

WELCOME TO
**LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH & ACADEMY**



5 JULY 2026

The 14th 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

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 worshipping 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).

+ + +

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ONE: The Christian faith asks us to hold many truths in tension with one another. We plant our feet on Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, Seneca, and Erie land, on layers of soil and stories and acknowledge that people and places contain multitudes.

MANY: We remember.

the generous gifts of creation and God's promise of enough.

We remember

glacial melt, the birth pangs of prairie, ancestors singing, Water is Life!

We remember

acres sold and treaties breaking, settlers unsettling and systems taking.

We remember

the legacy and loss of bison, of nations oppressed and removed.

We remember

the isolation of immigration, homesteads far from new neighbors and old country.

We remember

Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, Seneca, and Erie people already and not yet, and resilient voices in this generation.

We remember

farmers who labor to feed the world, who know wind and weather in their bones.

We remember

the call to turn from the myth of scarcity, to interrupt patterns of harm with justice.

We remember

we belong to each other and to this land, all relations of the God who remembers.

Remember us, O God. Amen.

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.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary, glory and peace to the ends of the earth.

Amen.

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,
**we have sinned against you,
our neighbors,
and your creation.**

**Within ourselves and our communities,
our desire to do what is good
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.**

We lament the evil that holds us captive.

**We repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us
for lives of compassion and courage
through our Savior Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins through the grace of + Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power strengthen you in doing what is good.

Amen.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938
 Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

OPENING SENTENCE

Sovereign and Supreme is God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed is God's commonwealth now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

O Day of Peace

1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de - vour the small;

guide us to jus - tice, truth, and love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes.
 as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all.

May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re - lease,
 Then en - e - mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac - cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: JERUSALEM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918
Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples of the world, 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 Karen, O Lord, as she 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: Zechariah 9:9-12

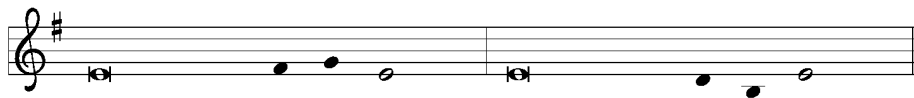
⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰The king will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and the king shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: 145:8-14

The psalm is sung in unison according to the tone:



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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The Lord is gracious and full [|] of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in [|] steadfast love.

Lord, you are [|] good to all,
and your compassion is over [|] all your works.
All your works shall praise [|] you, O Lord,
and your faithful [|] ones shall bless you.

They shall tell of the glory¹ of your kingdom
and speak¹ of your power,
that all people may know¹ of your power
and the glorious splendor¹ of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through-¹ out all ages.
You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in¹ all your works.
The Lord upholds all¹ those who fall
and lifts up those who¹ are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my physical body another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my body. ²⁴Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?
^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

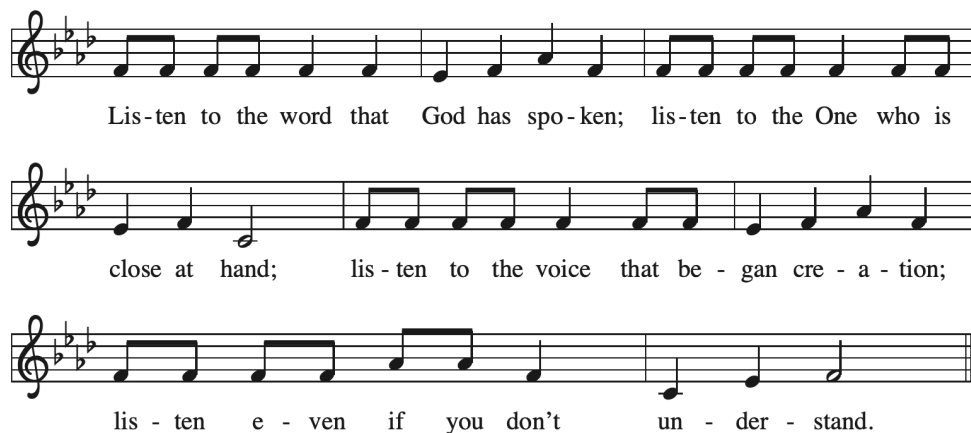
Thanks be to God!

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ACS 974

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 11:16-19, 25-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying: ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son-of-Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet Wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” ²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed

them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal the Father. ²⁸Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

ACS 1036

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,
Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.

Refrain
Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.
Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Gathering God, send your Spirit on the church you have called out from every nation. Knit us together into one body and heal the divisions we have caused. Overcome our timidity to witness and act in the public square when your purpose is being thwarted. Bless Yehiel and Kristen, our bishops; Jean, our dean; Jay, our pastor; and all rostered and lay leaders with clarity and courage as they center your people in the gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

All your works praise you, O God. From the Arctic to the Caribbean, from the Atlantic to the western islands, these lands and waters have sustained its peoples over many centuries. As we take our part in creation's praise, revive our wonder at what you have fashioned, and enliven our will to ensure its health for future generations. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Trinity, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. We come from many nations with many languages; make us a united people that delights in our many different gifts. As the United States of America marks its declaration of independence, give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, and curb every abuse of that trust, so that both here and abroad, justice, humility, and peace may flourish. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are the Mother of exiles, O God. Extend your arms to all who are tired, who live with poverty, the tempest-tossed, all who yearn to breathe free. Embrace people seeking refuge; those incarcerated, detained, or disappeared; and neighbors fearing those they once trusted. Give healing and hope to people in any oppression and need, especially these we name whose name and needs we lift up now: _____. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We remember before you those who have died in every generation: Jan Hus, executed for protesting the ecclesial system; Benedict, teacher of a prayerful life; and those who have died ensuring the freedoms of this country: people in the armed services, peace officers, advocates, and activists. Gather us, together with those who have gone before us, including John David, and with saints of every tribe and nation, into the holy city you have prepared. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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

Please stand as you are able.

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

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:

and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

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. Blessed are you, O God, for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in these lands. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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:

San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav-ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e-res, oh Dios.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

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

Holy God, you alone are Majesty, you alone are Excellency, you alone are Sovereign.

Within the vast reaches you splashed into being, you formed our stars and this planet: purple mountains, fruited plains, crystal waters, towering forests, gleaming mines. Here you fashioned human beings in our infinite variety and hue, yet each one created equal, to care for one another and our earthly home.

In a time of peace enforced by the cruelty of empire, you came in Jesus to share our life. Born under the rule of a merciless king, Jesus revealed the merciful realm of God. Moving across borders to people broken and oppressed, Jesus brought healing, restoration, and freedom.

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

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

Remembering, therefore, Christ's execution at the hands of a ruthless regime, Christ's resurrection that buries death, Christ's ascension to rule with love forever, we declare the revolutionary mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God, shed your grace on us. Shower your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and cup and on your people gathered this day. Ignite in us the flame of freedom—freedom from prejudice, from supremacy, from fear; freedom for acceptance, for welcome, for the *salaam*, the salem, the *shalom* that you have first shown to us.

Faithful God, loving God: Your Majesty shines forth in weakness. Your Excellency is revealed to infants. Your Sovereignty reigns from a cross. Yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is the everlasting kingdom, the peaceable power, and the humble glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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. All bread is gluten free. 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.*



This Is My Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912–1993, sts. 1–2; Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, st. 3
 Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957
 Text sts. 1–2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company, st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved.
 Outside USA: Music © Breitkopf & Härtel, Wiesbaden.

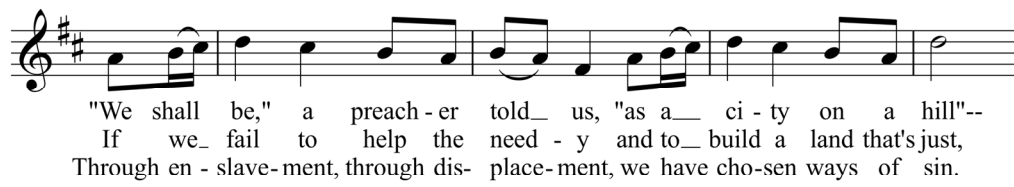
In This Time of Great Reflection



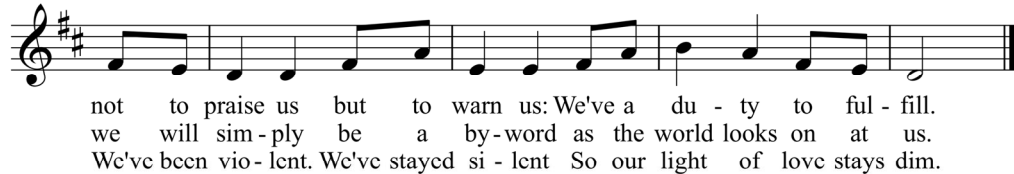
1. In this time of great re - flec - tion on two hun - dred fif - ty years,
 2. Here is what holds us to - geth - er: Mer - cy, love, com - mun - i - ty.
 3. We re - call our na - tion's sto - ry. Keep us hon - est, God a - bove!



We re - mem - ber, as a na - tion, times we've pros - pered, times of tears.
 We're to seek to care for neigh - bors in a just so - ci - e - ty.
 In our quest for wealth and glo - ry, we have in - jured ones you love.



"We shall be," a preach - er told us, "as a ci - ty on a hill"--
 If we fail to help the need - y and to build a land that's just,
 Through en - slave - ment, through dis - place - ment, we have cho - sen ways of sin.



not to praise us but to warn us: We've a du - ty to ful - fill.
 we will sim - ply be a by - word as the world looks on at us.
 We've been vio - lent. We've stayed si - lent So our light of love stays dim.

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Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

4. Will we work for racial justice? Will we turn from fear and hate?
 What is now the public witness that you call us to create?
 As we celebrate our country, help us, Lord, to understand:
 All of us must share the bounty and the goodness of the land.
5. In this time, O God, restore us to the land we're called to be—
 where all people here among us know your blest community.
 May we seek to be that city, not with pride but as a prayer.
 May we love and serve you humbly, in our land and everywhere.

Please stand as you are able.

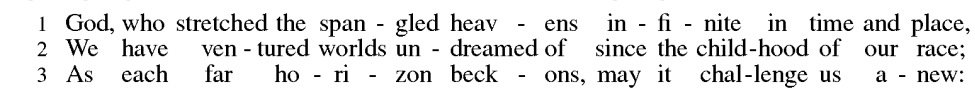
TABLE BLESSING

HYMN

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



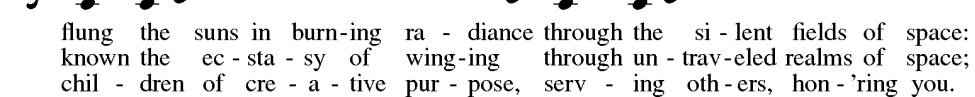
1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood of our race;
 3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - trav - eled realms of space;
 chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise; each en - deav - or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: We thank you, God of heaven and earth, that you fill our deepest need with the very gift of Jesus Christ, broken and poured out for us. Pour us out into a broken world. Channel our common life toward the common good, following the way our Savior leads us now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

ELW 853

When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

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 – Linda Swanson

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Linda Graffius

LECTOR – Karen Lundwall

USHERS – Cathy Beck, Mary Daniels, Carl Moore

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp

VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of John D. Mumford, III by mother, Mary, and sister, Elizabeth.

Today's Events

Sundae Sundays are here! 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.

Worship Matters!

About the liturgical texts crafted for this morning: The 2026 semiquincentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence arrives at a fraught time in the nation's history. While *Sundays and Seasons* and other ELCA worship resources in general refrain from commemorating Independence Day as a liturgical occasion outside of intercessory prayer, this milestone anniversary and its broader national context present a unique situation. In witness to the church's ardent stand against Christian nationalism in its various and insidious forms, and in response to implementing resolution CA25.05.25 of the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the Worship Resource Development Working Group of the ELCA Churchwide Organization and Augsburg Fortress has developed resources for this specific occasion that both celebrate and lament our nation's history, affirm the reality of the current moment, and seek to unite the diverse body of Christ for the life of the world.

Helping Venezuela!

Lutheran Disaster Response is an ELCA ministry that offers aid, support, and partnership with myriad partners around the globe when crises hit. Designated donations are given 100% (no overhead) to the cause—a rate that beats even the Red Cross. In response to the recent deadly earthquakes in Venezuela, LDR is already on the ground offering what help is needed. As per usual, the Lutherans are often one of the first on the ground and usually the last to leave. If you are interested in supporting LDR's work in Venezuela, Luther Memorial will be collecting for the next three Sundays and then submitting a single donation on behalf of the congregation. Please make checks payable to Luther Memorial and place them—or cash—in an envelope labeled "LDR: Venezuela." Thank you.

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign for the Parking Lot project came to a conclusion on June 30. If you have not fulfilled your pledge (or even if you want to give a little extra) please do so immediately. Thank you for your continued support!

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.*

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

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, July 7. We are exploring *Belonging*, a study of the Woman at the Well by Karoline Lewis. Books are available for purchase through the church office for \$15.

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.

Mark your calendars for Adult Forum in July! *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.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise will be held Sunday, July 12 from 1:00-4:00pm 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.

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 said through Presque Isle. Boarding begins at 11:15-11:30am (no later). Cost is \$44 per person. Reservations and payment were due June 27 to Jan MacInnes.

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.

July 6 – Jan Hus, martyr, 1415 – Psalm 131; Jeremiah 27:1-11, 16-22; Romans 1:18-25 -- *Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church, and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement. He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.*

July 7 – Psalm 131; Jeremiah 38:10-17; Romans 3:1-8

July 8 – Psalm 131; Jeremiah 13:1-11; John 13:1-7

July 9 – Psalm 65:1-13; Isaiah 47:1-5; Romans 2:12-16

July 10 – Psalm 65:1-13; Isaiah 48:6-11; Romans 15:14-21

July 11 – Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Casino, 540 – Psalm 65:1-13; Isaiah 52:1-6; John 12:44-50 -- *Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.*

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JULY 6

TUESDAY, JULY 7

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

THURSDAY, JULY 9 10:00am Diabetes Prevention Program

FRIDAY, JULY 10

SATURDAY, JULY 11

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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

Ice cream sundaes served in the courtyard following the 10:30am service.

Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise will be held from 1:00-4:00pm.

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Pastor Jay
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Patrick Cimino
Counters	10:30am	Pat Bellingham, Jonathan Gaber
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	

