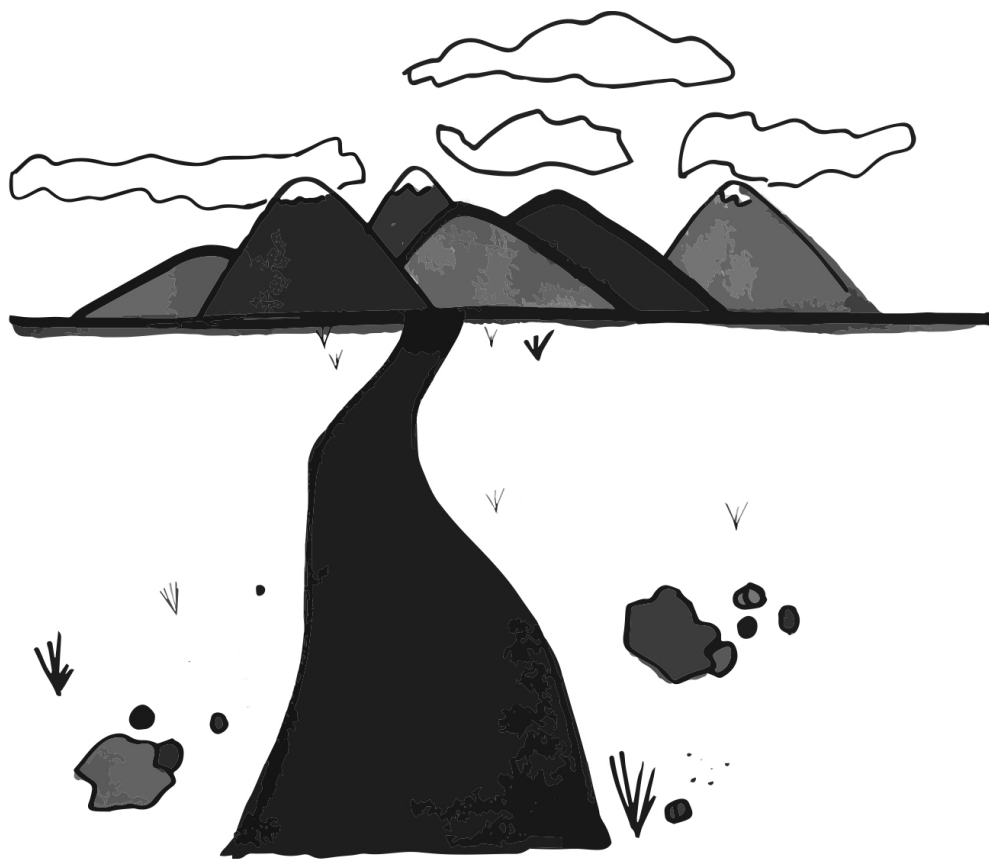


Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



7 MAY 2023
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:30 am

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

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

BECKY CAREY

Interim Academy Administrator

7 MAY 2023

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Three • 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 – Trio & Fughetta on "You Are the Way"
"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Austin Lovelace
Michael Burkhardt

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

☐ Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we give thanks for the Great Exchange, the mercy and forgiveness that wrap our true selves in sacred belonging and purpose.

☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

☐ For a word at the dawn of creation, which spoke water and life into being.

☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

☐ For the great flood that revealed nature's power and God's commitment to life after death.

☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

☐ For the river that carried Moses safely, building a bridge between mothers and nations.

☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

☐ For the rock split open in the desert, spilling water for those thirsting for freedom.

☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



P For the One who turned water into wine and met a woman at the well with living water.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

P For Living Water poured out on all people, washing the eunuch and Philip and us alike.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

P For the gift of holy baptism, which declares there are no more godforsaken places, and nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. For Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P Let us pray:

God of life, we rejoice with the waters that cover creation;

our songs of praise echo their dancing tides and streams.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this community and all of creation.

Cleanse our fears.

Drown our divisions.

Give us mercy and grace to drink so that our whole lives

are signs of death defeated and thirst quenched

thanks to the risen Jesus, the Beloved of God.

C Amen.

*This author studied theology and hymnody at the University of Wittenberg and tutored in Berlin.
In 1669 he became archdeacon at Lubben, Germany and remained there until his death.
English translations of Gerhardt's texts were made by both John Wesley and Catherin Winkworth.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 761

Evening and Morning



1 Eve - ning and morn - ing, sun - set and dawn - ing,
2 Gra - cious Lord, hear - me, par - don and spare me;
3 Ills that still grieve me soon are to leave me;
4 To God in heav - en all praise be giv - en!



wealth, peace, and glad - ness, com - fort in sad - ness:
calm all my ter - rors, blot out my er - rors,
though bil - lows tow - er, and winds gain pow - er,
O God, we of - fer and glad - ly prof - fer



these are your works, rich in glo - ry di - vine!
that jus - ti - fied in your sight I may stand.
af - ter the storm the fair sun shows its face.
gifts from your hand; these a - lone you will prize:



Times with - out num - ber, a - wake or in slum - ber,
Or - der my go - ings, di - rect all my do - ings;
Joys e'er in - creas - ing and peace nev - er ceas - ing;
hearts that re - ceive you and faith to be - lieve you;





your eye ob - serves us, from dan - ger pre - serves us,
 guard me and guide me and stay close be - side me;
 these shall I trea - sure and share in full mea - sure
 hymns that a - dore you are pre - cious be - fore you



caus - ing your mer - cy up - on us to shine.
 all I com - mit to your fa - ther - ly hand.
 when in your man - sions you grant me a place.
 and to your throne like sweet in - cense a - rise.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. composite
 Music: DIE GÜLDNE SONNE, Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676
 Text © 1930, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- ☐ The grace of our Risen Savior, the love of the ever-living God,
 and the fellowship of the life-breathing Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic to-ry for our God, Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!



1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose
2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom and strength, And
3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, And
4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might Be to
5. For the Lamb who was slain Has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. ... *refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing and glo - ry are his. ... *refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: ... *to verse 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - - men. ... *refrain*
 gun his reign, Al - le - lu - ia! ... *final refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic to-ry for our God, Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Dignus est Agnus, tr. John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
 Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE, Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray.

☞ Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Please be seated.

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

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” Stephen said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son-of-Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

☞ Word of God, Word of Life.

☞ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

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



In - to your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spi - rit.

¹ In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

² Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength. **R**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

¹⁵ My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.” **R**

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to the Lord, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of the one who called you out of darkness into the marvelous light of God. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples.
As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to Jesus, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know and have seen my Father." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but it is the Father who dwells in me who does these works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²"Very truly, I tell you, the one ►

who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

- ☐ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

Text for this hymn was written by Brian Arthur Wren, contemporary hymn writer and ordained minister, native of Britain. Wren retired from Columbia Theological Seminary in 2007 and was named professor emeritus. The tune is by an unknown composer, published anonymously in 1789.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 389

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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 *1 Timothy 2:1*

A United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great. ▶

A Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us, especially Helen Roth. Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C **Amen.**

P The peace of the Lord is 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 – "Commonwealth Is God's Commandment"

Mary Louise Bringle / W. Walker

Commonwealth is God's commandment; common goods are meant to share.

Tables set and doors wide open welcome angels unaware.

Refrain: Plead for the peace of all creation. Pray for a place where grace is found.

Shanti, pax, shalom, maslaha: common good is holy ground.

Sharing lavish gifts and blessings, love that not one mite withholds,
stretch out arms to friends and strangers: God has sheep of many folds.

Genders, races, tribes, and nations, hear the Holy One who calls,
biding all to work together, bridging lives and breaching walls.

This hymn's refrain includes words meaning "peace" from other religious traditions. Shanti (Sanskrit) is used in Hindi and Buddhist traditions. Pax is Latin for peace. Shalom (Hebrew) means peace and wholeness. Maslaha (Arabic) means reconciliation.

Please stand as you are able.

Now We Join in Celebration

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
 dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
 for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
 stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990
 Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
 Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Let us pray:
 Generous God,
 in this meal you offer your very self.
 We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.
 In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One.
 In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world;
 through Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.



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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** O God most mighty,
 O God most merciful,
 O God our rock and our salvation,
 hear us as we praise,
 call us to your table,
 grant us your life.
- P** When the earth was a formless void,
 you formed order and beauty.
 When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
 you sent them a child;
 When the Israelites were enslaved,
 you led them to freedom.
 Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,
 and the psalmists cried out for healing,
 and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.
- P** You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
 He was born among the poor,
 he lived under oppression,
 he wept over the city.
 With infinite love, he granted the people your life.



*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.*

P Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

C Amen.

P Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

C Amen.

P Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

C Amen.

P O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

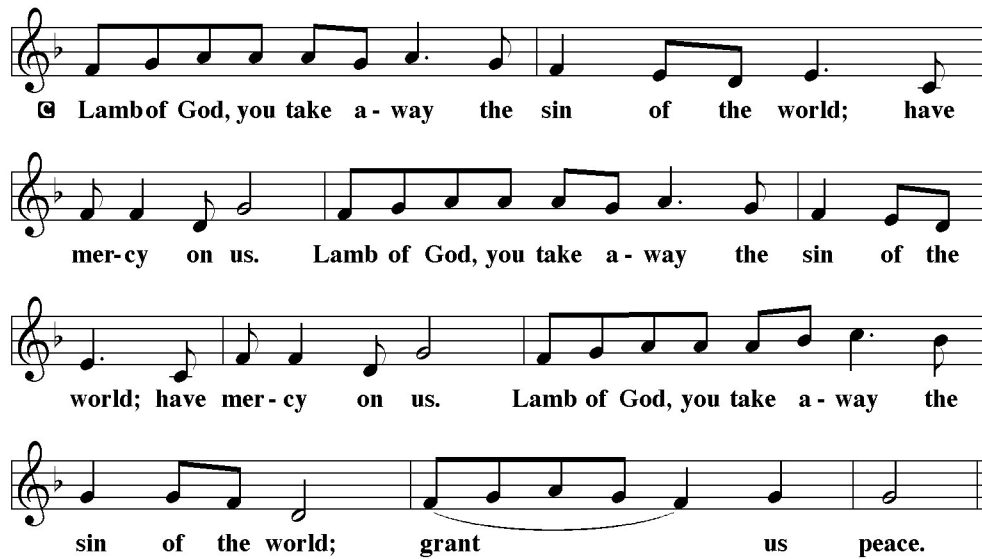
P O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

C **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.**

AGNUS DEI



C 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread
- C** as once you were known to your disciples.
- P** Those communing at home: take and eat, 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.*

With references to miracles in which Jesus fed gathered crowds and to the last supper, the first two stanzas fittingly begin with a past-tense phrase, "Loaves were broken, words were spoken."

Stanza three then brings us into the present tense, when Jesus is present to us in holy communion, just as he promised. The final stanza sends us into the future, as we leave worship to share the good news and serve our neighbors. Herman Stuempfle was a pastor and seminary president whose life of service included supporting day care, a homeless shelter, and prison ministry.

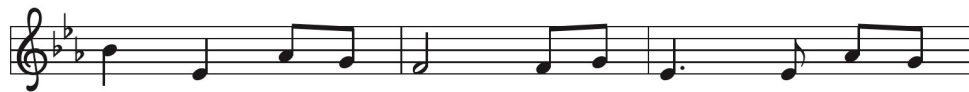
HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ACS 966

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



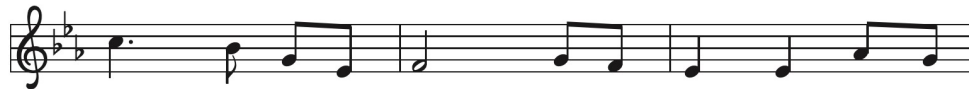
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
Music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

This hymn text is the work of a 19th century American bishop who earned a position as one of the great prelates of his time. The hymn is judged by many to be the first of American hymns. The tune origin is unknown, but it is arranged by an English musician best known for his collections of British folk music.

ELW 758

You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

P 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.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray:
Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

This hymn text is the work of a Moravian clergyman working in Germany, who also wrote and published two collections of hymn texts. The composer of the tune was an organist in Norway, who played the dedication of the new organ at Royal Albert Hall in London, and also founded what is today the Oslo Conservatory.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 380

Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con-quer-or, has gone,
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A Go in peace. Tell what God has done. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Michael Burkhardt

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

GREETER – Carol Schaal

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Emma Chaffee

LECTOR – Pat Bellingham

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Linda Graffius

ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke

USHERS – Sandy Barbaro, Sharon Burke, Les Fobes, Stan Rose



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my mother, Helen Roth, by her daughter, Donna Sedelmyer.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Pia Glover who died Sunday, April 16, 2023. Friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Life Service to be held at the beach this summer at a date to be announced.

We would like to recognize our high school and college graduates. Please contact Norma in our church office by phone, 454-0106, ext. 221, or email, nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org, by Friday, May 26 with the following:

For our high school graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. High school they are graduating from
3. Future plans, college, service, etc.

For our college graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. College they are graduating from
3. Degree

Today's Events

National Youth Gathering informational meeting will be held at 12:00 noon today for all youth and parents interested. Youth will have the opportunity to attend the Gathering in 2024 in New Orleans.

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.

Where Is Pastor Jay?

For the week of May 7, you can drop in on Pastor Jay Wednesday 9:00am-10:30am at the Tippy Bean (2425 Peach St) OR Thursday 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Church Office. You may always meet with Pastor Jay by appointment: JMitchell@luthermemorialonline.org or by using: calendly.com/TheRevJCM.

Worship

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.

Christian Education

Children's Church classes for PreK – grade 6 will gather for their final class on Sunday, May 21 meeting from 9:30 – 10:15am. We hope to see many smiling faces before we break for the summer.

Vacation Bible School – It's a Family Affair! Four fun evenings are planned for children, youth, and adults for VBS this year. Add to your calendars Wednesdays, May 24, May 31, June 7 and June 14. Our evenings together will be from 5:30-7:00pm and begin with a potluck meal (main dish provided; please bring a dish to share), followed by a Bible message, craft, music and some energetic activities, too. VBS has always been a fun experience for our children, and we are excited to make it a Family Affair this year.

Ascension of Our Lord

A **festival service** celebrating the **Ascension of Our Lord** will be held at Luther Memorial on the evening of Thursday, May 18 at 7:00pm. All of the Erie County ELCA churches will be invited to participate and Bishop Lozano will be preaching. If you would like to sing in the massed choir for this service (*hymns, liturgy, psalm*) please contact Walt Gaber (WaltGaber@gmail.com). Information will be provided about the music and a single rehearsal to be held just prior to the worship service.

We will also present one of **J.S. Bach's Ascension cantatas** during the service. As in our previous Bach Cantata Vespers, this cantata will be sung in its original German and accompanied by a small orchestra. Much of the cantata is sung by soloists, with the chorus singing the first and last movements. If you would like to receive more information about the music and rehearsals for the cantata, please contact Walt Gaber. Our next rehearsal will be today from noon to 1:15.

Supporting our Youth

Silent Auction bids will be accepted through this morning. A variety of items will be available in the parlor for your bidding. Bids may be placed throughout the week by:

1. Completing a bid form and placing in the labeled box in the parlor or dropping off in the church office
2. Contacting Norma in our church office at nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org or 814-454-0106, ext. 221
3. Giving your form to Beth Keller

Be sure to check the bulletin board outside the parlor to see the current high bid for each item.

All proceeds from our Silent Auction will be used for our youth who will be traveling to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024 and to help the church defer costs for our youth attending confirmation camp.

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will enjoy a delicious lunch at the Shrine Club on Tuesday, May 16. Join us from 11:30am – 1:00pm for laughter, conversation and great food. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or Norma Buerk at 454-0106, ext 221 by Friday, May 12.

Magic Fingers Grace Group invites you to start your Tuesday mornings with a smile by joining us for some knitting, crocheting and your yarn projects. Gathering the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am-12:00pm is a perfect way to start your day. We'll see you May 9 and May 23. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes and let us know if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Keeping in Touch

Our friend, Richard Jeffords, recently moved into a rehabilitation facility and is currently in Shippenville. If you would like to send Richard a card he would enjoy hearing from his family at Luther Memorial. Cards may be sent to: Richard Jeffords, Shippenville Healthcare and Rehabilitation, Room 218, 21158 Paint Blvd., Shippenville, PA 16254

Camp Lutherlyn

CampBlast will be held at Lutherlyn, 500 Lutherlyn Lane, Butler, on Saturday, May 13 from 11:00am – 4:30pm. A whole day of fun for free. Take a drive and enjoy a wonderful day of activities and see everything Lutherlyn has to offer; horseback riding, crafts, archery, ziplines and more.

Luther Memorial Academy

Share the news that LMA will host an Open House on Thursday, May 11 from 5:30 – 7:00pm. A number of Open Houses have been offered over the past months to offer convenient times for families to visit and see what a wonderful school we have in downtown Erie.

LMA's Lego League team has been invited to a FIRST Lego League tournament at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts June 9-11, 2023. This is a huge opportunity for the LMA team and they are proud to represent LMA & Erie County. To make this happen for our team, it is necessary to raise \$845 per student, which means a total of \$5,915 for the team. If you are aware of an area business that would like to sponsor our Lego League, please share the information with the school office. Every little bit helps & all donation and sponsorship can be mailed or dropped off in the school office. Be sure to make checks payable to LMA & earmark them for Lego League. Thank you.

Bethany Outreach Center

The Bethany Outreach Center continues to serve the underprivileged in our community, and *we are so thankful for the help that the Luther Memorial congregation has been giving us.* Our Clothes Closet could use baby clothes, kids clothes, and adult male clothes. However, clothing of all types is always welcome. If you would like to donate clothes or food, please bring them in a bag or box and place them near the white cupboard in the Luther Memorial Parlor area.

Join us for the Highmark Walk at Presque Isle on Saturday, June 3, at Beach 11 at 8:30am. Our team will assemble, and the walk will begin at 9:00am! Sign up to join our team, or donate by going to Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, click on Erie, select Donate Now and choose Bethany Outreach Center. Feel free to call or text Eric Hedlund if you have any questions at (814) 722-7732.

Items to Note

Parking in the lot across from 11th Street is not permitted. Please do not park in this area as your car will be towed. Thank you.

In case of an emergency 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: | | | |
| Cathy & Don MacGregor | C. Noelle Partusch | Chickie Braine | Mike Daniels |
| Paul Meucci | Richard Jeffords | Torsten Carlson | Julie Sturm |
| John Scott | | | |
| Friends and Family: | | | |
| Dennis & Lori Sander | Elayne Morphy | June Madurski | Edie Jackman |
| Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie | Mary Correll | Judy Skoog | Branden Jones |
| Mark Smith | Nichole Jones | Bob Guenther | Christine Norris |
| Jessica & Damian Ream | Elise VanDamia | Brendan Sauers | Meghan Kessler |
| Austin Coverdale | Kevin | Tom Wilson | Dawn Weborg |
| Baby Archer Bardwell | Curtis Krick | Tom Braendel | Susan Brooks |
| Abbie (Treiber) Dixon | Debbie | Caitlyn Kessler | Michele Seifert |
| Ginger | Barbara Dennison | Diane Henry | Kate Collins |
| Adam Surovick | Roger Smith | Melissa Pierce | John Varner |
| Grief: | | | |
| Megan Bruno-Osborne | Joan Peters family | Pia Glover family | |
| Our Military Service Men & Women: | | | |
| Lt. Col. Matt Anderson | Michael Stickner | Andrew Watson | Alli Brown |
| Ben Dixon | | | |

CALENDAR

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| MONDAY, MAY 8 | 6:00pm 6:00pm | LMA Lego League PTL Board Meeting |
| TUESDAY, MAY 9 | 10:00am 6:00pm | Magic Fingers Grace Group Church Council |
| WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 | | |
| THURSDAY, MAY 11 | 5:30pm 5:30pm 6:30pm | LMA Open House Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal |
| FRIDAY, MAY 12 | 9:00am 5:30pm | Grade 1 – Muffins with Mom Club 50 |
| SATURDAY, MAY 13 | 10:00am 11:00am | Quilt Meeting Hagen History Tour – Open House |

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023 **THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Worship with us at 8:15 and 10:30am.

LMA Book Fair will be open in the school library; books are available for purchase.

| SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023 | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| ASSISTING IN WORSHIP | | |
| Assisting Minister | 8:15am | Rob Benacci |
| | 10:30am | Lois Smith |
| Altar Guild | 8:15am | Nancy Benacci |
| | 10:30am | Pam Masiroff |
| Greeters | 8:15am | Jean McMillin |
| | 10:30am | Emma Chaffee, Liz Stroup |
| Counters | 10:30am | Dave Griswold, Mike Hedlund |