

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



17 SEPTEMBER 2023
The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
10:30 am

This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

WALT GABER

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL

THE REV. KAREN PARSH

Pastors in Residence

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

Director of Care & Health Ministries

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

BETH KELLER & SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

17 SEPTEMBER 2023

THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Holy Communion • ELW – *The Deutsche Messe* • 10:30



LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Luther Memorial is Christ's church that brings its ministry to northwest Pennsylvania within the context of its Lutheran heritage.

As a church that ministers to the community, it seeks to be an inclusive congregation providing a welcoming environment for all to worship, learn, and enhance both personal spiritual growth and fellowship.

GATHERING – *“The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”*

PRELUDE – “Olivet”

“Rockingham Old”

Karl Osterland

Robert Buckley Farlee

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Please stand as you are able.

This triumphal hymn dates from a 1916 hymnal published in England. It is frequently used as an entrance hymn, as both text and music are well-suited to processions.

ENTRANCE HYMN

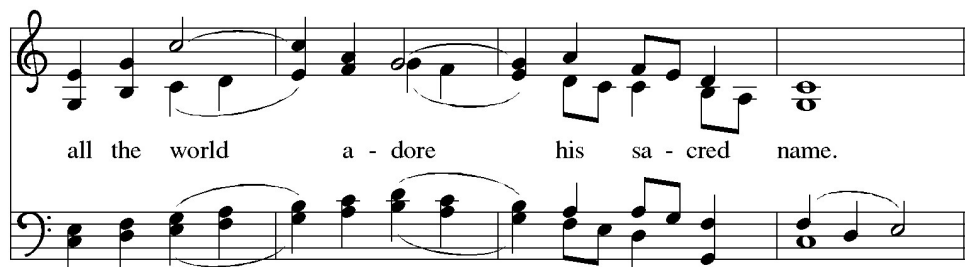
ELW 660

Lift High the Cross

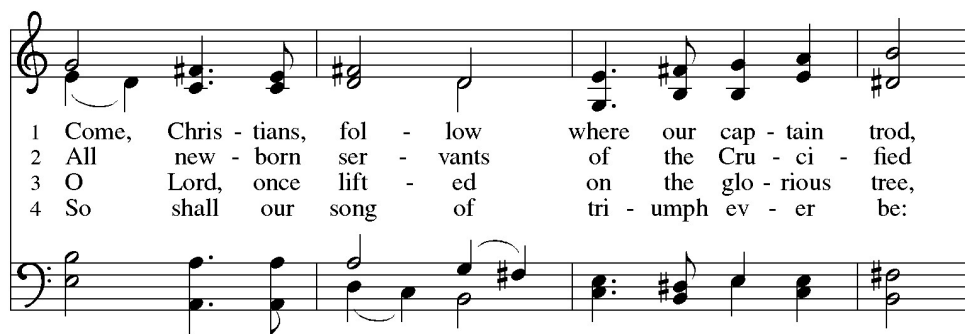
Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till





all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Refrain

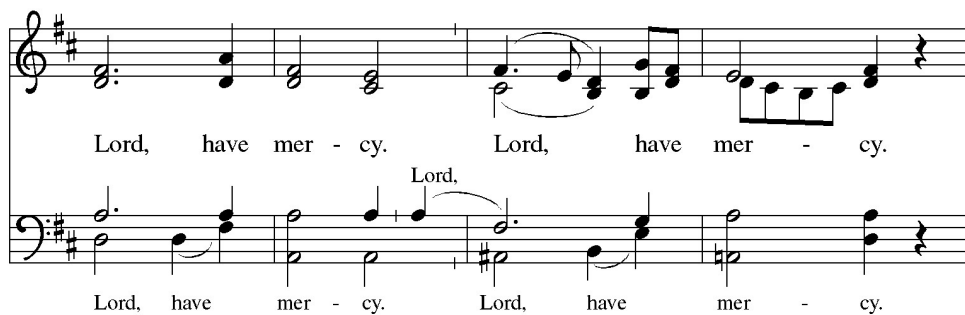
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
 Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GREETING

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

KYRIE



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

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

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4b-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and ►

live.”⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

☒ Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

ELW 822

Oh, Sing to the Lord
Cantad al Señor



1 Can - tad al Se - ñor un cán - ti - co nue - vo.
 1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 2 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 3 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
 4 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



Can - tad al Se - ñor un cán - ti - co nue - vo.
 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
 For God is the Lord, and God has done won - ders.
 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
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 So dance for our God and blow all the trum - pets.
 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spir - it.
 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia!



¡Can - tad al Se - ñor, can - tad al Se - ñor!
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
 Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

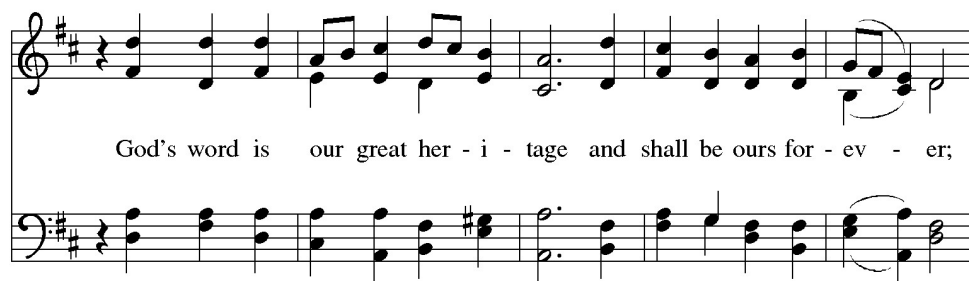
☒ Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

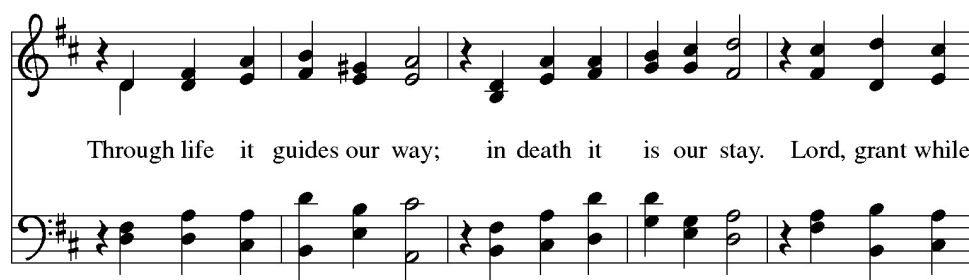
God's Word Is Our Great Heritage



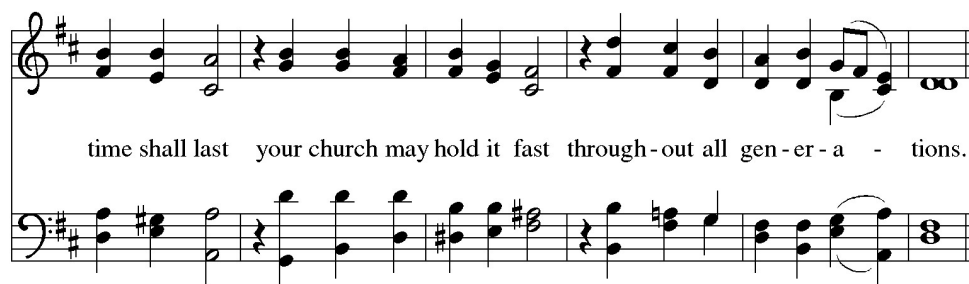
God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;



to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while



time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 12:27-36

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. ³⁴The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵Jesus said to them, “The light is in you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

A pastor of the ELCA, this author served as Executive Director of Holden Village, a Lutheran center for renewal in Washington State. This ministry began in August 1994. She has also been a program associate at Valparaiso University. Ordained in 1981, she has written numerous books, hymn, and worship songs.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 637

Holy God, Holy and Glorious



1 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and glo - ri - ous,
2 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and pow - er - ful,
3 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and beau - ti - ful,
4 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and on - ly wise,
5 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and liv - ing one,



glo - ry most sub - lime, you come as one a - mong us
pow - er with - out peer, you bend to us in weak - ness;
beau - ty un - sur - passed, you are de - spised, re - ject - ed;
wis - dom of great price, you choose the way of fol - ly:
life that nev - er ends, you show your love by dy - ing,





in - to hu - man time, and we be - hold your glo - ry.
emp - tied, you draw near, and we be - hold your pow - er.
scorned, you hold us fast, and we be - hold your beau - ty.
God the cru - ci - fied, and we be - hold your wis - dom.
dy - ing for your friends, and we be - hold you liv - ing.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: NELSON, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950
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Music © 2001 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A 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.

A For the church. For bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. For chaplains, missionaries, and those who serve in specialized settings. Guide us in the way of the cross, and lead us in paths of faithful service. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great. ▶

A For the world. For oceans and lakes, rivers and wetlands. For trees and mountains, parks and wildlife refuges. Restore places damaged by fire or flood, windstorm, or earthquake. Shelter your whole creation from harm. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A For the nations and their leaders. Bring an end to warfare, violence, and injustice. Teach us to live in peace with one another. Lift up those who live under oppression. Watch over those who flee their homes in search of safety and freedom. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A For those in need. For those yearning for meaning and purpose. For those who lack stable employment or safe housing. For those who grieve, and for those who are ill. We pray for Abbie, Winnie, Shirley, Ann, Lois, Pat, Bob, Brian, Lisa, Jean, Cindy, Ian, Carol, John, Branden, Howie, Melissa, Bertil, Karen, Allison, Audree, Susan, Mark, Michael, Mary, Dean, Bonnie, Suzie, Doug, Jenine, Lisa, Brian, Scott, Cindy, Cassia, Jeff, Matt, Michael, Andrew, Alli, Ben and those whose names and needs we lift up now: ____. Encourage all those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and perseverance to those who are in the healthcare professions. Hear us, O God,

C Your mercy is great.

A For this assembly. For Beth, Sarah, Cathie, Kelley, and all those who minister with our children and youth. For students and teachers at Luther Memorial Academy. Fill us all with zeal for learning. Energize us to give ourselves away in love for our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A With thanksgiving, we remember Helena, the mother of Constantine, and all who have gone before us in faith. Bring us with them through the promise of the holy cross into the hope and joy of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A 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.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

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

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An Individual Silent Prayer as We Prepare to Make our Offering:

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

VOLUNTARY – “Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

J. S. Bach

Please stand as you are able.

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925
 Text © 1990 and arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of power, God of plenty,
 all things belong to you.
 We bring your gifts to the table,
 that all might be fed.
 Form us into the body of your Beloved,
 Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

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 him thanks and praise.

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 our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and 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 might,

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

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

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

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



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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

☐ Lord God, we praise you, bless you, and adore you. In thanksgiving we bow before you. O loving Father! You have created all, and you care for your children day and night.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

☐ You sent your Son to bring us your salvation. Christ is the source of every grace and blessing, the true paschal lamb and bread of heaven, the very joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

*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.*

*In the same way, 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.*

☐ We remember Jesus, your Word made flesh, our elder brother, dying on the accursed tree, crushing the power of hell, and rising again victorious from the grave.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

☐ Send your Spirit on this holy feast. Nourish and heal us with the body and blood of our Savior. Bestow on your church your sweetest love, your transcendent comfort, your unity and peace.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

☐ To you, the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we give our thanks and praise, joining now and forever in loud songs of Hallelujah!

A - men, a - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

☐ 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

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

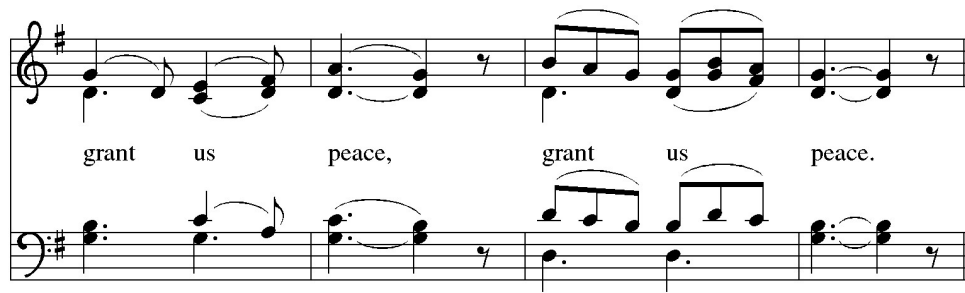
AGNUS DEI

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

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

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





The congregation is seated.

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

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.

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.

Blind at 6 weeks of age following illness, this author entered the New York Institution for the Blind at the age of 15 where she was educated and became a teacher. Her songs and hymns number 2,000 or more, and have been published mainly in several of the popular American Sunday school collections.

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 335

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

*Text for this hymn is based on Galatians 6:14 and is the work of one of the great English hymn-writers.
 The composer developed the tune from the first Gregorian psalm tone.
 It has been controversial among critics but popular with congregations.*

ELW 803

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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.

☑ Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 501

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

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

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

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

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

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE BASIL

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P The God of glory,
✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

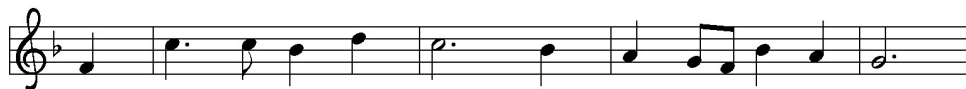
C Amen.

*This hymn was jointly written to celebrate the ordination of a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church.
Text is the work of a Seminary professor who holds dual ordination in the Presbyterian and
Episcopal denominations. The music was written by a seminary colleague who has served congregations
as organist and choir director, and has been an active presenter of workshops and lectures.*

SENDING HYMN

ELW 651

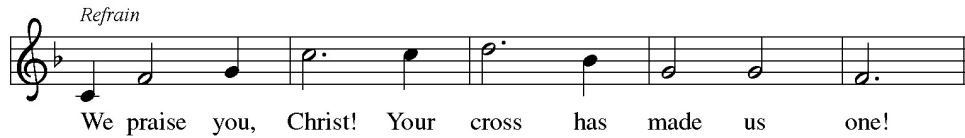
Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:



6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.

Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!

Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936
Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – “Scherzo”

J. Rheinberger

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

GREETER – Skip Meyn

ACOLYTE – Tessa & Jack Bartlett

ASSISTING MINISTER – Liz Stroup

LECTOR – Noelle Partusch

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Pam Masiroff

ALTAR GUILD – Loretta Deeds

USHERS – Loretta Deeds, Linda Graffius, Mary Mumford, Gina Snider



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the 57th wedding anniversary of Jan and Skip MacInnes.

Today's Events

Adult Forum will be held at 9:10am meeting on the 5th floor.

Confirmation orientation for youth in grades 7 – 10 and their families will be held this morning at 9:30 in the parlor. An overview of plans for our year will be shared and a light breakfast will be served.

Confirmation classes for our 10th grade confirmation students will begin this morning from 11:30am – 1:00pm (lunch will be provided). Classes will be held each Sunday through October 22. Youth will be confirmed at our 10:30 service on Reformation Sunday, October 29.

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.

Raffle Tickets for a hand-made Santa Claus throw to benefit the Julia Hospice House will be on sale this morning following each service. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 30 from 5:00-9:00pm at the St. Francis Ushers Club, 9085 Main Street, McKean. Please see Cathy Beck for raffle tickets.

Worship

We welcome Bryan Timm as our guest organist this morning while Walt is on vacation. Thank you, Bryan, for leading our Assembly Song!

The Prelude brings us together for the beginning of our worship service each Sunday morning. Our worship time together concludes when the Postlude is complete. We ask that the chancel area remain unoccupied during these times of music as live video streaming continues through the entire worship service. Thank you.

Where Is Pastor Jay?

Pastor Jay would love to meet with you! You don't just need to have an emergency to have a great chat. If you want to get together, because Pastor Jay is often away from his desk doing other pastorly things, you should probably call the church office or e-mail Pastor Jay directly at JMitchell@LutherMemorialOnline.org. However, if you just want to drop in on him, for the week of September 17, Pastor Jay's drop-in hours will be Monday from 9-10:30am at Pressed Coffee Shop (8th and Greengarden) OR Wednesday from 4-5:30 in the office.

Faith Formation

B.A.D. (Bible After Dark) is held the **first** Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Brewerrie. Join together with folks from Mt. Calvary as we share in Bible Study and fellowship (with some adult beverages if you would like). We will gather to share from *Bible Stories for Adults* and discussion of what these stories we learned in Sunday School still mean for us today. RSVP is not necessary but helpful. Let Pastor Jay or the church office know if you're interested.

ALT Worship (A Lutheran Table) is offered on the **second** Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm for a new worship experience. The service is about 60 minutes and centers around sharing a meal. We begin by preparing the meal and the worship space together and end with dessert and clean-up. All part of the worship experience. We also share in Communion. Come on out for something new and a unique encounter with the Divine!

Dinner with Our Flock will be held on the **third** Wednesday of the month; September 20, October 18 and November 15. At 5:30 we will gather for dinner; the main dish will be provided, please bring a dish to share. A Bible lesson and a craft or activity will be held following our meal. A wonderful time for us all to be together.

Stump the Pastor

You will notice a stand in the parlor lobby with many tree stumps on it. You (whoever you are of all ages) are invited to use these to try and stump Pastor Jay. You may ask your question anonymously or you can put your name on the stump. Either way, look for Pastor Jay's response once your stump "sprouts" a tree!

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS next fun event will be held Tuesday, September 19 from 11:00am-1:00pm in our parlor. Have some fun and laughter playing cards and games. Join us for a nice relaxing time and delicious lunch. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes this morning if you plan to attend.

Magic Fingers Grace Group gathers in the parlor the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month for knitting and crocheting. We'll be meeting and visiting on September 26 from 10:00am-12:00 noon for a wonderful morning and hope to see you. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Join us for Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 1 at 11:30am in fellowship hall. A delicious main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be provided, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Let's raise a cold glass of beer together and make a toast to Oktoberfest. Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, September 24.

Family Scavenger Hunt will be held Sunday, October 1. Be a super sleuth and have an afternoon of fun around Erie solving clues and reaching the final surprise destination. Please see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski if you plan to join in the excitement.

Cash Bingo will be held Sunday, November 5. Doors open at 12:00 noon with Bingo beginning at 12:30pm. All games are cash prizes of \$50. Tickets are \$20 each and available on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.

Worship Space

St. Zita's Day! All are asked to lend a hand for any time you can share to help with our Cleaning Day on Saturday, September 30 beginning at 9:00am. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. Carpets and floors have been cleaned, painting has been done, and now those cleaning touch ups are needed. Please join us. You are welcome to contact the church office or Les Fobes with any questions. Thank you.

Paving Project

Parking has improved dramatically with the addition and improvements made over the last few weeks. We continue to ask for your financial support as our Capital Campaign moves forward. Additional commitments are needed as we look to fulfilling our financial goal. Your help and all that you do at Luther Memorial is appreciated; thank you.

College Connections

We have a number of Luther Memorial folks who have journeyed off to college. If you are one of them, or if you love one of them, please let the church office know their name and contact information. Look for future announcements about ways we will continue to keep in touch with them while they are away!

In Our Community

CROP Walk will be held Sunday, September 24. Registration is at Beach One beginning at 1:00pm; walk begins at 2:00pm. Make a difference in our community by sponsoring a walker or enjoy the walk yourself. See Beth Keller or stop in the church office for a walker packet.

Luther Memorial Academy

Candy is Needed! LMA will be participating in the Erie ZooBoo October 12 – 30. This is an opportunity to spread the word about our great school. Many small treat bags will be prepared to hand out during ZooBoo, and we are in need of approximately 30,000 pieces of candy. Donations may be dropped off in the church or school office. Thank you.

Items to Note

In case of an emergency and unable to reach Pastor Jay, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. During the weekend and evening you are welcome to contact Norma Buerk at 450-7162 or Linda Graffius at 440-5458. Thank you.

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon	Winnie Lyons	Bob Giannelli	Ann Flick
Lois Fobes	Pat Gilbert		
Friends and Family:			
Brian & Lisa Davis	Jean C.	Cindy Hessinger	Ian Minner
Carol E.	John Semonis	Jeff Granger & family	Branden Jones
Howie	Melissa	Bertil Carlson	Karen Chilcote
Allison, Audree & family	Melissa Pierce	Susan Brooks	Mark Hadzega
Michael Collins & Mary	Dean Scalise	Bonnie Ford	Suzie Hosterman
Doug & Jenine	Lisa & Brian Adams	Scott Coleman	Cindy B.
Cassia Cabaday			
Grief:			
Shelley Sandquest family	Gloria Rosthauser family	John Varner family	Shirley Brown family
Mike Daniels family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			

WEEKLY READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

September 17 – Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, 1179 -- Ecclesiastes 43:1–12; Psalm 104:25–34; John 3:16–21 -- *A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.*

September 18 – Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, 1961 – Psalm 77; Joshua 3:1-17; Hebrews 11:23-29 -- *A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.*

September 19 – Psalm 77; Nehemiah 9:9-15; Romans 14:13-15:2

September 20 – Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 – Acts 20:17-35; Psalm 84; I Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 24:42-47 -- *A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.*

September 21 – Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist – Ezekiel 2:8-3:11; Psalm 119:33-40; Ephesians 2:4-10; Matthew 9:9-1 -- *Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.*

September 22 – Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:1-21; II Corinthians 13:5-10

September 23 – Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Exodus 16:22-30; Matthew 19:23-30

CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	12:00pm 6:00pm	Adult Forum PTL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	10:00am 11:00am	Study Group for Pastors OWLS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	5:30pm	Dinner With Our Flock
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	1:00pm	Grief Support Group
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22	5:00pm	Pancurak/Ganska Wedding Rehearsal
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23	3:30pm	Pancurak/Ganska Wedding

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
LMA SUNDAY

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

Adult Forum will be held in the library at 9:10am.

Confirmation Class for youth in grade 10 will begin at 11:30am.

CROP Walk will begin at 1:00pm leaving from Beach 1 at Presque Isle.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Sutton Rowland
Acolytes	10:30am	Simone Boyd, Gia Freacassi
Communion Assistants	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeters	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Leah & Jason King, Mexie & Ryan Sands, Isela & Dwight Smith, Julliana Vega-Abreu
Counters	10:30am	Dave Kinzig, Natalie Montero