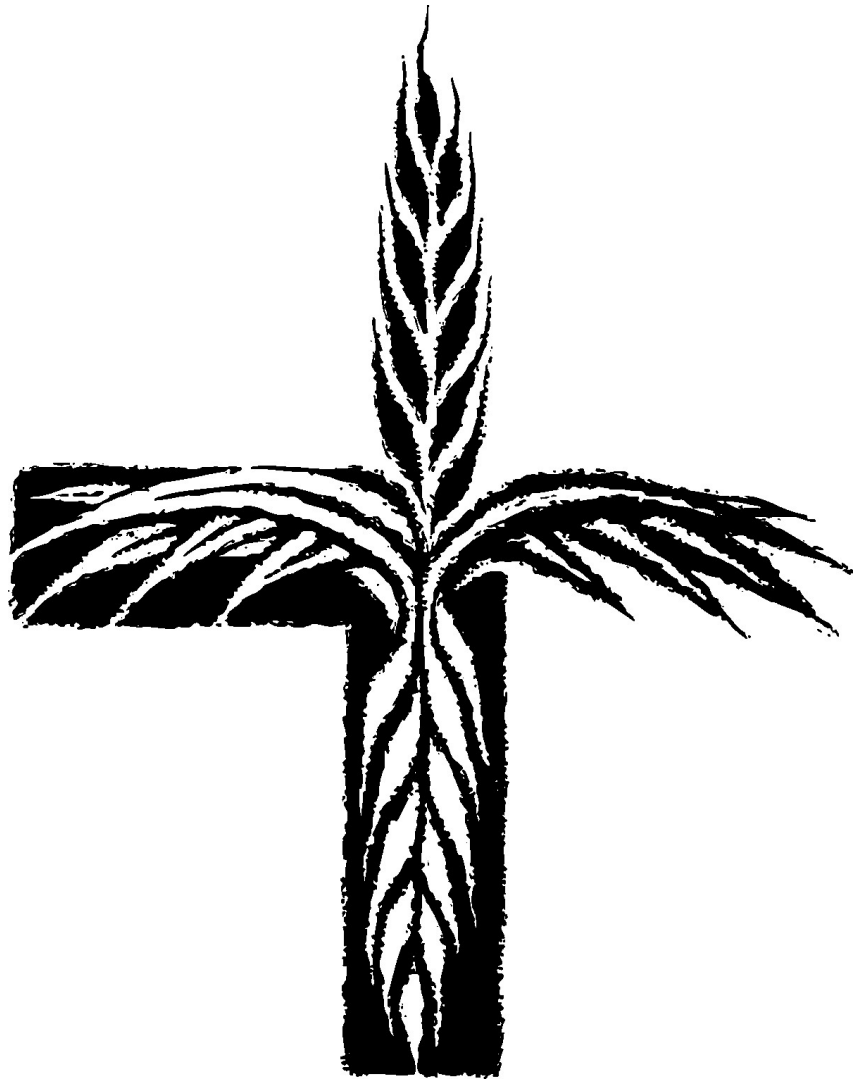


Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



17 MARCH 2024
The Fifth Sunday *in* Lent
10:30 am

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. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

17 MARCH 2024

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Holy Communion • ELW Setting V • 10:30

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

PRELUDE – "Toccata and Fugue #8 in G Major"

Johann Ernst Eberlin

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Sarabande"

Henry Purcell; arr. St. James Music Press

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.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

☞ Amen.

☞ Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Please kneel or sit. Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Holy God,

**☞ we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

Amen.

☐ May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins through our Lord + Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, bring us to everlasting life.

☑ Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.
Music © 1985 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.

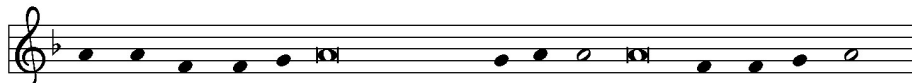
KYRIE



☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



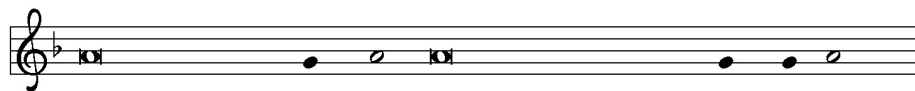
☑ Lord, have mer - cy.



☐ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



☑ Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, 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.”

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

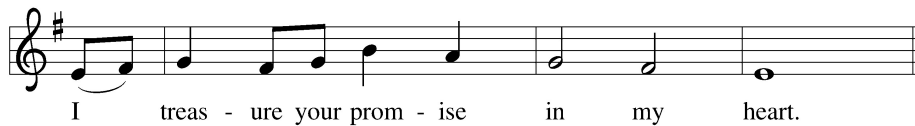
³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt— a covenant that they broke, though I was married to them, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:9-16

Refrain: (Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by R.)



⁹How shall the young keep their way clean?

By keeping to your word.

¹⁰With my whole heart I seek you;

let me not stray from your commandments.

¹¹I treasure your promise in my heart,

that I may not sin against you.

¹²Blessed are you, O Lord;

instruct me in your statutes. **R**

¹³With my lips I recite

all the judgments of your mouth.

¹⁴I take greater delight in the way of your decrees

than in all manner of riches.

¹⁵I will meditate on your commandments

and give attention to your ways.

¹⁶My delight is in your statutes;

I will not forget your word. **R**

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you”; ⁶as God says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered, ⁹and having been made

perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

☒ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
(John 12:24)*

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival.
Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death
into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

☒ The Holy Gospel according to John.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son-of-Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. 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." ³³Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

☒ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

Seed That in Earth Is Dying

1 Seed that in earth is dy - ing grows in - to ears of
 2 We were bap-tized in Je - sus, in - to his death and
 3 Seed that in earth is dy - ing ris - es to bear much
 grain. Grapes that are crushed in the ves - sel
 grave, to res - ur - rec - tion's prom - ise;
 fruit. Christ, as we meet at your ta - ble,
 turn in - to gold - en wine. God, through this mys - ter - y grant us
 praise and e - ter - nal life. Heav - en's own prais - es be - gin here
 give us the bread of life. Lord, we do thank and a - dore you!
 faith in our deep - est dark - ness, life in our night and death.
 where you your-self are near us, deep in our night and death.
 Un - ceas-ing praise of the a - ges ris - es from night and death.

Text: Svein Ellingsen, b. 1929; tr. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, b. 1929
 Music: SÅKORN SOM DØR I JORDEN, Harald Herresthal, b. 1944
 Tr. © Hedwig T. Durnbaugh
 Music: © Norsk Musikforlag

APOSTLES' CREED

- A** Let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

- A** Trusting in the promises of baptism, the mercy and grace of God, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.
- A** Let us pray for the Church; for deacons, pastors, and bishops; for all the faithful.
Here you may pray silently or aloud for the Church of Jesus Christ in every place.
- A** Let us pray for God's good creation; for the changing of the seasons; for the promises of spring; for shelter from harsh weather; and for all who work for clean water and fresh air for all.
Here you may pray silently or aloud for the needs of creation.
- A** Let us pray for the nations; for those who rule, govern, and lead; all who run for public office; and all places that know war and strife.
Here you may pray silently or aloud for the nations of the world.
- A** Let us pray for those in need; the underhoused and underemployed; the sick; those who bear another's burdens; those who will die today.
Here you may pray silently or aloud for the sick, suffering, and those in need.
- A** Let us pray for those preparing for baptism; for those who seek after the mysteries of God; those who prepare for ministry in the Church.
Here you may pray silently or aloud for those in their catechetical journeys.
- A** Let us pray in thanksgiving for those who have gone before in the way of the cross; those whose faith inspires our own; those whose faith was known only to God.
Here you may give thanks silently or aloud for our beloved dead.
- A** Keep us, O God, in the promises of baptism until we come to the Feast around the Lamb in whose mercy and grace we trust.
- 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



ANTHEM – "Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love"

Arlen Clarke

*Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, who from yon bright throne above,
ever watchful o'er our race, still to us extends his grace.*

*Heaven and earth by him were made; all is by his scepter swayed;
what are we that he should show so much love to us below?*

*God, the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood,
and to make salvation sure, guides us by his Spirit pure.*

*Heaven and earth by him were made; all is by his scepter swayed;
what are we that he should show so much love to us below?*

*Sing my soul, adore his Name! Let his glory be thy theme:
praise him till he calls thee home; trust his love for all to come.*

Please stand as you are able.

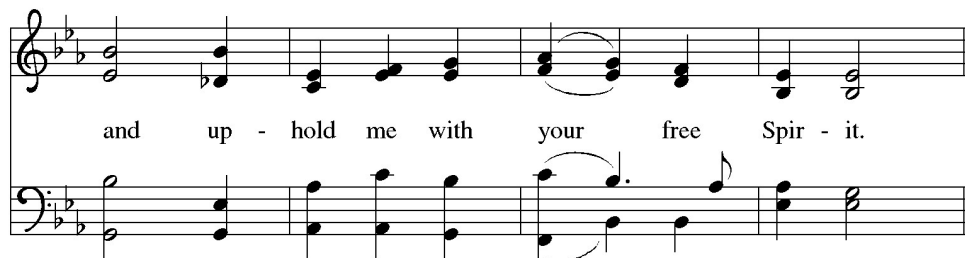
OFFERTORY

ELW 188

Create in Me a Clean Heart
Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.



and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

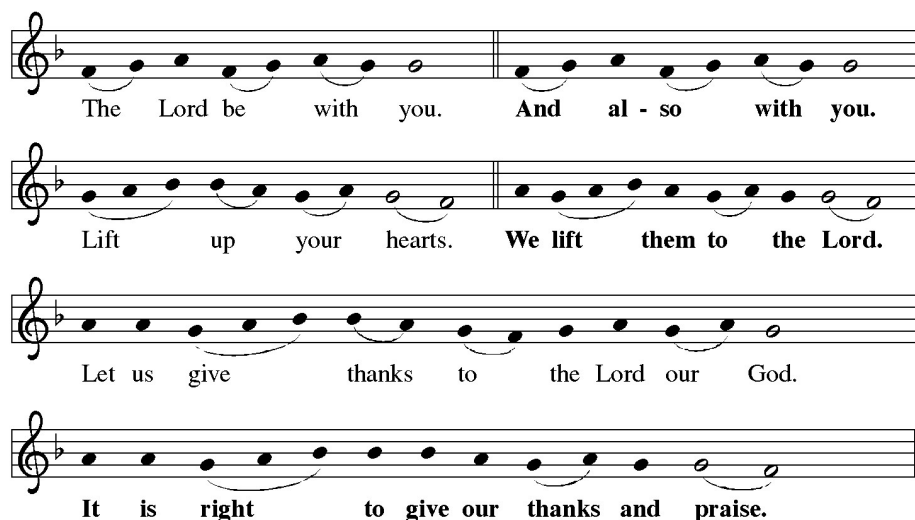
Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

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.**

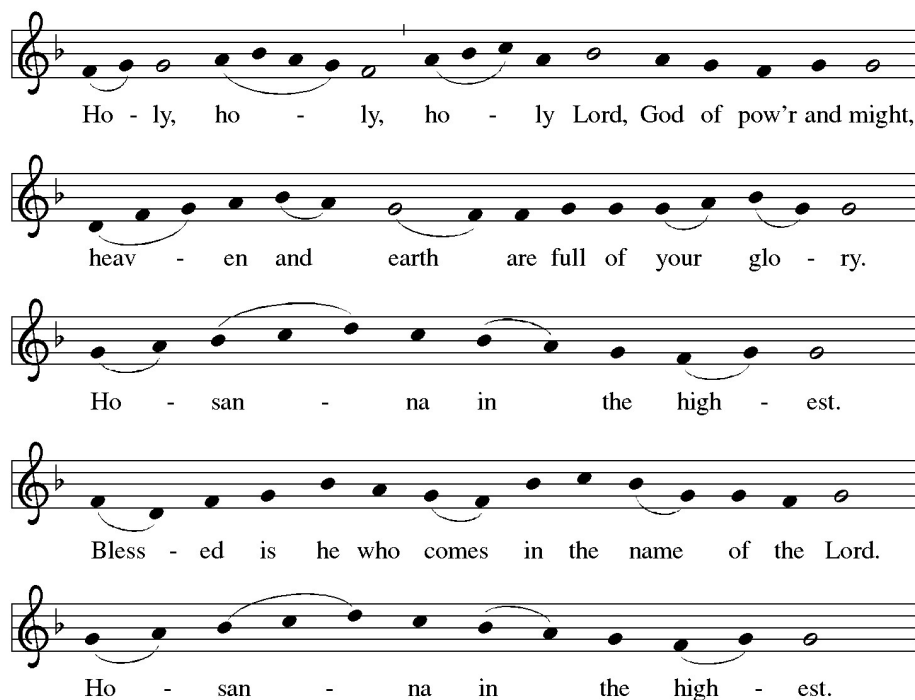
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** O God, Creator of our wilderness world, Savior of the lost, and Comforter of the sick and suffering, we give you thanks for your everlasting might; we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.
- P** For forty days you cleansed the earth with the waters of the flood. For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law. For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.
- P** You became truly human in Jesus our brother. For forty days, with fasting and prayer, he renounced the power of the devil.

*On the night before he died he took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

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

P We extol his life:

C Amen.

P We lament his death:

C Amen.

P We celebrate his resurrection:

C Amen.

P Transform us, O God, + with your lively Spirit. Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son. Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance. Teach us your words of wisdom and justice. Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace. At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.

P To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P *Lord, remember us in the kingdom and teach us to pray:*



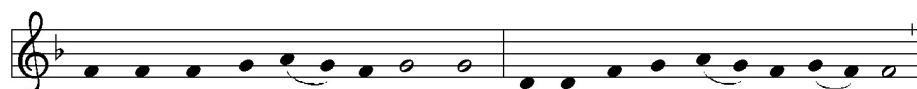
C Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Here is the Lamb of God. Here the one who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are we who are called to the supper.
- ☑ **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**
- ☐ Those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

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.*

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 450

I Bind unto Myself Today

1 I bind un - to my - self to - day the strong name
of the Trin - i - ty by in - vo - ca - tion
of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.

2 I bind this day to me for - ev - er, by pow'r of
3 I bind un - to my - self to - day . . . the vir - tues
faith, Christ's in - car - na - tion, his bap - tism in the
of the star - lit heav - en, the glo - rious sun's life -
Jor - dan Riv - er, his cross of death for my sal - va - tion, his
giv - ing ray, . . . the white - ness of the moon at e - ven, the
burst - ing from the spic - ed tomb, his rid - ing
flash - ing of the light - ning free, the whirl - ing
up the heav'n - ly way, his com - ing at the
wind's tem - pes - tuous shocks, the sta - ble earth, the

day of doom, I bind un - to my - self to - day.
 deep salt sea, a - round the old e - ter - nal rocks.

4 Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,
 Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan-ger,

Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,
 Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and strang-er.

5 I bind un - to my - self the name, the strong name of the

Trin - i - ty by in - vo - ca - tion of the same, the

Three in One and One in Three, of whom all na - ture has cre -

a - tion, e - ter - nal Fa - ther, Spir - it, Word. Praise to the

Lord of my sal - va - tion; sal - va - tion is of Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. Patrick, 372-466; para. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895
 Music: ST. PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE, sts. 1-3, 5: Irish melody. DEIRDRE, st. 4: Irish melody

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 2 In our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 3 In your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;
 4 In your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied, be glo - ri - fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in our song, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in your church, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.
 in your world, Lord, be glo - ri - fied to - day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952
 Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick
 Text and music © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
- C** Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

- P** ...until we meet again.
- C** Amen.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A** Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Fugue #7 in D Major"

Johann Ernst Eberlin

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pam Masiroff

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Jonathan Gaber

LECTOR – Jonathan Ulrich

USHERS – Jonathan, Katherine, Madeline & Cecilia Ulrich

VIDEO STREAMING – John Bartlett

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my father, Martin Halttunen, by Janet Kent.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Edna Smith who died Friday, March 8, 2024. Our prayers are with Edna's grandson, Dennis (Preeya) Montroy and family.

Today's Events

Luck of the Irish Bingo fun is today! Doors open at 12:30pm with Bingo beginning at 1:00pm. Eight games of bingo will be played with case prizes. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Bring a 4 leaf clover for luck and have an exciting afternoon. Tickets are available from Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski, or at the door. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Worship Matters

The words of the Lord's Prayer seem different. The text of the Lord's Prayer that we have been (and will be chanting) throughout Lent is what is known as the "ecumenical version." While not in the King James English that some are perhaps most familiar with, this version of the Lord's Prayer—along with the text of the Creeds that we recite—was crafted by an ecumenical and international consortium (The English Language Liturgical Consultation—ELLC) with language that is not only true to the original languages but also ecumenically agreed upon. Given that the *exact* text that we use for the Lord's Prayer in any form is not found in any of the gospel texts, this ecumenical version is one that at least in worship a wide swath of the Church can agree upon. When setting the text of the Lord's Prayer to the plainsong we have been using from Setting V, this is the text that is used. In the ELCA and our predecessor bodies, we have been using this text in our worship resources (LBW, WOV, ELW, ACS, etc.) since at least 1978.

Worship

Our prelude begins at 10:25 each week and flows into the 10:30am worship time. We hope that this will draw us together and into our time of worship. Please remember to be mindful of those around you and those worshipping at home by keeping conversations and visiting to the lobbies once the prelude has begun. Thank you.

A reminder that our livestream runs from the beginning of the prelude through the end of the postlude. To maintain a worshipful space for those joining from home, please remember to leave the chancel area (the area around the altar) clear until after the postlude.

Lent Opportunities

Our last Wednesday Lenten worship service will be held March 20 at 12:05pm in the main church. Pastor Jay will be preaching on the "The Seed of Joy". This midweek series flows in tandem with the daily devotional *Tending Joy* that is available at the hospitality tables.

Our last Lenten Luncheon will be served on Wednesday, March 20 at 12:35pm in fellowship hall. A home-cooked meal will fill you up for the day; cost \$8. The main dish for Wednesday, March 20 will be fish. Help is always appreciated and anyone interested in lending a hand with cooking, serving and/or clean-up may contact Betty Pletz at 898-1053 or the church office.

Steps in Faith will meet for our last gathering on Wednesday, March 20. At 5:30 we will gather for dinner; the main dish is provided, please bring a dish to share. A Bible lesson and a craft or activity will be held following our meal.

Walking is a simple form of exercise for many, but a Lenten walking practice can be a time for spiritual development. The main church is open each weekday thru **Wednesday, March 27 from 9:00am – 2:00pm**. We invite you take advantage of a comfortable place to walk and take those extra steps as a time for prayer or fellowship with a companion walker.

Christian Education

First Holy Communion will be offered on Sunday, April 14, 2024 during the 10:30am service. In preparation for First Communion two Saturday morning sessions will be held on April 6 and April 13 from 9:00am – 12:00 noon, including snack time. These 2 All-Family Workshops will be our preparation for the big celebration! Any family interested in First Communion should plan to attend both sessions. First Communion is open to all the baptized so any child and family are welcome if you're ready. However, families with children in grades 3-5 are strongly encouraged to participate if your child has not received First Communion yet. Please contact Pastor Jay or the church office if your family will be attending these sessions. Thank you.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Magic Fingers Grace Group continues to spend wonderful mornings together knitting, crocheting, and being creative with needlepoint, cross-stitch and more. We'll gather again on Tuesday, March 26 from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Put us on your calendar for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

OWLS will make a visit to Honey Baked Ham, 7200 Peach Street, on Tuesday, April 16 for a delicious lunch. Mark it on your calendar to be there by 11:30am and RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Friday, April 12 if you plan to attend.

Youth Event

Movie Night is planned for Friday, April 19 from 5:30 – 9:30pm. Our theme for the evening is Teenage Turtles. We'll be making our own pizza and plan to have a great time. Please let Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or the church office know if you plan to attend.

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. Thank you.

Holy Week and Easter Services



Palm Sunday ~ March 24

- 8:15am Worship – *Main Church*
9:30am First Holy Communion class
10:30am Worship – Processional with Palms
 Main Church
11:30am Fun for Pre-school – Grade 2



Maundy Thursday ~ March 28

- 7:00pm Worship ~ *Main Church*
 Foot Washing
 Institution of the Lord's
 Supper
 Stripping of the Altar



Good Friday ~ March 29

- 7:00pm Worship ~ *Main Church*

Easter Sunday ~ March 31



- 8:15am Worship with Holy Communion
 Main Church
10:30am Worship with Holy Communion
 Main Church

Readings and Commemorations This Week

March 17 – Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, 461 – Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 96:1-7; I Thessalonians 2:2b-12; Matthew 28:16-20 -- *A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.*

March 18 – Psalm 119:9-16; Isaiah 43:8-13; II Corinthians 3:4-11.

March 19 – Joseph, Guardian of Jesus – II Samuel 7:4, 8-16; Psalm 89:1-29; Romans 4:13-18; Matthew 1:18-24a -- *Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.*

March 20 – Psalm 119:9-16; Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23; John 12:34-50.

March 21 – Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, 1556 – Psalm 96:1-9; I Corinthians 3:9-14; John 15:20-16:1 -- *Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of the Protestant Reformation.*

March 22 – Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, 1758 – Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 119:89-104; I Corinthians 2:6-10, 13-16; John 17:6-10 -- *A Puritan minister in Connecticut, Edwards is remembered as being a great preacher. Though his most famous sermon talks at length about hell, he was more concerned with God's love. He served both as missionary to the Housatonic people in Massachusetts, and as president of the future Princeton University.*

March 23 – Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Jeremiah 33:10-16; Mark 10:32-34, 46-52.

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 18	6:00pm	PTL Meeting
TUESDAY, MARCH 19	3:00pm	School Board
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20	12:05pm	Lenten Worship Service
	12:35pm	Luncheon
	3:00pm	LMA Rehearsal
	5:30pm	Steps in Faith
THURSDAY, MARCH 21	1:00pm	Grief Support Group
	2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:30pm	Choir
FRIDAY, MARCH 22	7:00pm	LMA Play (Peter Pan)
SATURDAY, MARCH 23		

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024
SUNDAY OF THE PASSION / PALM SUNDAY

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Michael Snider
Communion Assistant	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector	10:30am	Eric Hedlund
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Pam Masiroff
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	Jean McMillin, Liz Stroup
Ushers	10:30am	Cathy Beck, Sue Cappelletty, Eric Hedlund, Brooke McCall

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Rose-Marie Rose	Phil McAfee
Cathy Beck & Jim	Betty Pletz		
Friends and Family:			
Kate Collins & family	Lorraine Melms	Jeannette Bowers	Doug Blum
Jeff Granger & family	Janice Carpenter	Heather Keaster	Russ Wiest
Nikki & Ayden Moyer & family	Louise Seth	Marky Stein	Jonah Allgeier
Pam (Battersby) Latronca	Tony B.	Betty M.	Kay Kaberline
Mary & Mike Collins	Stephanie Voland	Betty Peters	Marlo
Paul Gustafson	Lily		
Grief:			
Richard Braendel family	Jim Haskins family	Edna Smith family	
Melanie Brown family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			