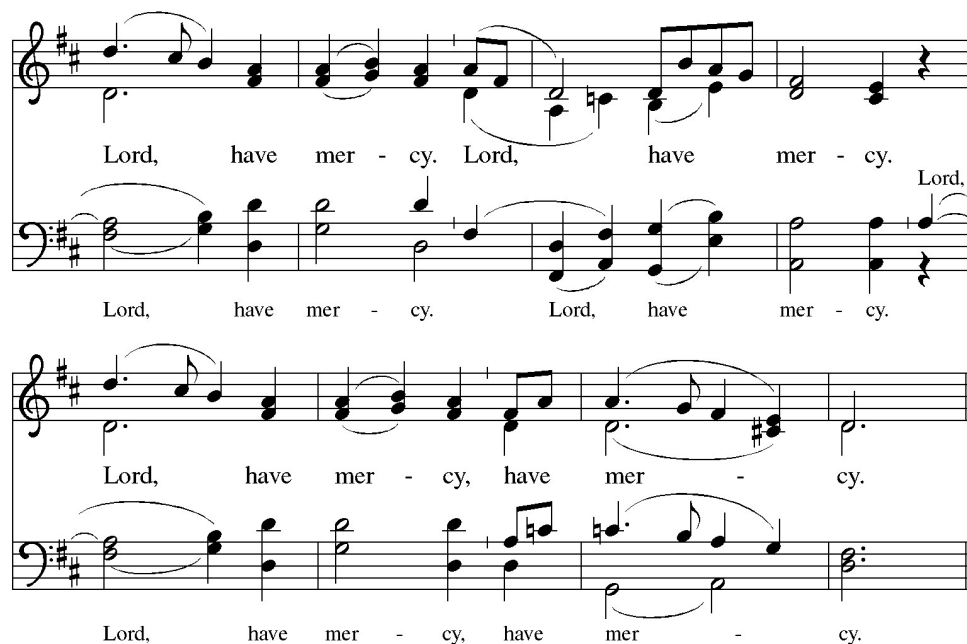
Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 And blessed be God's reign now and forever. Amen.

## KYRIE

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

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





Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
 Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WORD**

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

## FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

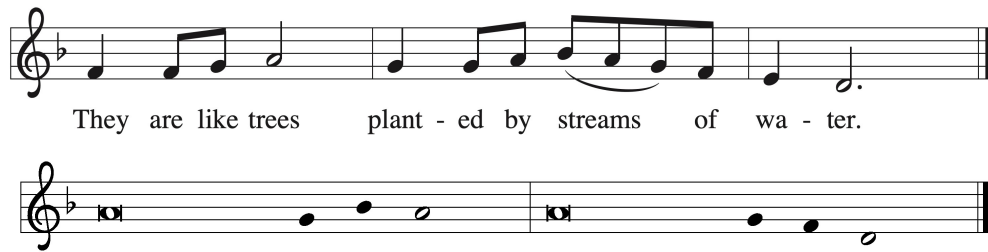
Moses said to the people: <sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in the Lord’s ways, and observing God’s commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other deities and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the Lord your God, obeying the Lord, and holding fast to your God, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: PSALM 1

The antiphon is introduced by the cantor and repeated by the assembly wherever indicated (A). The verses are chanted responsively with the assembly joining on the verses in **bold**.



<sup>1</sup> Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel <sup>|</sup> of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats <sup>|</sup> of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup> **Their delight is in the law <sup>|</sup> of the LORD,**  
**and they meditate on God's teaching <sup>|</sup> day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that <sup>|</sup> do not wither;  
everything they <sup>|</sup> do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup> **It is not so <sup>|</sup> with the wicked;**  
**they are like chaff which the wind <sup>|</sup> blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when <sup>|</sup> judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council <sup>|</sup> of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> **For the LORD knows the way <sup>|</sup> of the righteous,**  
**but the way of the wicked shall <sup>|</sup> be destroyed. R**

## SECOND READING: Philemon

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup>to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. <sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason Onesimus was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup>no longer as an enslaved person but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome Onesimus as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. <sup>22</sup>One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you. <sup>23</sup>Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, <sup>24</sup>and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers. <sup>25</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

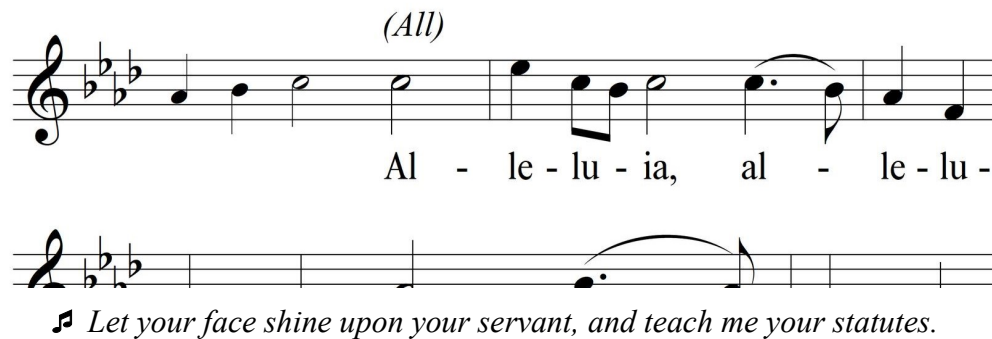
Thanks be to God.

*Please rise in body or spirit to greet the Gospel. The cantor introduces the Alleluia. The congregation repeats and again after the cantor offers the verse.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

M. E. Krentz  
BOURBON

(All)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -

♫ Let your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

## GOSPEL: Luke 14:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, spouse and children, siblings, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether there is enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when a foundation has been laid and the builder is not able to finish the building, all who see it will begin to ridicule the builder, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This person began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.*

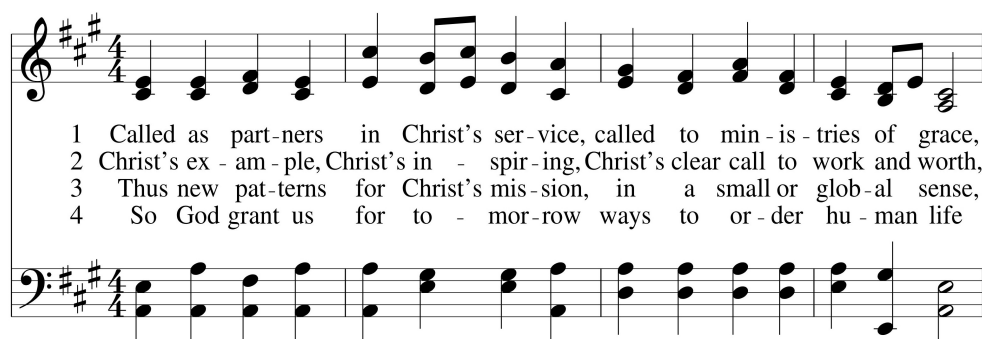
## SERMON

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

### Called as Partners in Christ's Service



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

we re- spond with deep com- mit- ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol- low, nev- er fal- tering, rec- on- cil- ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth- er's bur- dens, break- ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur- round each per- son's sor- row with a calm that con- quers strife.

May we learn the art of shar- ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom- en, rich- er, poor- er, all God's peo- ple, young and old,  
 Words of com- fort, words of vi- sion, words of chal- lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part- ners in our liv- ing, our com- pas- sion to in- crease,

e- qual part- ners in our car- ing to ful- fill God's cho- sen end.  
 blend- ing hu- man skills to- geth- er gra- cious gifts from God un- fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac- tion, make us col- leagues, free and fair.  
 mes- sen- gers of faith, thus giv- ing hope and con- fi- dence and peace.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber (1926- )  
 MUSIC: John Zundel (1815-1882)

BEECHER  
 8.7.8.7.D.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*You may stand, sit, or kneel as is your custom for the:*

### **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. Journey with Elizabeth, our presiding bishop, and Yehiel, our presiding-bishop elect, in this season of transition. Bless Kristen, our bishop, with grace upon grace as she assumes her office among us. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. Melt the hearts of those who withhold food as a means of self-gain, particularly in places where famine is entirely humanmade. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Bring peace to war torn places around the globe: Gaza, Ukraine, the United States, Israel, Russia. Turn our hearts to love our children more than guns. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now: \_\_\_\_\_. May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. Journey with those who consider suicide, assure them of your love and the support of the community around them. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints, especially Mary, Anna & Joachim, Peter, John, Colleen, George, Margaret, Harold, Dave and Elizabeth. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

### **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 at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. 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.*

**ANTHEM – "Allegro III: Compositions for Musical Clocks"**

**G. F. Handel**

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

## Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,  
 give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.  
 Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,  
 give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.  
 And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
 rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
 now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
 rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith  
 Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

Text and music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. International © secured.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.  
 Merciful Father,  
**we offer with joy and thanksgiving**  
**what you have first given us—**  
**ourselves, our time, and our possessions,**  
**signs of your gracious love.**  
**Receive them for the sake of him**  
**who offered himself for us,**  
**Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**  
**SURSUM CORDA**

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**THE PROPER PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS**



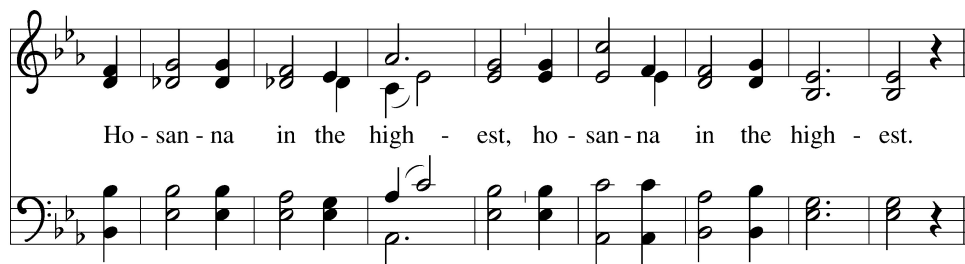
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
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## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your Only Begotten One, that all those who believe in Christ should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive with a living faith the same Jesus who comes to us in this holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*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.*

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

**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

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is made ready!

**One is Holy; One is Lord: Jesus Christ to the glory of God. Amen.**

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.*

## HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

### Jesus, Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797-1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1999 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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September is Suicide Prevention Month. In solidarity with our siblings dealing in mental health issues, holding them in prayer, and working for just and equitable access to mental health services, we sing this hymn written in 2019. It is © 2019 by Kerry Lewis with permission for duplication and singing within the worshiping assembly.

If you or someone you know is struggling with you mental health, do not hesitate to dial 988.

## Lord, So Many Are in Darkness

1. Lord, so man - y are in dark-ness and are trou-bled in their soul. We im-  
 2. Lord, so man - y are a - void - ed for their ac - tions that dis - may, for their  
 3. To the pre - cious ones we cher - ish, whom we car - ry in our heart, to these  
 plore you, God of mer - cy, to re - lease them, make them whole. Grant re -  
 strange words and be - hav - ior that makes oth - ers turn a - way. Send them  
 souls con - fused and fright- ened send, O Lord, your heal - ing art. Might - y  
 lief from in - ner tur -moil; still the voice - es urg - ing harm. Hold them  
 skilled and will - ing help - ers, well - e - quipped and well - pre - pared, who can  
 God of great com - pas - sion, in our need we pray to you: Now em -  
 close, O lov - ing Sav - ior, hold them in your might - y arm.  
 lead them out of dark - ness to a life much less im - paired.  
 brace our ail - ing dear\_ ones. Pour your love on them a - new.

Kerry Lewis  
2019

Beach Spring, *The Sacred Harp* (1844)

## I Shall Not Be Moved

TFF 147

*Refrain*

I shall not be, I shall not be moved. I shall not be, I shall not be moved;  
 like a tree plant - ed by the wa - ter, I shall not be moved. be moved.  
 1 When my cross is heav - y, I shall not be moved,  
 2 The church of God is march - ing, I shall not be moved, the  
 3 Je - sus is our cap - tain, I shall not be moved,  
 4 Fight - ing sin and Sa - tan, I shall not be moved,

when my cross is heav - y, I shall not be moved;  
 church of God is march - ing, I shall not be moved;  
 Je - sus is our cap - tain, I shall not be moved;  
 fight - ing sin and Sa - tan, I shall not be moved;

like a tree plant-ed by the wa - ter, I shall not be moved.  
 be moved.

Text African American spiritual  
 Music: I SHALL NOT BE MOVED, African American spiritual

## TABLE BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 501

### Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be.

And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!

Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav'n - ly strain;

but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891  
 Music: WERDE MUNTER, Johann Schop, 1600–1665; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 OF HOLY COMMUNION *if needed*

### SENDING

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## BLESSING

...now and forever.



## SENDING HYMN

ELW 808

### Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

*Jésus, je voudrais te chanter*

A musical score for the hymn 'Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score includes a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes, with four verses provided. The melody is simple and homophonic, with the lyrics '1 Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;' written below the notes.

1 Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;  
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,  
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go;  
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a-mour:  
 you a-lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 For you saved me by giving your bod-y and blood.  
 And with all of the fam-ly you saved by your love,  
 Je-sus, je vou-drais te chan-ter sur ma rou-te.  
 Lord Je-sus, you shall be my song as I jour-ney.  
 Lord Je-sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour-ney.  
 As long as I live, Je-sus, make me your ser-vant.  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour-ney.

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931  
 Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community  
 Text and music ©1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE – "Lancashire"

M. Helman

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*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.*

## — SERVING TODAY —

*PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell*

*ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer*

*ASSISTING MINISTER – Kate Martin*

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Stan Rose*

*LECTOR – Mary Mumford*

*USHERS – Mary Daniels, Eric Hedlund, Carl Moore, Amy Scott*

*ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke*

*VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider*



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents, Colleen and George Schaefer and Margaret Hedlund Sinclair and Harold Hedlund, by the Hedlund family.

**Our love and sympathy** is with the family and friends of Dave Parsh who died Wednesday, September 3. Our prayers are with his wife, Karen, and sons, Michael and Greg.

**Our love and sympathy** is with the family and friends of Elizabeth Nowakowski who died Thursday, August 23. Elizabeth is the sister of Dolores Griswold; husband, Dave.

### **Bishop Installation**

**Bishop Kristen Papsen**, a daughter of Luther, will be installed as Bishop by The Rev. Yehiel Curry, V Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, on Sunday, 19 October at 3:30pm at Good Hope, Oil City. All are invited and encouraged to attend. If you would like a seat on the bus leaving from Luther's parking lot at 1:30pm, please let the church office know by Sunday, September 28. Space is limited and is first-come-first-served. Cost is \$5 per person.

### **LMA News**

**Block Party** is going to be a day of fun for everyone on Saturday, September 13 from 12:00 noon – 3:00pm. Stop down for carnival games, bounce house, basket raffle, music, delicious food and so much more. There's even bingo and 50/50. Rain or shine it will be a great time!

### **Luther Memorial Concert and Cultural Series**

**The Concert Series** has a variety of events planned beginning this fall. These events can be viewed by visiting our website at [www.lm-concerts.com](http://www.lm-concerts.com). More information can also be found on our Luther Memorial website under "Ministries".

**Our First "Concert"** will be a viewing of *Matt Shepard Is a Friend of Mine*. The producers, Linda Karn, along with Matthew Shepard's parents, Judy and Dennis, will be with us for this momentous occasion. This event is free—as are all our concerts—but tickets are required for crowd control. If you are interested in tickets, see someone in the Parlor following worship today to sign up online, or you can sign up at [lm-concerts.com](http://lm-concerts.com).

### **Worship Matters!**

**This Sunday we begin using *Deutsche Messe* by Schubert.** Some would think of this as THE Deutsche Messe (German Mass), but it is, strictly speaking, not even a German Mass on its own, let alone the only one. In 1526, seeing the various ways that the Latin Mass was starting to stray from the original sources, Luther set forth his "German Mass and Order of Worship at Wittenberg," for congregations who followed Lutheran reforms to potential follow. It puts in a lot of music to be sung by the congregation (which had previously been sung by trained choirs largely because it was in Latin, a language very few outside of choir schools knew). Over time, many put the words of Mass to music. Schubert is one of them. And in 2025, it would be arguable that his version is the best known in the United States of the choral German Masses.

But the interesting thing about THE Deutsche Messe that Luther outlines is that he very directly tells those who might choose to follow the order of the Mass that it is not a requirement to be Lutheran. It's not the only way to do it. And, he says, if there comes along a *better way* for it to be done, he encourages the pastor to throw out whatever he's written down and do the new way. The Mass should be ever-reforming (like the Church), in Luther's mind, so that it is always relevant and accessible to the people who encounter it. For this reason, to this day, we sing a variety of hymns from a variety of sources and in a whole bunch of styles. We recognize that God's Word is still being proclaimed around the globe. For Luther, what is necessary is that the Word be proclaimed faithfully and the sacraments be administered rightly. And that can be done in just about any *style*. So, we again pick up the well loved *Deutsche Messe* of Schubert in this season and give thanks for all those who have shaped our worship through the years and around the world.

**LIVESTREAMERS ARE NEEDED!** Recently, a few of our services have not been livestreamed and therefore not available to our homebound members. This is due to scheduling conflicts and volunteer availability. We need a robust rotation of livestreamers which involves tending the camera in the choir loft during our 10:30am worship service and our main worship services on feast days (such as Christmas Eve or Ash Wednesday). All ages are welcome to take on this vital leadership role in our communal worship. If you are interested in what this would entail and/or would like to sign up, please speak with Cantor Bryan or Pastor Jay.

### **Faith Formation for All Ages**

**Brown Bag Bible (B<sup>3</sup>)** gathers on Thursday at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. This year we are using *Cross-Examined: Reading the Bible in Times of Division* by Josh Scott. You do not need the book to participate, but if you would like a copy of the book, it is \$15 to the church office.

**Sunday School for Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade** begins on October 12 and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday! **LYO** will also meet during this time. Acolyte training will also be available on these Sundays.

**Confirmation classes** for our 10<sup>th</sup> grade youth will begin Sunday, September 21 held from 11:45am – 2:00pm with lunch provided. Youth will walk in the CROP Walk on September 28 and attend class held October 5 and October 12. Youth will be confirmed Sunday, October 26 at the 10:30am service.

### **Saint Zita's Day—Church Clean-Up!**

**Saint Zita**, a 13<sup>th</sup> century Italian woman known for her devotion to God and her service to others, is the patron saint of domestic workers. On Saturday, September 27 we will observe St. Zita's Day by working together and clean our main church and parlor. We would be thrilled to see 50 people join us at 9:00am and finish up in no time. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Les Fobes or Norma in the church office by Wednesday, September 24 if you plan to help. Thank you.

### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

**Second Sunday Soirée** will be offered on Sunday, September 14 at 9:15am in the parlor. Please join us for a brief time of conversation, and some snacks, too. Thank you to Carol and Bob Davidson for this time of fellowship.

**Put your detective skills** to the test at our Family Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, September 21. The hunt begins at 1:00pm from the church and the clues will take you to our mystery destination. Always a great afternoon! RSVP to Sarah Prylinski, 882-1695, no later than September 17.

**Oktoberfest**, our annual delicious feast, will be held Sunday, October 5 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 Sunday, September 28.

**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 for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am– 12:00 noon; September 9 and September 23. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**OWLS** want to know “What's Your Game?” Join us for a fun time playing board games, cards, checkers or your favorite game on Wednesday, September 24. We will meet in the parlor at 11:00am. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes at 814-833-0476 or the church office by Friday, September 19.

### **Outreach**

**CROP Walk** day is Sunday, September 28 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. Get your family and friends together and join us in this special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. If you are unable to walk, consider making a donation to someone who is walking. A donation packet is available from the church office.

### **Bethany Outreach Center**

**Bethany BINGO Fundraiser at JPT Foundation Bingo Hall, on September 21:** Join us for an afternoon of fun at this event to benefit the Bethany Outreach Center. **Doors will open at 12 noon** and the **games begin at 1:00pm**. Admission is \$30 per person. Take part in the ALL-CASH BINGO Games, and optional basket raffle, tips, instant, and 50/50 Tickets. You can buy admission tickets from Pat Bellingham, Eric Hedlund, or at the door on the day of the event. For more information contact Mabel Howard at **814-572-0985**. We encourage you to RSVP so you can reserve a table for your family and friends. Note: JPT Bingo Hall is located at 2319 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street. Hope to see you there!

## Grief Group

**Grief and Loss Group** for parents and grandparents who have dealt with the loss of a child of any age will have gatherings in the church parlor beginning Thursday, September 11 from 1:00 – 3:00pm. Gatherings will be held every Thursday through December 4. Please contact Karen Braendel at 814-835-5029 with any questions.

## Health Opportunity

**Remote Area Medical Clinic (RAM)** will be offered Saturday, September 13 and Sunday, September 14 at ECAT Wayne, 650 East Avenue. The patient parking lot will open **no later than 11:59pm (midnight local time) on Friday night, September 12**, and remain open. As patients arrive at the parking lot, they will be provided with additional information regarding clinic opening processes and next steps. **Clinic doors typically open at 6:00am.** This clinic is in collaboration with the Hamot Health Foundation. Services offered are free; dental, vision and medical. For more information go to [www.ramusa.org](http://www.ramusa.org) or 865-579-1530.

## Items to Note

**Abiding Hope Lutheran Church**, 2404 West Grandview Blvd. in Erie has an immediate opening for a part-time custodian. Up to 8 hours per week. Please call the church office at 814-868-8685 for more information and to schedule an appointment.

**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.

**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.

## **- PRAYER LIST -**

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

#### **Our Members:**

Dorothy Youngman

Ed Hokaj

Rose-Marie Rose

Pat Gilbert

#### **Friends and Family:**

Mary Beth & Nancy Kelly

Justin

Jeff

Dolores Koscinski

Maureen C.

Gwen Smith

Andrew Wachter

Sullivan

Carol Steffey & Marissa

Sandy M.

Ron Lester

Sherry Giles

Lakeyia, Damarion, Noah, Diamond

Henderson family

Carol Johnson

Phil Nagy

David Gilbert

Joel

Debbie Betit

Jeff Monroe

#### **Grief:**

Woodard family

#### **Our Military Service Men & Women:**

Lt. Col. Matt Anderson

Michael Stickner

Andrew Watson

Alli Brown

Ben Dixon

Lt. Col. Mark Collins

Christopher Rose





### Readings and Commemoration This Week

**September 8 – The Nativity of the Virgin Mary** – Psalm 101; II Kings 17:24-41; I Timothy 3:14-4:5

**September 9 – Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, 1654** – Psalm 101; II Kings 18:9-18; I Timothy 4:6-16

**September 10** – Psalm 101; II Kings 18:19-25, 19:1-7; Luke 18:18-30

**September 11** – Psalm 51:1-10; Genesis 6:1-6; I Timothy 1:1-11

**September 12** – Psalm 51:1-10; Genesis 7:6-10, 8:1-5

**September 13 – John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407** – Psalm 51:1-10; Genesis 8:20-9:7; John 10:11-21 --

### C A L E N D A R

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9	10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
	5:30pm	Lutherans in Action
	6:00pm	Council

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
	1:00pm	Grief Group

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13	10:00am	Julia House
	12:00pm	LMA Community Block Party

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 HOLY CROSS DAY

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

**Guest Preacher** Pastor Karen Kostur, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Erie.

**Second Sunday Soirée** at 9:15am in the parlor.

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

##### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	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	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Gina Snider
Counters	10:30am	Liz Stroup, Pat Young
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	Carl Moore