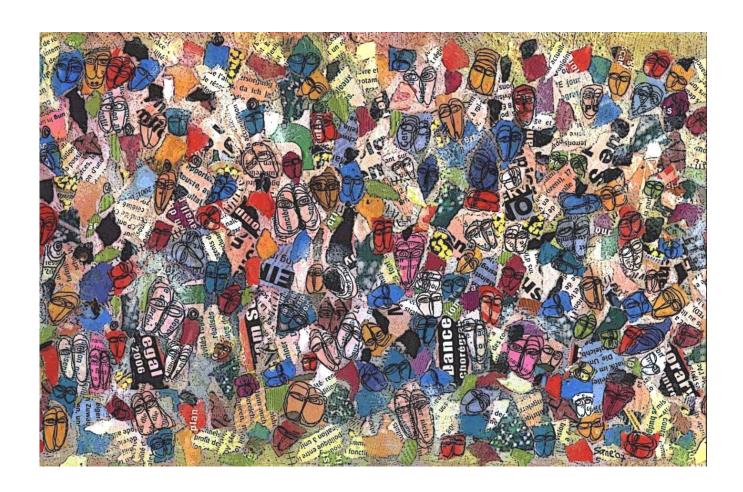
# Welcome to

# Luther Memorial Church

of the Erie Lutheran Parish



3 NOVEMBER 2024 The Feast of All Saints 10:30 am

#### LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106 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
Academy Administrator
BETH KELLER
SARAH PRYLINSKI
Youth and Family Ministry
JAN MACINNES
Care Ministry

#### **WELCOME!**

# THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE! TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

- + Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.
- + If you have a need to **children**'s bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.
  - Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.
- + An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.
- + You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.
- + We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

# 3 NOVEMBER 2024 THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS Holy Communion • ELW – Setting IV • 10:30

GATHERING - "The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God."

PRELUDE - "Adagio"

S. Barber/W. Strickland

*Please stand as you are able. The ministers assemble in the Columbarium.* 

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

- P Holy ones of every time and place:
- **☑** Stand here beside us!
- P TOM, ROBERT, CYNTHIA, MELANIE, CAROL, CHERYL, FLORENCE, MARGARET, JAMES, EDNA, PAUL, PHIL, JULIE, RANDY; all our beloved dead:
- **☑** Stand here beside us!
- P Michael, Gabriel, and all the celestial host:
- **■** Stand here beside us!
- Peter and Paul, princes of the apostles and pillars of the Church:
- **■** Stand here beside us!
- P Andrew, John, Philip, James, Matthias, Barnabas, Thomas, James, Bartholomew, Jude, all the glorious company of the apostles:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- P Mary Magdalene, apostle to the apostles:
- **☑** Stand here beside us!
- P Joanna, Salome, Mary and Martha of Bethany, Mary Cleopas, Susanna, Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, holy myrrh bearers--those first entrusted with the news of Resurrection:
- **Stand here beside us!**
- P Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, the divine evangelists:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- P John the Baptizer, forerunner of the Christ:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- **P** Joseph, guardian of Jesus:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- P Mary, chief of the saints:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- P Jesus, our liberator, the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the ending:
- **G** Stand here beside us!
- P Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us go forth in peace:
- In the name of Christ. Amen!

#### GATHERING HYMN ACS 979





Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, 1906–2003 Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

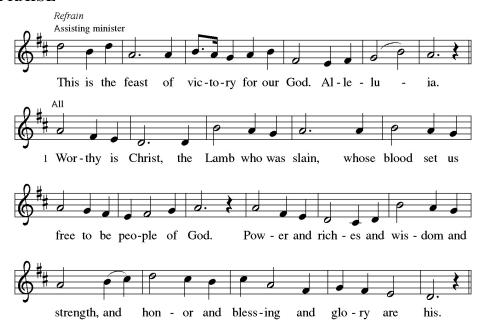
Arr. © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

All. 9 1907 Good Cit Sticiti, Dv, Daarii, Tile reciteriaties, admini. Oct, 5550 N. Hassaio, Fordatie, OK 7/215. All figure reserve

#### **GREETING**

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

#### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

Please be seated.

#### A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

#### PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

ANNABELLE MARILYN COONEY

AMELIA KAYLA ROSE LANG

MASON JAY SNIDER

SAMANTHA CLAIRE STELMACK

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

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. <sup>7</sup>And the Lord will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; <sup>8</sup>the Lord will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of the chosen people God will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. <sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God, for

whom we have waited, so that God might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in the salvation of the Lord."

L Word of God, Word of Life.

**☑** Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM:** Psalm 24 (tune: OLD HUNDREDTH) sung by all

- 1. The world, O God, belongs to you, Its people all are yours to keep, For you have placed it on the seas And made it firm upon the deep.
- 2. Who can ascend your holy hill
  Or who can stand within your walls?
  All those who have clean hands, pure hearts,
  And have not sworn by what is false.
- 3. All these the Lord will surely bless And give them each their just reward; Such, God of Jacob, are the ones Who seek the presence of the Lord.
- 4. Lift up your heads, eternal gates; Lift high your everlasting door; Your Ruler comes. Who rules the earth? The mighty Lord, the conqueror.
- 5. Lift up your heads, eternal gates; Lift high your everlasting door; Your Ruler comes. Who rules the earth? The mighty Lord, the conqueror.

#### **SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a**

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. God will dwell with them; they will be God's peoples, and that very God will be with them and be their God; <sup>4</sup>God will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new," and also said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true. <sup>6a</sup>Then the one seated on the throne said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."

L Word of God, Word of Life.

**☑** Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

Choir: Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing but life everlasting. **Refrain** 



You alone, O God, are immortal, the creator and maker of all that breathes; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth we shall return.

For when we were created, you said, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." Refrain

#### **GOSPEL: John 11:32-44**

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping and the Judeans who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Judeans said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" <sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me,

but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup>When Jesus had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** 

### Gospel refrain sung twice.

Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 422

During the singing of the Hymn of the Day, all are invited to come to the Columbarium to light a candle in memory of your beloved dead.

v. 1-2: All v. 3: Choir v. 4: Higher Voices v. 5: Lower Voices v. 6-7: All

## For All the Saints





Text: William W. How, 1823–1897 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

#### BLESSING OF THE COLUMBARIUM

#### **P** Let us pray:

Holy God, Holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our siblings—who we have here entrusted to their rest—in the company of all your saints. At the last, O God, bring us all to share with the faithful of every time and place in the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus.

Amen.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water--for the oceans that surround the earth, for the rivers that nurture the land, for local bodies of water that you provide for our community--
- **2** We bless you, O God, for the waters of earth.
- We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with water--for the rain that nourishes the plants and trees, for the floods that restore the fields, for the dew that freshens dry places--
- **2** We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.
- P We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism--for the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus, for the water that baptized the believers on Pentecost, for the water that illumines us with your Word, for the water that pours out the gifts of the Spirit, for the water that bathes the church universal--the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, independents--
- **Q** We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.
- P We worship you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, almighty, merciful, and gracious.
- **P** Well of forgiveness,
- revive us.
- P Cup of cold water,
- C refresh us,
- P Pool of rebirth,
- renew us.
- P To you comes the worship of all your people,
- **9** now and forever, Amen.

SPRINKLING SONG ELW 426

During the singing of the hymn, the assembly is sprinkled as reminder of baptism.

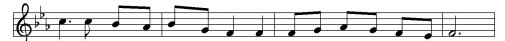
## Sing with All the Saints in Glory



- 1 Sing with all the saints in glo-ry, sing the res-ur-rec-tion song!
- Oh, what glo-ry, far ex-ceed-ing all that eye has yet per-ceived!
- 3 Life e ter nal! heav'n re joic es: Je sus lives who once was dead.



Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for -mer days be - long. Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing nev - er that full joy con-ceived. Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es! Child of God, lift up your head!



All a-round the clouds are break-ing, soon the storms of time shall cease; God has prom-ised, Christ pre-pares it, there on high our wel-come waits. Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won-ders crowd on faith; what joy un-known,



in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace. Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e-ter - nal gates. when, a - mid earth's clos-ing thun-ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812–1883, alt. Music: MISSISSIPPI, William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

#### THE PRAYERS

⚠ Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

- A Holy God, we pray for your Church and all who serve your people. Lord, in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- A We pray for your creation, remind us in falling leaf and nestling animal that your glory is all around us. Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** hear our prayer.
- Me pray for those who serve in elected positions of authority and all who run for office. We pray for poll workers and for the will to be faithful participants in our society. Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** hear our prayer.
- Me pray for the sick and suffering that they may know your wholeness and peace, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now: . Lord, in your mercy,
- **©** hear our prayer.

(A) We give you thanks for all who have died in the faith and those whose faith was known only to you. In particular we give you thanks for the lives and witness of our beloved who have entered the Church Triumphant:

TOM McGrail
Robert Michel
Cynthia Hessinger
Melanie Benn Brown
Carol Emerson
Cheryl Lucht
Florence Holden
Margaret Stallsmith
James Haskins
Edna Alice Hoag Smith
Paul Gustafson
Phil McAfee
Julie Wolfram
Randy Hessinger

**A** We also give thanks for those who have entered your Church through baptism:

MARTIN JONATHAN GABER RYLEE JANE NOBLE

- A Knit us together into a beautiful tapestry of your love and keep us with Sylvia Johnson and Robert Young until we join together with all your saints in praise around your throne. Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** hear our prayer.
- ⚠ We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- Amen.

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you.
- **G** And also with you.

Please be seated.

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

#### **ANTHEM** – "This Moment of Remembrance"

Besig/Price

We give thanks for this meal that we share at the table which Christ has now prepared. We all are made welcome. We all are made whole. This gift we receive from our Lord renews every soul.

We give thanks for this cup and this bread.
By the grace of our God we now are fed.
We come as disciples. We come now in faith.
This gift we receive from our Lord, will cleanse us this day.

Come and taste the promise of forgiveness, for the Lord is surely in this place. And now, in this moment of remembrance, we are touched and blessed by God's unfailing grace. We give thanks for the peace we have found in this place where God's love is all around. We come with rejoicing, We come now with praise. This gift we receive from the Lord redeems us today.

Come and taste the promise of forgiveness, for the Lord is surely in this place. And now, in this moment of remembrance, we are touched and blessed by God's unfailing grace.

Please stand as you are able.

#### **OFFERTORY** (The Doxology with Alleluias)



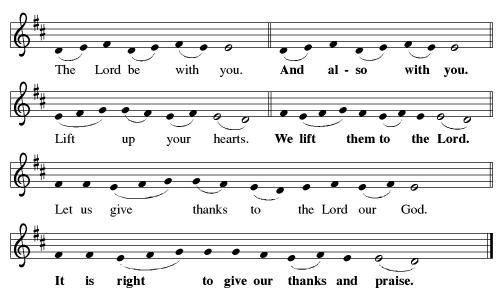
#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

#### **A** Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

#### C Amen.

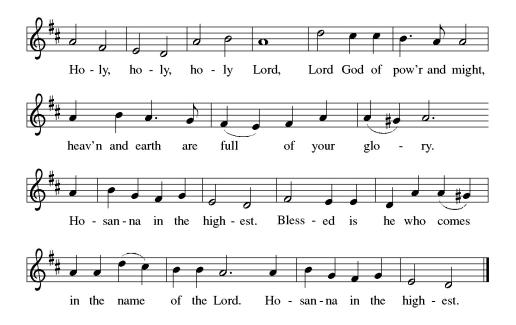
# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG



#### PROPER PREFACE

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

#### **SANCTUS**



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P With all the saints of Africa and Asia, India and the islands, Europe and the Americas, we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds.
- P With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten, we bless you, O God, for you provide us with water and food.
- P With all the faithful in cities and on farms, in mansions and huts, past and present, we worship you, O God, for you shelter the generations.
- P With all your holy people, those who ministered in the church, those who served the poor, and all who walked the way of the cross, we glorify you, O God, for in Jesus you journeyed with us on earth.
- P With Paul and the evangelists, we remember the meal of your Son:

On the night in which he was betrayed, he 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 With Peter and all the martyrs, we honor Christ's death, saying Amen.
- Amen!
- P With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles, we proclaim his resurrection, shouting Amen.
- Amen!

- P With John and all the theologians and mystics, we look for his returning, pleading Amen.
- C Amen!
- P With the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness, we pray for the power of the Spirit. Visit this gathering, this bread and this cup, with the body and blood of Christ. Form us into a communion of service, and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.
- P With grandparents and godparents, with the church universal, and especially with TOM, ROBERT, CYNTHIA, MELANIE, CAROL, CHERYL, FLORENCE, MARGARET, JAMES, EDNA, PAUL, PHIL, JULIE, RANDY, and all those who have gone before us and have shown us the way of faith whose name we cry out now: (here, you are invited to lift up the names of your beloved dead) lead us to a future we cannot yet see, and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.
- P Now with all of the family you saved by your love, we shout
- **©** blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, might,
- P be to our God
- **G** forever and ever. Amen!

#### **OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER**

- **P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

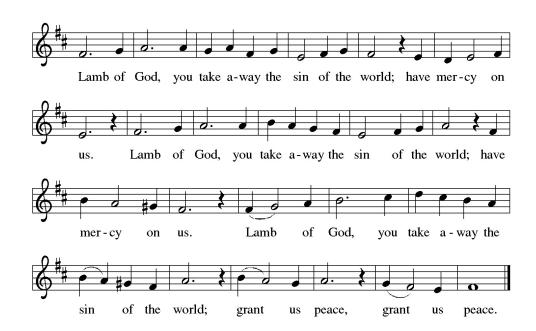
For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

#### AGNUS DEI



#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** Jesus said,

'Come to me, all who are weary and whose load is heavy; I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble-hearted; and you will find rest for your souls.'

Come, not because you are strong but because you are weak. Come, not because of any goodness of your own but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come, because he loves you and gave himself for you.

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

The congregation is seated.

#### **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.

Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available; 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.

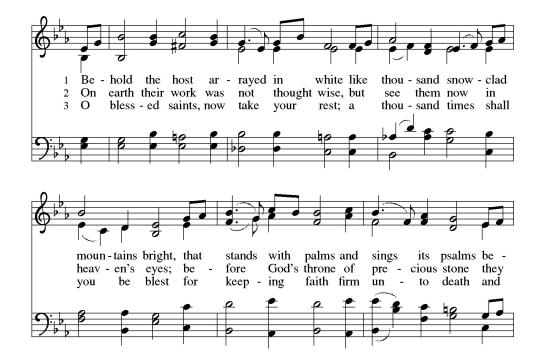
All are invited to the Meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.

.....;

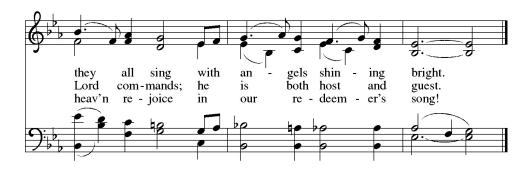
#### HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

**ELW 425** 

## Behold the Host Arrayed in White







Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, alt. Music: DEN STORE HVIDE FLOK, Norwegian folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. Edvard H. Grieg, 1843–1907 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**ACS 1030** 

### Death Be Never Last



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: DEATH BE NEVER LAST, Ray Makeever Text and music © 1993 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand as you are able.

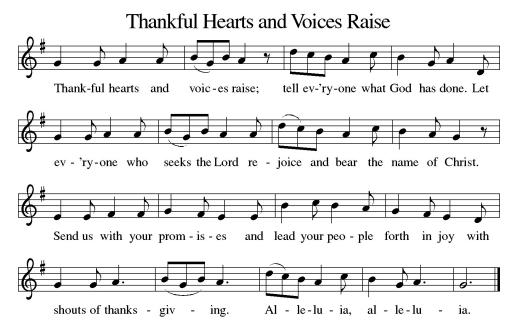
#### **TABLE BLESSING**

- 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.
- **G** Amen.

#### SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION

- P Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care...We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that the Meal we have shared here may be extended for our siblings who are not here.
- **ఆ** We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup. Amen.

#### **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray:

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

SENDING - "God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world."

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please stand as you are able.

#### **BLESSING**

- P ... and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be yours now and always.
- C Amen.

SENDING HYMN LW 418



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: LAUDATE DOMINUM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

**A** Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

**☑** Thanks be to God.

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#### SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

CRUCIFER – Lincoln McCall

ACOLYTES – Tessa & Jack Bartlett

BOOKBEARER – Rylee Noble

BANNER BEARER – Jake O'Brien

ASSISTING MINISTER – Kate Martin

LECTOR – Linda Melaragno

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp

USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Jessica Copfer, Linda Graffius, Brooke McCall

VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider

**ት** ቴ

**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Dorothy Youngman.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Sylvia Johnson by her daughters and families.

**Bulletins** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert G. Young, who would have been 88 on November 5, by Pat and family.

#### **Today's Events**

**Adult Forum** will be held in the library this morning from about 9:15-10:15. Our session is about "Approaching the Bible." This will be a Bible Study *about* studying the Bible!

**Professional crafters** have handmade original items for purchase in fellowship hall this morning following the 10:30 service. Get a head start on your holiday shopping and stop in.

**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.

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra will present a concert at Luther Memorial this afternoon at 3:00 in our main church. Dr. Matt Darling from Gannon University, will offer a Pre-concert lecture on the life and works of Langston Hughes beginning at 2:15pm. Glen Cortese, conductor and artistic director, along with the Fredonia State University Chamber Choir and The Lake Erie Choral Artists of Erie will present "The All American". This event is open to the public and free of charge.

#### **Voting Is A Sacred Duty**

**Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee** of the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA drafted this open letter to her synod and to all who are exercising their vote in this election season. She writes:

Dear Beloveds,

As the election season is here, I have been doing some reflecting on what it means to vote as a Lutheran Christian. Please know that I am not telling you who to vote for in this election. It is not for me to tell you who to vote for. I mean, after all, God is neither Republican or Democrat, or even American.

But in saying that, I am not abdicating the responsibility that we have as Lutheran Christians who live in a country where voting matters. As children of God, we are called to vote beyond our own self-interest or individuality. As people who follow Jesus, we are called towards God's vision of a just and mercy-filled world. As people who have received

grace upon grace, we are called to stand against injustice, and to remind everyone that, in God's eyes, every single person is loved and beloved.

So, here are a few thoughts and questions:

1. Jesus is all about loving one's neighbor. Even when it's hard. When he's asked, "Who is my neighbor," Jesus expands his answer. In Jesus' stories and actions he constantly goes to those who are on the outside, those marginalized, those without status, and shows how they are loved by God – how they are, in fact, his neighbor.

#### As you vote: Who is your neighbor?

2. Throughout scripture, hospitality to the stranger is embraced. In the Old Testament, the command to welcome strangers is repeated 37 times. In Matthew, Jesus says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

#### As you vote: Who is the stranger?

3. God's will and God's calling is towards equity and justice for those who have been silenced, oppressed, or harmed. As we hear in Isaiah, "Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, and plead for the widow."

#### As you vote: Who are the silenced, the oppressed, the harmed?

4. The eighth commandment declares that we are called to not bear false witness against our neighbor. This, of course, means not lying about another but seeking the truth. This means no name-calling or false accusations. But it goes beyond this. As Martin Luther tells us in his Small Catechism, we are to defend our neighbor, speak well of our neighbor, and explain everything in the kindest way.

#### As you vote: Who is speaking truth?

5. God created this beautiful earth and declared that we are both part of the creation and are also called to be stewards of it. As we read in the ELCA social statement called "Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice," we affirm that it is God's intention for us to join in the healing and wholeness of creation.

#### As you vote: Who is caring for creation?

Dear Beloveds of God, there is so much more that could be written about the state of our country and what voting means. We could make this all complicated and intricate and difficult. But truly, it comes down to this: God's love is unconditional and unending. Jesus came to this earth to show, to embody, to be God's love for us and for all people. And so, knowing this, trusting this, believing this, we are called. We are called, as children of God, to show this love to the world. We are called to vote against hate. We are called to vote for God's love. As we hear in 1 John, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear ... We love because God first loved us." +Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

#### From Pastor Jay on #ELCAVotes

**This election season** is certainly fraught with anxiety. If you have a need to talk this week, please be sure to reach out to me. Faith Chapel will be open to you this Tuesday if you need space during the election hubbub for prayer and reflection, or just some time away. Please use the church office door so as to avoid the polls in our narthex.

If you need a ride to the polls or would like someone to keep you company in line (until you get to the door, at least), please reach out to me on Tuesday.

#### Stewardship

Commitment Sunday is Sunday, November 10! This is a few weeks earlier than usual this year. We want to ensure that everyone has a chance to make their commitment to God's mission in this place without worries about holiday travel. We will gather at both services on this Sunday to focus ourselves on God's abundance in our lives and to make our commitments to God's mission through financial support of Luther Memorial. If you did not receive your Pledge Card yet, please talk with the church office. If you will not be with us in person on Sunday, November 10, you can turn in your Pledge Card to the church office before that as we gather all our commitments and offer them to God on November 10.

#### **Christian Education**

**Brown Bag Bible** will gather each Wednesday in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our first topic; *How Did THAT Get in My Bible?!* We will not meet on November 13 and 27.

**Book Group,** Paging Through with Pastor Jay, will meet the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. Our next gathering will be Monday, November 11, as we begin the book *Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal.* 

**B.A.D.** (*Bible After Dark*) will gather at Calamari's the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book <u>Context</u> by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

#### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; November 12 and 26 from 10:00am—12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Michael DeSanctis, retired Professor of Theology and Structural Design and Architecture from Gannon, will visit with the OWLS on Wednesday, November 13 and speak on church design and the theology behind it. He will also share the background regarding his building and repairing of crèches of all sizes. Lunch will be provided for this event. Please join us from 11:00am-1:30pm for this gathering. RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Friday, November 8.

**Cash Bingo** will be held Sunday, November 17. Doors open at 12:00 noon with Bingo beginning at 12:30pm. All games are cash prizes of \$50. Tickets are \$25 each and available on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week. Proceeds will benefit our LYO.

#### **Christmas Preparations**

**St. Lucia** will be presented at Luther Memorial on Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm in our main church with a reception following in fellowship hall. Rehearsals will be held Sundays; November 10, 17, 24 and December 1. Rehearsals for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade youth and older will begin on Sunday, November 10 from 12:00-1:00pm. Rehearsals for children 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger will begin on Sunday, November 17 at 11:30am. Parents are asked to attend the first rehearsal to sign in their child. Please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825 with any questions.

Hamloaf is back for Christmas with new sausage flavors and Gahr's Grillers. Hamloaf is a delicious and easy meal for the holiday season. Orders will be accepted through Sunday, November 17 with pick-up on Sunday, December 8. Keeping it local, Gahr's Hamloaf is located in Franklin, PA. Order forms are available at the hospitality tables and the church and school offices.



#### LMA Vote

**LMA's Second Grade** has adopted a calf through the program and needs your help to make Milkshake the U.S.A. Voting takes place November 4-6 and the cow will receive a calf care package. All you need to do is to vote. Please take a minute and help our second grade



Discovery Dairy cutest cow in the with the most votes scan the above code vote Milkshake the

#### **Community Outreach**

Sisters of St. Joseph will be offering a Thanksgiving dinner by delivery only on Thanksgiving Day, November 28 between 8:00-10:00am. There is no cost to receive a meal, although monetary donations are appreciated. To receive a meal, please call 814-836-4198 on Tuesday, November 19 from 9:00am -12:00 noon. This will be the only day that reservations for meal delivery will be accepted.

#### Part-time job opportunity

**Faith Lutheran Church** in Harborcreek is seeking a p/t administrative assistant to join our team. Flexible daytime hours, 12-15 hours/week. Create weekly worship bulletins, update weekly worship leaders' books, create bi-monthly newsletter, answer phone, order altar flowers, update messages on electronic sign, and assist with various other office needs. Must love interacting with people in a professional and caring manner. Must be proficient in MS Word and Publisher. All PA clearances are required. Starting salary: \$13.00-14.00/hour. Application deadline: November 12, 2024. Apply on Indeed, or submit your resume to <a href="mailto:faithlepastor@gmail.com">faithlepastor@gmail.com</a>.

#### **Items to Note**

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

#### - PRAYER LIST -

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Our Members:						
Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Rose-Marie Rose	Ron King			
Matt, Jessica Kinzig & family	Virginia Long	Pat Gilbert	Dorothy Youngman			
Marilyn Bohn & family Ed Hokaj	Walt Gaber	Rosanne Braine	Lois Smith			
Friends and Family:						
Kate Collins & family	Jenn	Joann Guilianelli	Jenn Eddy			
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Phil F.	Donna Peck	Curtis Krick			
Leigh Ann Fassnacht	Janine Frank	Casey Smith	Fred Kern			
Jean Coburn	Teddy & Rebecca	Branden Jones	Cheryl Atkinson			
Tom Kraut	Kevin D.	Bernadette Mulder	Steve Sensor			
Andy Zimmerman	Jim Roberts	Cheryl Runstedler	Dale Dannhaus			
Bradley & Cara Kendra	Racheal Thompson	Joey & family	Norma Lynch			
Grief:						
Simmons family						
Our Military Service Men & Women:						
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown			
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins					

#### WEEKLY READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

**November 3 – Martin de Porres, renewer of society, 1639** – Micah 6:6-68; Psalm 9:1-10; I Corinthians 1:26-31; Luke 6:20-23 – Martin was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed Black woman from Panama. As a lay brother in the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), he engaged in many charitable works in Lima, Peru. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for cats and dogs.

**November 4** – Psalm 51; Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Romans 12:17-21, 13:8-10

November 5 – Election Day – Jeremiah 29:4-14; Psalm 20; Romans 13:1-10; Mark 12:13-17

**November 6** – Psalm 51; Micah 6:1-8; John 13:31-35

November 7 – John Christian Frederick Heyer, 1873, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, 1719, Ludwig Nommensen, 1918, missionaries – Isaiah 62:1-7; Psalm 48; Romans 10:11-17; Luke 24:44-53 -- Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.

November 8 – Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Hebrews 9:15-24

**November 9** – Psalm 146; Deuteronomy 24:17-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24

#### CALENDAR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4		LMA Picture Re-takes
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5	12:00pm 3:00pm	Deborah Circle W/ELCA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6	12:00pm 6:30pm	Brown Bag Bible Bible After Dark (Calamari's)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7	1:00pm 5:30pm 6:30pm	Grief Support Group Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8	7:00pm	Anniversary Celebration
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9	8:00am 10:00am	Swedish Baking Julia Hospice Meeting

# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME COMMITMENT SUNDAY

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

Adult Forum will meet at 9:15am in the library.

**Second Sunday Salons** will gather at 9:15am. in the parlor.

Sunday School for PreK-grade 5 at 9:30pm.

Julia Hospice House presentation at 11:30am in the library.

**St.** Lucia rehearsals begin for grades 3 and older at 12:00 noon.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 ASSISTING IN WORSHIP				
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Niambi Mercado		
Assisting willister	10:30am	Vance Meucci		
Communion Assistant (1 needed)	10:30am			
Lector (1 needed)	10:30am			
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci		
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels		
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco		
	10:30am	(1 needed)		
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang		
Counters	10:30am	Nick Lang, Jean McMillin		
Ushers (4 needed)	10:30am	Cathy Beck, Sue Cappelletty		
		Mary Mumford		