

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church



17 AUGUST 2025
**THE FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
THE GOD-BEARER**
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.

+ + +

GATHERING

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

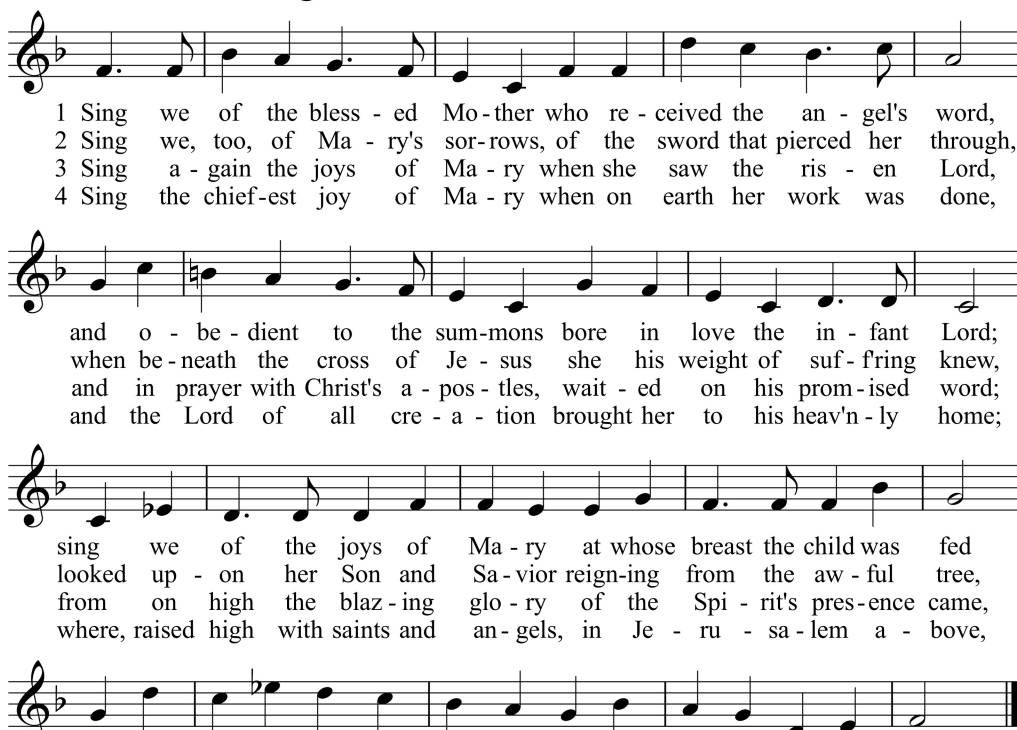
PRELUDE – "Adagio"

Christopher Fobes

Please rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING HYMN

Sing We of the Blessed Mother



1 Sing we of the bless - ed Mo - ther who re - ceived the an - gel's word,
2 Sing we, too, of Ma - ry's sor - rows, of the sword that pierced her through,
3 Sing a - gain the joys of Ma - ry when she saw the ris - en Lord,
4 Sing the chief - est joy of Ma - ry when on earth her work was done,

and o - be - dient to the sum - mons bore in love the in - fant Lord;
when be - neath the cross of Je - sus she his weight of suf - fring knew,
and in prayer with Christ's a - pos - tles, wait - ed on his prom - ised word;
and the Lord of all cre - a - tion brought her to his heav'n - ly home;

sing we of the joys of Ma - ry at whose breast the child was fed
looked up - on her Son and Sa - vior reign - ing from the aw - ful tree,
from on high the blaz - ing glo - ry of the Spi - rit's pres - ence came,
where, raised high with saints and an - gels, in Je - ru - sa - lem a - bove,

who is Son of God e - ter - nal and the ev - er - last - ing Bread.
saw the price of our re - demp - tion paid to set the sin - ner free.
heav'n - ly breath of God's own be - ing, man - i - fest in wind and flame.
she be - holds her Son and Sa - vior reign - ing as the Lord of love.

Text: *George B. Timms, 1910-1997*

Tune: RUSTINGTON, *C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918*

OPENING SENTENCE

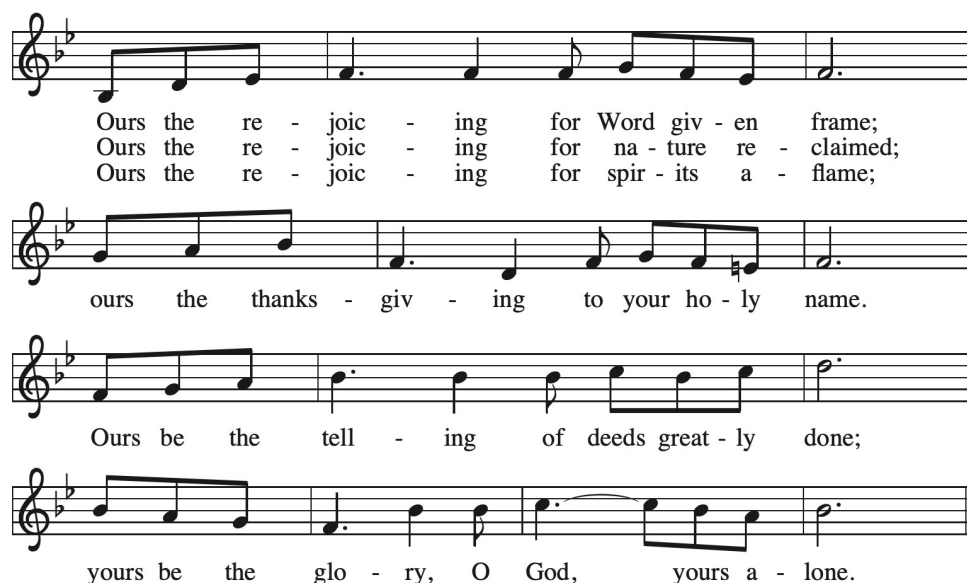
Blessed be our God,
forever and ever. Amen.

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.

O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate Son. In your visitation to her, we see your preference for the poor and oppressed. In her “yes,” we glimpse faithful discipleship. Grant that we, who have been redeemed by Jesus’ blood, may follow her example as true disciples and may share with her the glory of your eternal reign; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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: Judith 13:18-20

Uzziah said to Judith, “O daughter, you are blessed by the Most High God above all other women on earth, and blessed be the Holy God, who created the heavens and the earth, who has guided you to cut off the head of the leader of our enemies. Praise of you will never depart from the hearts of women and men who remember the power of God. May God do these things for you as an eternal exaltation, and may God visit you with blessings, because you did not withhold your life when our nation was humiliated, rather you rallied against our demise, walking straight before our God.” And all the people said, “Amen. Amen.”

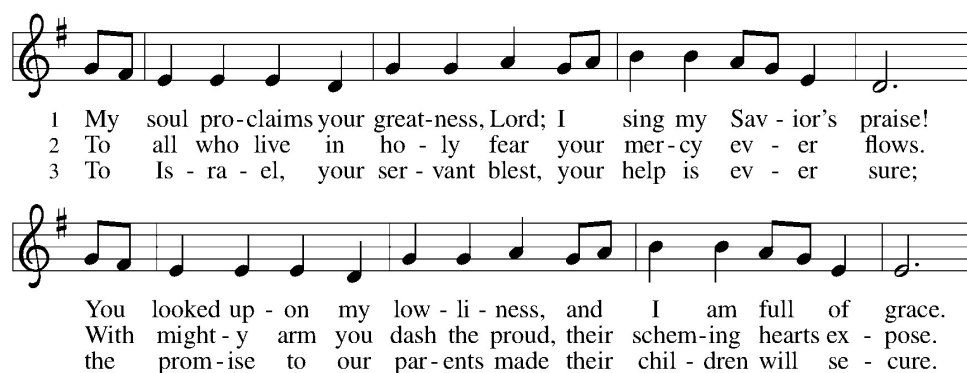
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Thanks be to God.

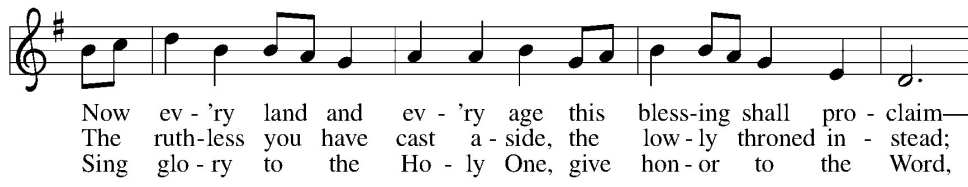
PSALMODY (LUKE 1:46-55)

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

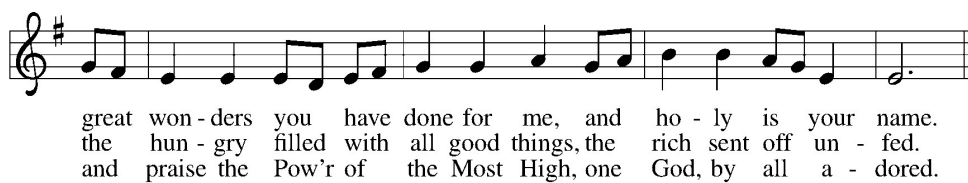
ELW 251



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;
 You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

SECOND READING: Revelation 12:1-6

A great sign was seen in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She has a child in her womb and was crying out, laboring in pain in the agony of giving birth. Then another great sign was seen in the heaven: See this! a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on its heads. Its tail dragged down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child as soon as her child was born. And she gave birth to a son (a male!), who is about to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to God's throne; and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so that there she can be nourished for one thousand two hundred sixty days.

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.

Repeat alleluia



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

GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-28 & 11:27-28

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month (of Elizabeth's pregnancy) the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town of Galilee, Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the name of the virgin was Mary. And the angel came to Mary and said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Most High God is with you." Now, she was troubled by the angel's words and pondered what sort of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Sovereign God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his sovereignty there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have not known a man intimately?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the one born will be holy. He will be called Child of God. And now, Elizabeth your kinswoman has even conceived a son in her old age, and this

is the sixth month for she who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the woman-slave of God; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel left her.

And again,

While Jesus was teaching, raising her voice, a woman in the crowd said to him, “Blessed is the womb that gave birth to you and the breasts that nursed you!” But Jesus said, “On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.”

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.

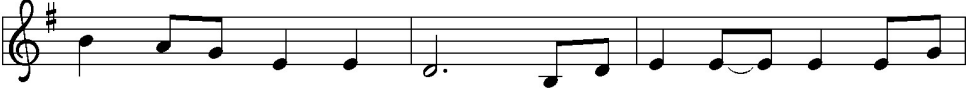
HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 723


Canticle of the Turning




1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -




God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses throughout the ages, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Guide your church in the path of obedience to your word. Strengthen the ministry of all who respond to your call to service in this and every generation. Empower us to bear Christ's presence into the world. Continue to journey with Elizabeth and Michael, our bishops and Yehiel and Kristen, our bishops-elect. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Watch over the earth and teach us to live in harmony with all creation. Rebuild environments damaged by disaster or neglect. Nurture and sustain gardens, fields, and orchards. Bring forth abundant harvests in due season. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Cultivate peace among nations and turn us away from warfare and violence. Grant peace, we pray, in mercy Lord to the land of Mary and Jesus: Gaza, Palestine, the West Bank. Cast down all forms of injustice, and lift up the ways of compassion and peace especially in Ukraine, Haiti, the Sudan, the United States, Israel, and Russia. Protect those who have left their homes in search of safety for their families, in particular migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Look with favor upon those in need. Raise up those who are weak. Fill the hungry with good things. Bless mothers and all who care for children. Comfort the grieving and heal the sick, particularly those whose names and needs we lift up now: _____. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire the work of hymnwriters, poets, and musicians. Fill us with hope and a sense of wonder as we ponder the mysteries of your word. Open our hearts to rejoice in you and proclaim your greatness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With thanksgiving, we remember Mary and all those who have gone before us in the faith; particularly Bernard and Cecilia. Inspire us by their witness and bring us, together with them, into your eternal kingdom to dwell with you forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

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 – "Voluntary"

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

OFFERING HYMN

ACS 1092

Thank You, Lord

A musical score for the hymn "Thank You, Lord" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a four-part vocal setting with soprano, alto, tenor, and bass staves. The lyrics are: 1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord. 2 Been so good, been so good, been so good, been so good. 3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my friend, been my friend. 4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you, Lord. The second system of the score includes the lyrics: 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

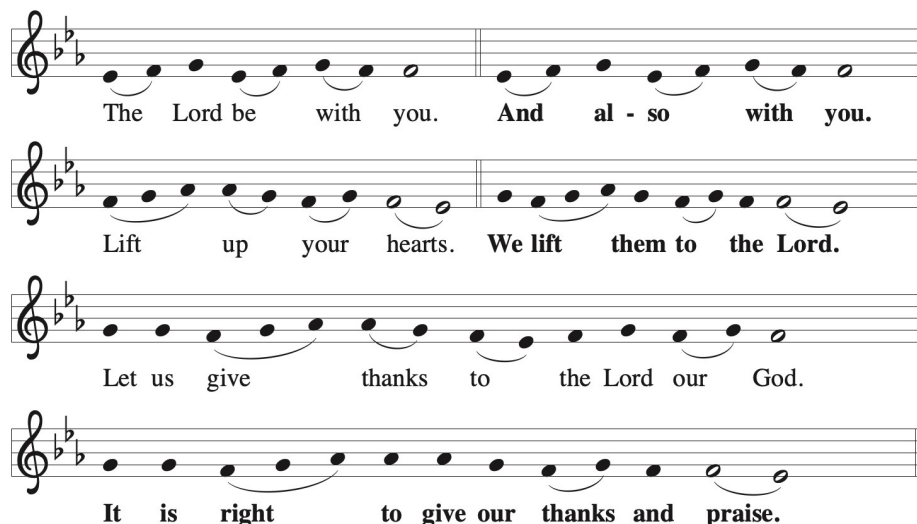
OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

SURSUM CORDA



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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...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

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

*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.*

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

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 573

My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; my spir - it
2 For you a - lone, O God of might, have done a -
3 Your arm is strong; your strength is great. You scat - ter
4 You feed the hun - gry as your own; the wealth - y
5 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or

leaps, by joy pos - sessed. You keep me in your kind re -
maz - ing things for me. Your mer - cy flows; your name like
those of proud in - tent and cast them down from high es -
leave with emp - ty hands. You give your help to Is - ra -
to the in - car - nate Word, and praise the Pow'r of God most

gard; all gen - er - a - tions call me blessed.
light re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
tate; then give the low your nour - ish - ment.
el; your gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.
high, from age to age by all a - dored.

My Soul Does Magnify the Lord



1 My soul does mag - ni - fy the Lord; my spir - it
 2 From this day all will call me blest, from now through
 3 His mer - cy touch - es those who love, and those who
 4 He cast the might - y from their thrones, and he has
 5 He comes to all who seek his love, for he re -
 6 All glo - ry be to God on high, and to his
 7 Just as it was, it is to - day, and it shall



sings of God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with
 all the com - ing a - ges. The Lord has done great
 serve . . . one an - oth - er. And with great strength he has
 lift - ed up the low - ly. He fills the hun - gry
 mem - bers the prom - ise that he had made to
 Son, . . . God the Sav - ior, and to the Spir - it of
 last through all to - mor - rows, and so my soul mag - ni -



love and fa - vor on his low - ly ser - vant.
 things for me and ho - ly is his name.
 scat - tered all the proud in their con - ceit.
 with good things while oth - ers turn a - way.
 A - bra - ham and to the chil - dren of God.
 life and truth that burns with - in our hearts.
 fies the Lord; praise God for - ev - er. A - men.

Text: Grayson Warren Brown, b. 1948
 Music: GOSPEL MAGNIFICAT, Grayson Warren Brown
 Text and music © 1992 Grayson Warren Brown, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. Used by permission.

TABLE BLESSING

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.

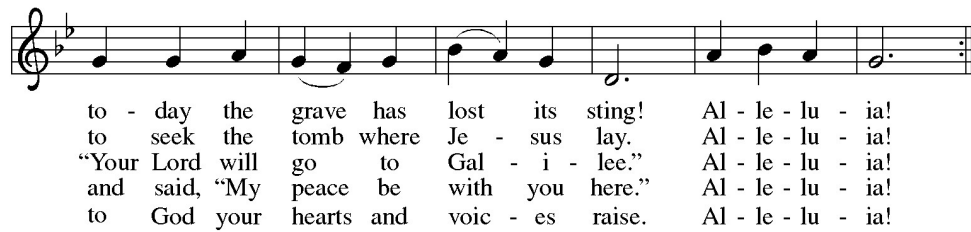
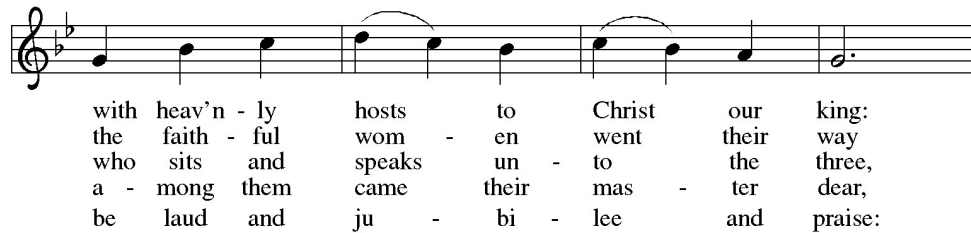
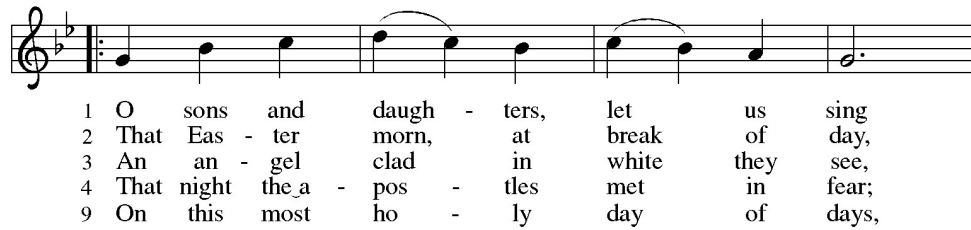
BLESSING

...now and forever
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 386

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing



After the final stanza



Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: O FILII ET FILIAE, French tune, 15th cent.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE – "Scherzoso"

J. Rheinberger

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Stan Rose

LECTOR – Jonathan Ulrich

USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Dave Kinzig, Carl Moore, Betty Pletz

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

VIDEO STREAMING – John Bartlett



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Cecelia Chesley Szczypinski by Janet Hammond and family.

This Week

Pastor Jay is on vacation this week. In case of emergency, please call the church office.

Worship Matters!

What's with all the soul praising? Why do so many of our songs sound so similar in their lyrics this morning? Well, as we come to remember and celebrate Jesus' mom, we also come to remember and celebrate her song. Mary's song of topsy turvy mercy and grace, her *Magnificat*, is perhaps the most set-to-music piece of scripture (perhaps outside of Psalm 23...although it's close). This is an abiding hymn of hope and of trust, it is about God's mercy and grace to God's people, and as we sing our hymn of the day this morning, it is a song of justice and bold faith. The Church has been raising our voice with Mary for generations and generations (calling her blessed the whole time, as her song declares) because the message of God's justice and equity, of God's inclusive love and welcome is still as desperately needed today as ever. This morning we sing just a few (believe it or not, there's another 2 or 3 settings of the *Magnificat* in our hymnals we did not use!) of the settings we share as Lutherans of Mary's hymn. Let us sing with Mary and then let us, like her, step out in bold faith and audacious discipleship to proclaim the goodness of God!

Bishop-Elect Papson's Installation News

Lamb of God is looking to hire a bus to take a group to Bishop-Elect Papson's installation on October 19. Details will depend on interest. They have asked if Mt. Calvary and Luther have anyone interested in riding the bus. It would most likely depart from Lamb of God following worship on that Sunday. If you are interested in this opportunity, please let Pastor Jay or the church office know as soon as possible. Names will be taken on a first-come basis and a full list is needed no later than Sunday, August 24.

Outreach Offerings

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. On Sunday, August 31 our morning offerings will be donated to Augusta Victory Hospital, Lutheran World Federation sponsored hospital in Jerusalem (avh.org/).

Faith Formation Calendar 2025C-2026A

Catechism is getting a revamp! It seems like there has been a change every year since Pastor Jay has gotten here. And there has. But there has also been much in flux about ConfirCamp and other programming. A general schedule has been set: For students 7th grade through 9th grade, there will be four workshops offered throughout the year on the 2nd Sunday (in odd months: November, January, March, May) after the 10:30am worship service. In order to successfully complete confirmation classes, each confirmand must attend all four. However, the *same four* will be offered every year in slightly different orders to allow for flexibility in attending all four. There will also be a worship leadership and a biblical literacy component that will need to be completed along with the usual service hours. Finally, ConfirCamp is strongly recommended for *at least* one year between the end of 7th and beginning of 10th grade. Confirmation will still be held in the autumn of 10th grade to each confirmand.

Faith Formation Calendars for adults are available in hard copy on the Welcome Table near the Ramp Door. There are also electronic copies on the Facebook page and linked to the newsletters in August. Check out all the opportunities to gather for Adult Forum (beginning October 12), Brown Bag Bible (beginning September 4), and Bible After Dark (BAD, beginning October 7) every month! The schedule will be slightly different this year for some, and there are resources available for others. So check it out now and let the church office know if you need to put in a reservation for any of the resources!

Music Ministry

Have you been wondering what events the Concert Series has in store beginning this fall? A variety of events are planned and you can view these by visiting our website at www.lm-concerts.com. More information can also be found on our Luther Memorial website under “Ministries”.

Youth

Our Yard Sale is a-comin’ soon. Treasures will be found at our annual fall yard sale on Saturday, September 6 from 8:00am – 1:00pm. Stop on down to fellowship hall for some great finds. Items for the sale may be dropped off beginning today. Books, TV’s or large electronic items, and soft furniture will not be accepted.

Opportunities for Fellowship

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; August 26. 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.

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.

Items to Note

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:			
Walt Gaber	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Pat Gilbert
Dorothy Youngman			
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
Phil Nagy	Henderson family	Carol Johnson	
Grief:			
Marilyn Bohn family	Lois Fobes family	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 Commemorations this week

August 18 – Psalm 32; Jeremiah 23:30-40; I John 4:1-6

August 19 – Psalm 32; Jeremiah 25:15-29; Acts 7:44-48

August 20 – **Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153** – Psalm 32; Jeremiah 25:30-38; Luke 19:45-48 -- *Bernard, a Cistercian monk, was a man of great spirituality who wrote mystical works and criticized those whom he thought took an overly intellectual approach to the faith. He became an abbot, and wrote several hymns that are still beloved today.*

August 21 – Psalm 103:1-8; Numbers 15:32-41; Hebrews 12:3-17

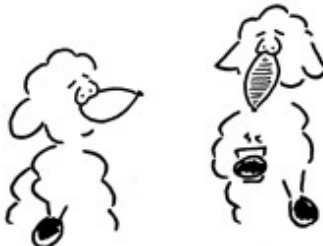
August 22 – Psalm 103:1-8; II Chronicles 8:12-15; Acts 17:1-9

August 23 – Psalm 103:1-8; Nehemiah 13:15-22; Luke 6:1-5

HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION:
WHAT IF MARY HADN'T
BELIEVED GABRIEL'S
MESSAGE?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG



GOOD THING
SHE DID.
I'LL SAY!!



LUKE 1:26-38

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CALENDAR

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 2:30pm School Board Meeting & Training

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20 8:00am LMA Teacher Training

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 5:30pm Parent Orientation

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 10:00am Quilting

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025
THE FEAST OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Chloe Meucci
Communion Assistants (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector	10:30am	Karen Braendel
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Beth Keller
Counters	10:30am	Rob & Ely Cooney
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	Carl Moore