

WELCOME TO
**LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH & ACADEMY**



12 JULY 2026

The 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

Cantor

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

Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people—Peoples of the Six Nations and Keepers of the Western Door. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

+ If you have a need to **children's** bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.

- Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for “Handicap Bathroom.” Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

+ + +

PRELUDE*Please rise in body or spirit.***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS***All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

Amen.

If we say we have no sin...Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

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

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

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

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

**Forgive us,
renew us,
and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

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

Amen.**GATHERING HYMN****ACS 1063****God of the Fertile Fields**

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) on a grand staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the staves, aligned with the notes.

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care,
toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796
Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

OPENING SENTENCE

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, One God.

And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

Let us pray: Bless Zach O Lord, as he reads to us the scriptures. As rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return until the earth is watered, let your word not return empty, but accomplish your purpose and succeed in that for which it was sent; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹²For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 65:9-13

The psalm is sung in unison according to Tone 5:



⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; the river of God is | full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;

with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.

¹¹You crown the year | with your goodness,

and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

¹²May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,

and the hills be | clothed with joy.

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;
let them shout for | joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending God's own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

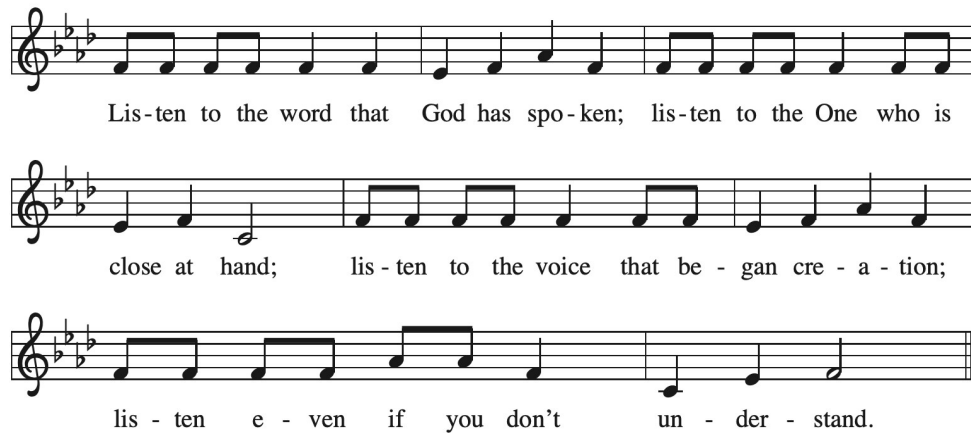
¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The congregation may rise in body or spirit to greet the gospel.

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken



Text: Anonymous, Canada

Music: LISTEN TO THE WORD, Anonymous, Canada; adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005**GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And in the sowing, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹If you have ears, hear!" ¹⁸"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord.

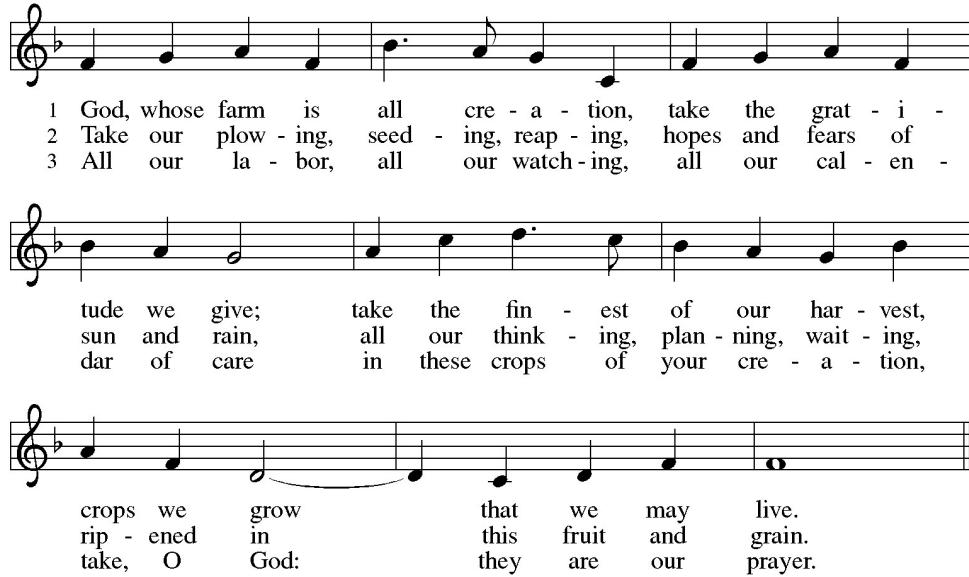
Praise to you, O Christ.*Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.***SERMON**

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

God, Whose Farm Is All Creation



1 God, whose farm is all cre - a - tion, take the grat - i -
2 Take our plow - ing, seed - ing, reap - ing, hopes and fears of
3 All our la - bor, all our watch - ing, all our cal - en -

tude we give; take the fin - est of our har - vest,
sun and rain, all our think - ing, plan - ning, wait - ing,
dar of care in these crops of your cre - a - tion,

crops we grow that we may live.
rip - ened in this fruit and grain.
take, O God: they are our prayer.

Text: John Arlott, 1914–1991
Music: HARVEST GIFTS, Larry J. Long, b. 1954
Text © Trustees of the late John Arlott, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. Refresh Yehiel and Kristen, our bishops; Jean, our dead; Jay, our pastor; and all who are called to tend your church. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look to the day when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith: Nathan, Bartolome; and our own beloved dead, Dave.

hear our prayer.

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
All share greetings and gestures of peace with those around you. Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING



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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

ACS 970

Musical notation for the Offertory Hymn, consisting of three systems of staves. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.

We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.

You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop
 Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013
 Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. We offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

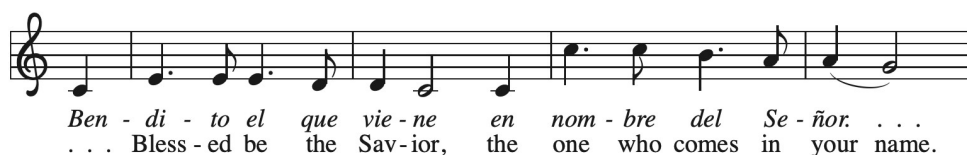
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional
 English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

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

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

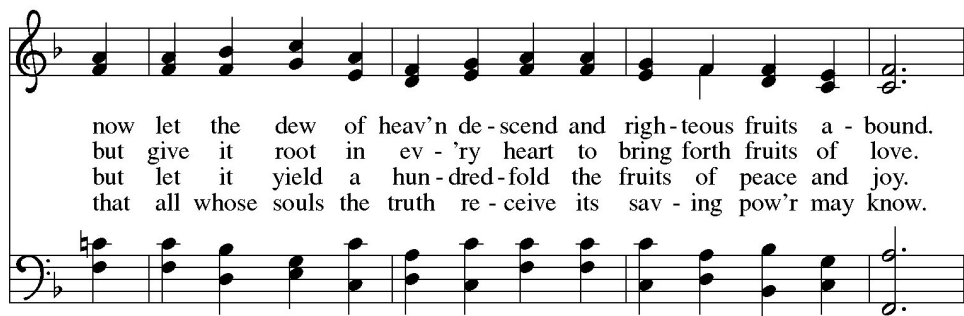
*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is present whenever we feast together. **You** are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. Receive the bread in your open palm. Proceeding to either communion assistant, hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. Non-alcoholized grape juice is in the pre-filled cups. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the bowls. 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. If you need communion brought to you, please let a neighbor know to inform the Pastor.*

HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ELW 516

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

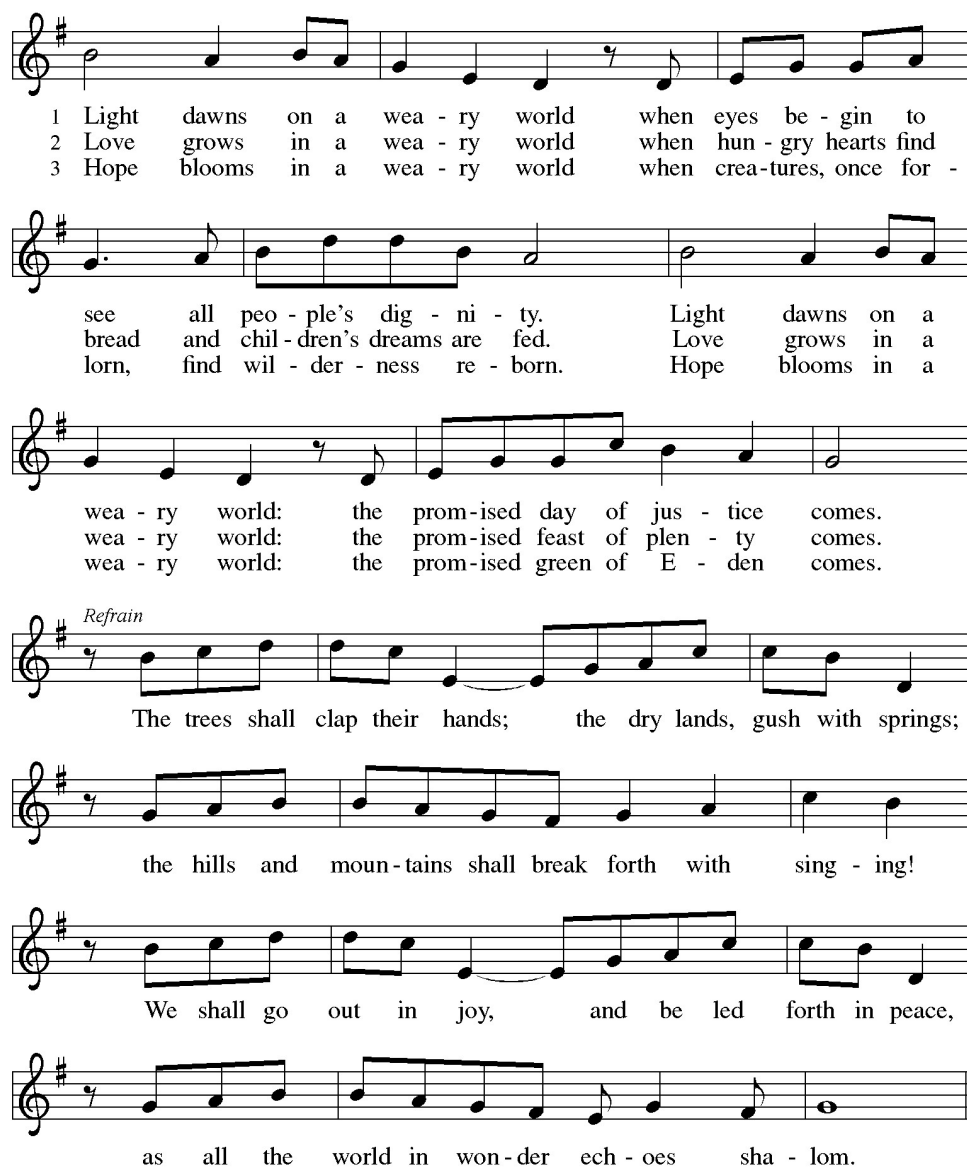


now let the dew of heav'n de-scend and righ-teous fruits a-bound.
 but give it root in ev-'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun-dred-fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re-ceive its sav-ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.
 Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

ELW 726

Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea-ry world when eyes be-gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea-ry world when hun-gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea-ry world when crea-tures, once for -

see all peo-ple's dig-ni-ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil-dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil-der-ness re-born. Hope blooms in a

wea-ry world: the prom-ised day of jus-tice comes.
 wea-ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen-ty comes.
 wea-ry world: the prom-ised green of E-den comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
 the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing-ing!
 We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
 as all the world in won-der ech-oes sha-lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
 Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
 Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
 Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

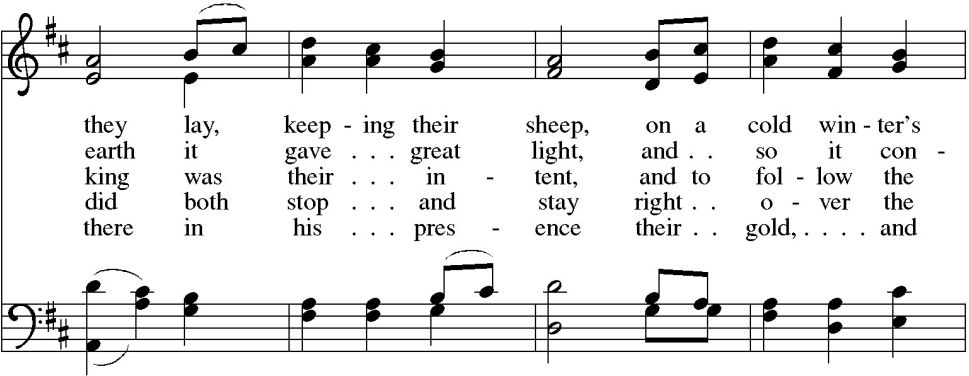
ELW 300

The First Noel

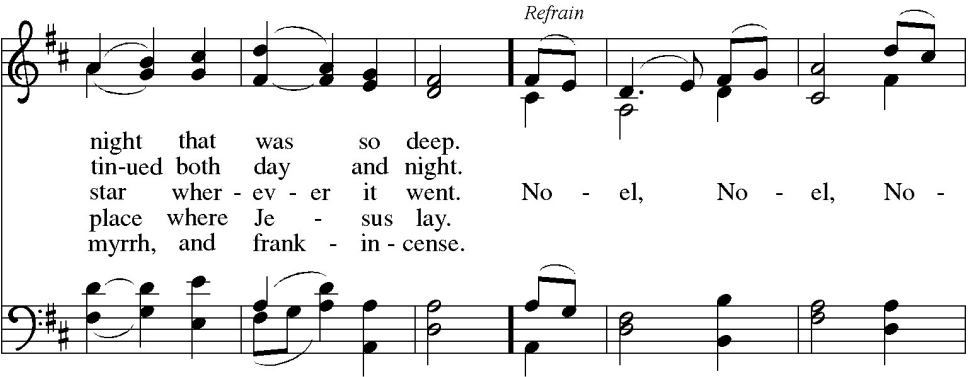
1 The first Noel the an-gel did say was to
 2 They look-ed up and saw . . a star shin-ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north-west, o'er . .
 5 Then en-tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



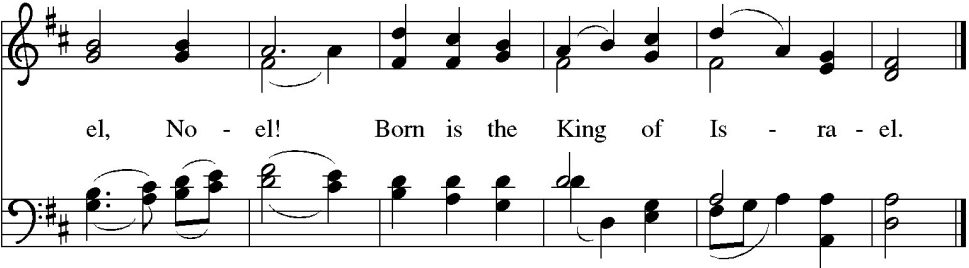
cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and



Refrain
 night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern

LECTOR – Zach Middaugh

USHERS – Diana Alvaro, Sharon Burke, Carl Moore

ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke

VIDEO STREAMING – Patrick Cimino



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of David Parsh by Mike, Katie, Ben, Sam, Greg and Karen Parsh.

Today's Events

Adult Forum will meet this morning; *Revolution and Reformation: Lutherans at the Time of Independence*. Gatherings will be held Sundays at 9:15am (July 12, 19, 26) meeting in the library. For your convenience, the same classes will be offered on Mondays at 2:00pm (July 13, 20, 27) meeting on the 5th floor. We will explore some important Lutherans and how Lutheranism had an impact during the struggle for independence.

Sundae Sundays! Join us in the courtyard following the 10:30 service this morning for an ice cream sundae. We'll be enjoying this yummy treat each Sunday in July to celebrate summer. This week's sundaes are offered by the Choirs of Luther Memorial. If you or your group would like to present sundaes either of the next two Sundays, speak with Pastor Jay.

Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise will be held this afternoon from 1:00-4:00 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, A Waffle Miracle Food Truck, 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.

Church Office Hours

For the summer: Please note for the summer, Church office hours are 8:30am-2:00pm Monday through Thursday. The Church office is variably open half-days on Fridays, call before popping by!

Worship Matters!

The **Eucharistic Prayer** we will be praying for the remainder of the summer may seem a little off. There is no "Amen" at the end of it...it flows directly into the Lord's Prayer. Also, all our responses fall *before* the Words of Institution (these are the words that "make Communion Communion," "In the night..."). This prayer is deeply influenced by the Swedish Lutheran tradition. It is also deeply shaped by Luther's own sacramental piety. In Luther's original reforms of the Mass, he notes that the bread and wine should be distributed as soon as possible after the Words of Institution. Actually, in Luther's very first reforms, he would have us say the words concerning the bread and then distribute the bread followed by the words concerning the wine and then distribute the wine. He wanted the moment of Communion—when we receive Jesus into ourselves—to be that closely connected to the words of promise. Over the years, Luther calmed on this part of his reforms and we have since received from the Church beautiful prayers of thanksgiving.

Helping Venezuela!

Lutheran Disaster Response: “Two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela last week, leaving devastation in their wake. Entire communities have been reduced to rubble. More than 1,700 lives have been lost, thousands are injured, and countless families are now without shelter, safety, or access to basic necessities. Lutheran Disaster Response is already on the ground, working through trusted partners including the Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela. Together, they are assessing urgent needs and providing immediate relief like food, water and shelter while also preparing for the long road to recovery ahead. Your support makes this work possible. In moments like these, your generosity helps deliver vital aid quickly and ensures we can remain alongside communities for as long as healing takes. Please consider making a gift today to support families facing unimaginable loss in Venezuela and around the world.” Please make checks payable to Luther Memorial and place them—or cash—in an envelope labeled “LDR: Venezuela.” Thank you.

Mission Trip Hosting

The Fuller Center for Housing is a Christian, non-profit organization that builds and repairs homes with partners in the USA and around the world. Millard Fuller, also the co-founder (with Linda Fuller his wife) of Habitat for Humanity, started the Fuller Center for Housing in 2005 after leaving Habitat for Humanity. On May 27 a group of volunteers began biking from Seaside, Oregon to cross the US by bicycle. Their path will lead them from there to Portland, ME over 10 weeks. They will stop and work on homes along the way and raise funds for the mission from our family, friends, and home churches. Luther Memorial will host the Fuller Biking Adventure while they are here Saturday, July 25-Monday morning, July 27. If you can help with a monetary donation to cover the dinner we serve, light breakfast and snacks please place in the offering plate marked “Biking Adventure”.

Luther Memorial on Vacation!

Going on vacation? Know you’ll be away for a while this summer? Please take a “**Luther Memorial on Vacation**” sign with you—and send us a picture from wherever you find yourself! We are collecting pictures for our bulletin board and for social media (optional) to show all the places Luther Memorial is traveling this summer! It’s a great reminder that wherever we are, we are Church together. *If possible, please return the sign when you return to church after your vacation so others may use them and we can be good economic and ecological stewards.*

Worship

Everyone is invited to the Erie Lutheran Conference Beach Service Sunday, August 9 at 10:00am at the Cookhouse Pavilion in Presque Isle State Park. We will gather for worship, fellowship, and food. If able, please bring a dish to share that does not require heating or refrigeration, such as breakfast rolls, fruit, or coffeecake. Lamb of God will provide juice boxes, and Mount Calvary will provide coffee and table settings. We are grateful for the opportunity to worship together in God’s creation and enjoy fellowship in Christ. We hope to see you there!

Faith Formation

Bible After Dark (BAD) meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari’s Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. **YOU** are invited to join us on Tuesday, August 4. We are exploring *Belonging*, a study of the Woman at the Well by Karoline Lewis.

Brown Bag Bible (B³) gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. B³ will meet each Thursday throughout the summer continuing with a study on the book of Revelation.

Opportunities for Fellowship

L.I.A., Lutherans in Action, will meet throughout the summer from 5:30-7:00pm for planning of our upcoming service projects and some very creative ideas. L.I.A. is open to families and those looking to help with small hands on service projects. And it’s a great opportunity to take care of those service hours many youth need. Be sure to check the bulletins for surprises all summer. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski as outings are also posted on the app. We’re looking forward to see everyone this summer!

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 July 14 and July 28 for knitting and crocheting. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

OWLS will dine in style on the Victorian Princess on Wednesday, July 22. A delicious lunch will be served as we sail through Presque Isle. Boarding begins at 11:15-11:30am (no later). Cost is \$44 per person. RSVP to Jan MacInnes, 833-0476, no later than Friday, July 17 with payment.

All are invited to attend the **Bingo FUNraiser** at JPT Foundation, 2319 West 38th Street, on Sunday, July 19. Doors open at 12:00 noon with Bingo play at 1:00pm. Tickets are \$30 and \$35 at the door. Have fun with the 50/50 raffle, prizes and bake sale. BYOB and snacks; water and pop available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit Abiding Hope Lutheran Church and the Kearsarge Area Food Pantry. Contact Abiding Hope for tickets; 868-8685.

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.

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.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	David Leemhuis
Diane Parsons	Judy Karney	Karen Zamperini	Kate Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Mary Mumford	Betty Pletz	Brian Hubbard
Friends and Family:			
Hannah Jacob	Gail Lesuer	Linda F.	Kris
Archer Bardwell; age 3	Mike	Ellie	Peggy S.
Erin N.	Peter Maker	Shirley	Brynlee
Kevin Soles & family	Jenny	Anthony Benacci	Valerie
Adam & Connie Ogle	Katja & family	Kathy Nicewander	
Grief:			
Chintalapalli family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	Justin Gajewski



Readings and Commemorations This Week.

12 July – Nathan Soderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, 1931 -- *A winner of the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to unite people after the First World War, Söderblom also called attention to the revival of early church worship principles, and helped to lay the groundwork for the World Council of Churches.*

13 July – Psalm 142; Micah 1:1-5; I Thessalonians 4:1-8

14 July – Psalm 142; Jeremiah 49:7-11; Ephesians 4:17-5:2

15 July – Psalm 142; Obadiah 15-21; Matthew 13:10-17

16 July -- 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 2:1-9

17 July – Bartolome de Las Casas, missionary to the Indies, 1566 -- Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Ezekiel 39:21-29; Hebrews 6:13-20 -- *A native of Spain, Las Casas first came to the Western hemisphere while serving in the military. Upon arriving in the West, Las Casas was granted a large estate with Indigenous enslaved people whom he freed after he was ordained a priest. He worked in the Caribbean and Central America to improve the lives of the native peoples.*

18 July – Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Exodus 14:9-25; Matthew 7:15-20

C A L E N D A R

MONDAY, JULY 13	2:00pm	Adult Forum
TUESDAY, JULY 14	10:00am 5:30pm 6:00pm	Magic Fingers Grace Group LIA Church Council
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15		
THURSDAY, JULY 16	10:00am	Diabetes Prevention Program
FRIDAY, JULY 17		
SATURDAY, JULY 18	10:00am	Quilting

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026 **THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

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

Enjoy ice cream sundaes in the courtyard following the 10:30am service.

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	
Counters	10:30am	Ken Kraut, Gail Zackrison
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	