

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church



29 JUNE 2025
THE FEAST OF STS. PETER & PAUL,
PRINCES OF THE APOSTLES
AND PILLARS OF THE CHURCH
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!

~ Luther Memorial Church and Academy is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

~ 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.

PRELUDE – “C Major Prelude and Fugue”

J. S. Bach, J. T. Krebs

Please rise in body or spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ONE: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin,
and heals our lives.

ALL: Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy, O God,
against you, you alone,
we have sinned.

In your compassion,
cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.
Create in us a new heart
and give us a steadfast spirit.

Do not cast us away,
but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us.

Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 645

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four stanzas, each corresponding to a line of the hymn.

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

OPENING SENTENCE

Blessed be our God,
forever and ever. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we praise you that your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdoms. Grant that your church throughout the world may always be instructed by their teaching and example, be knit together in unity by your Spirit, and ever stand firm upon the one foundation who is Jesus Christ our Lord, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 12:1-11

¹About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. ²He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. ³After he saw that it pleased the Jewish religious leaders, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.) ⁴When Herod had seized Peter, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. ⁶The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. The angel tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his wrists. ⁸The angel said to him, “Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.” He did so. Then the angel said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” ⁹Peter went out and followed the angel; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel’s help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. ¹¹Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent an angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish leaders were expecting.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 87:3, 5-7 (*Sung in unison.*)



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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On the | holy mountain
stands the city | God has founded;
the Lord loves the | gates of Zion
more than all the dwell- | ings of Jacob.
Glorious things are spo- | ken of you,
O city | of our God.
Of the city it shall be said, “Everyone was | born in Zion,
and the Most High shall sus- | tain the city.”
Enrolling the nations, the | Lord records:
“These al- | so were born there.”
The singers and the danc- | ers will say,
“All my fresh springs | are in you.”

SECOND READING: II Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

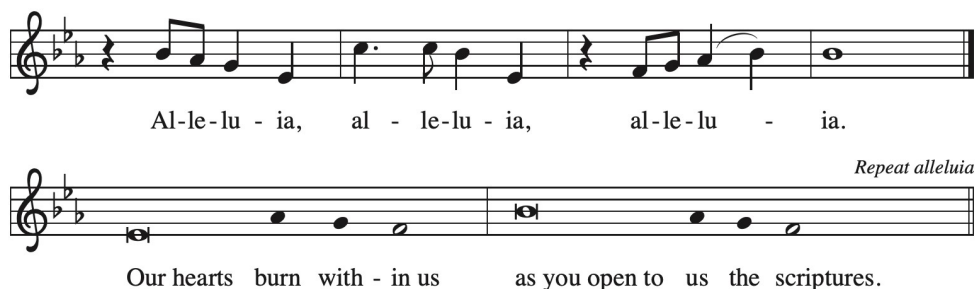
⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for the Lord's appearing. ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for the dominion of heaven. To the Lord be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit to greet the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

Repeat alleluia

GOSPEL: John 21:15-19

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon Peter said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time Jesus said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to Jesus, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷Jesus said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because Jesus said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to Jesus, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God.) After this Jesus said to him, "Follow me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.

SERMON

Pastor Beth

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



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

We pray for the church. As you raised up apostles like Peter and Paul, raise us up to share your life-giving gospel. Enrich the proclamation of Elizabeth and Michael, our bishops; Kristen, our bishop-elect; Jay, our Pastor, and all bishops, pastors, deacons. Journey with the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod in our time of transition. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the earth. As you rescued Paul from the lion's mouth, rescue your creation from harm. Sustain fragile ecosystems; watch over dwindling numbers of insects, birds, and fish; and open our hearts to regard this earth as a gift. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations. As you bid Peter to feed your sheep, bid our leaders to feed all in need and work for their good. Shield and comfort all who live in lands torn apart by war and places where bombs sound the lullaby, particularly: Iran, Palestine, Ukraine, Haiti, the Sudan, Russia, Israel, and the United States. Bring concord where there is strife and disunity. Make us peacemakers in our time. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer. As you stood by Paul and gave him strength, stand by all who know loneliness, and give strength to all who know persecution. Comfort those in grief and heal those who are sick, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now: _____. Channel our restlessness into your work in the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. As you freed Peter from prison, free us from lethargy and fear. Loose the chains of timidity and doubt, and teach us to pray fervently. May we be signs of your inclusive, expansive, and unconditional love in the world. And give us the will to bring healing and wholeness to those who have been hurt by and estranged from your Church. Strengthen the ministry of prison chaplains, and accompany all who are incarcerated and their families. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all who rest in your eternal mercy, especially Chester. As you reserved a crown of righteousness for Paul, reserve for us a place in your heavenly kingdom, and bring us to life that knows no end. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

OFFERTORY – "Veni Creator"

N. Rawsthorne

The assembly rises in body or spirit as the gifts are presented.

Thank You, Lord

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

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

Text: Traditional
 Music: THANK YOU, LORD, Traditional

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOG

The Lord with be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age. And so, with Mary, your mother; with Peter and Paul, pillars of your church, and all the glorious company of the apostles, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

*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 around this table, we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je-sus, in the break-ing of the bread.

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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Thanks be to God!

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

ELW 793

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

TABLE BLESSING

And now, may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health,
 and bring you to everlasting life.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION *if needed*

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.

We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit

✠ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Marche Triomphale"

N. Rawsthorne

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Beth Siefert

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Emma Chaffee

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern

LECTOR – Jonathan Ulrich

USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Carl Moore, Betty Pletz

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

VIDEO STREAMING – John Bartlett



We thank Pastor Beth Siefert for being with us to preach and preside while Pastor Jay is on vacation. Pastor Beth is on the retired roster of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod having retired from serving Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries. She is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Erie. If you get a chance, ask Pastor Beth about her trips to the Holy Land, ministry in Pittsburgh, or her choice to retire in Erie.

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our dad, Dr. Chester Battersby, by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Desmond Robert John Dixon on April 22, 2025 to Abigael and Ben Dixon. Desmond is the grandson of Cyndi and Rob Treiber and great-grandson of Linda Graffius.

Today's Events

Giving offerings to outreach ministries allows Luther Memorial to support vital work beyond our church walls, like serving those in need and spreading the gospel. It enables us to fulfill our mission of serving God and others by funding programs that improve lives, both physically and spiritually. Two of our summer months have five Sundays; June 29 and August 31. This morning our offering will be given to support Lutheran Services in America (lutheranservices.org).

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.

Worship Matters!

Today we celebrate two great figures of the early church, Peter and Paul, who represent the spread of the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles and, according to tradition, were martyred on this date. The witness of Peter and Paul inspires us as we seek ways to faithfully proclaim the gospel in our contemporary context.

We remember today the apostleship of Peter and Paul. They were very different men and arrived at their apostleship in very different ways. They didn't even get along particularly well. But both found the gospel calling them out from the grave. In all this, Jesus is more patient than we know. He waited, John points out, until breakfast was finished before he began his beautiful and shattering questioning of Peter. "Do you love me?" That is not a question one answers between mouthfuls of fish. Jesus waited. So with Paul, it wasn't until he was on the Damascus road that Jesus knocked him down and struck him blind. Jesus waited. This patience must be part of the wisdom of the Good Shepherd. Indeed, as Jesus' charge to Peter makes clear, the call of the Christian is to have the heart of a shepherd for God's people, to seek, to call, to wait.

Adult Forum

Adult Forum will be offered on Sundays, July 13 and July 20 at 9:30am in the library. Pastor Jay will be delving into the history of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed which celebrates its 1700th Anniversary this year. There will also be discussion of the Joint Ecumenical Statement on the *Filioque* by the Lutheran World Federation and the Orthodox Churches.

Youth

Flea Markets will be held in our parking area (rain or shine) the third Saturday of the month through September 20. Set-up begins at 8:00am with shopping held from 9:00am – 12:00pm. Cost of a parking space is \$10 so load your car with unwanted treasures and come on down to park and sell. Please see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski for more information.

LIA, Lutherans in Action, will meet Tuesday, July 8 from 5:30-7:00pm as they continue completing service projects. All youth in grades 5-12 are encouraged to join in.

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will set sail on the Victorian Princess Wednesday, July 9. Enjoy a scenic cruise and delicious lunch while visiting and taking in the sights of Presque Isle. Boarding is from 11:15-11:30am. The cost per person is \$44. Reservations, with payment, were due to Jan MacInnes or the church office on Friday, June 27.

Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise will be held Sunday, July 13 from 1:00-4:00pm in our parking lot. This is a fun afternoon for the entire family. Car enthusiasts will enjoy a variety of show cars along with DJ Bill Mason, Magic Steve, delicious food, a huge Chinese auction, 50-50 raffle and bake sale. Monies raised will benefit Shriners Children's Hospital and Luther Memorial's Youth. For more information, contact kenscarmacruise@gmail.com.

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 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon; July 8 and July 22. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Luther Memorial Academy

LMA is seeking a church member for the School Board. The School Board provides critical leadership and support to the administrative and teaching staff of our school. If you are interested in caring for our school and enhancing our children's education please consider being a member of the School Board. A School Board Applicant Information form can be emailed to you or picked up in the church office. Feel free to call the church or school office with any questions.

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:			
Marilyn Bohn & family	Robert Copfer	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose
Sally McAfee	Pat Gilbert	Bea Leemhuis	
Friends and Family:			
Mary Beth & Mary Kelly	Laura L	Mary Lou	Shelby
Nicholas Nasibyan	Gwen Smith	Andrew Wachter	Sullivan
Carol Steffey & Marissa	Robert Timm	Sandy M.	Ron Lester
Phil Nagy	Henderson family	Justin	Beth Sedelmyer
Dolores Koscinski			
Grief:			
Lois Fobes 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

June 30 – Psalm 140, Genesis 24:34-41, 50-67; I John 2:7-11

July 1 – **Catherine Winkworth, 1878; John Mason Neale, 1866; hymn translators** -- *Neale was an English priest who specialized in the translation of Latin and Greek hymns into English. Winkworth lived in Manchester, England, and devoted herself to translating German hymns. Almost all English-speaking hymnals include many of their translations.*

July 2 – Psalm 140; Jeremiah 23:16-22; Matthew 10:16-25

July 3 – **THOMAS, APOSTLE** – Judges 6:36-40; Psalm 136:1-4, 23-26; Ephesians 4:11-6; John 14:1-7 – *Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.*

July 4 – Psalm 66:1-9; Jeremiah 51:47-58; II Corinthians 8:1-7

July 5 – Psalm 66:1-9; Zechariah 14:10-21; Luke 9:1-6

C A L E N D A R

MONDAY, JUNE 30

TUESDAY, JULY 1	12:00pm	Deborah Circle
	6:00pm	Shepard Committee
	6:00pm	PIAA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

THURSDAY, JULY 3

FRIDAY, JULY 4 <i>Fourth of July</i>	Church Offices Closed
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SATURDAY, JULY 5

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025 **THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistants (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	
Counters	10:30am	Emma Chaffee, Mike Hedlund
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	