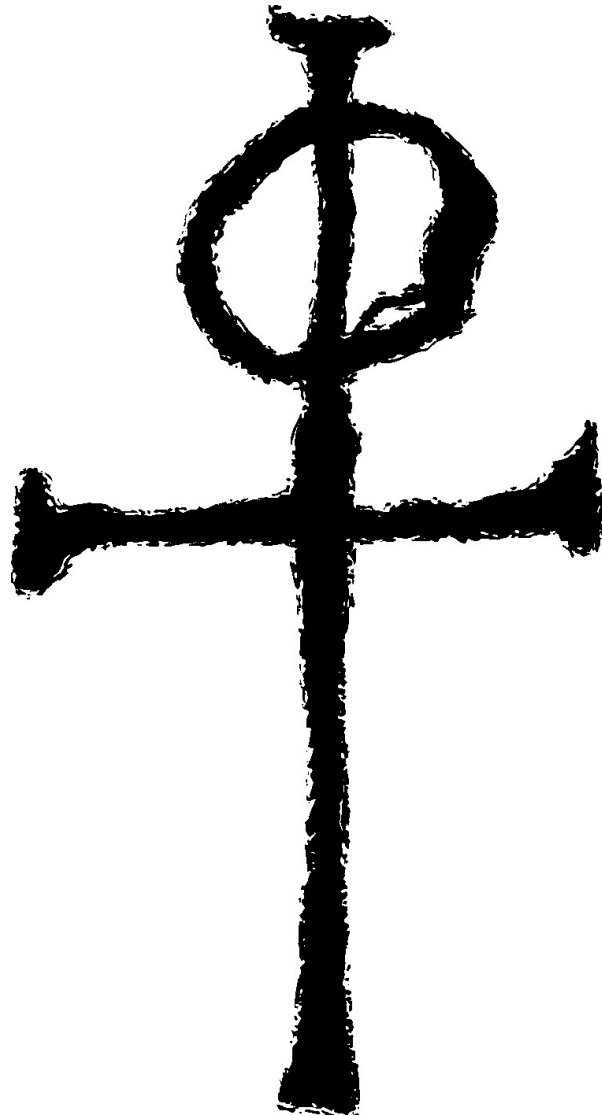


Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



10 MARCH 2024
The Fourth 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

10 MARCH 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Holy Communion • ELW Setting V • 10:30

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

SECOND SUNDAY FAMILY & FRIENDS PRELUDE

Kara Partusch, Trombone

Two settings of "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

"Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

"Were You There?"

"Air" from Suite No. 3

"Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow"

J. P. Kimberger & F.W. Zachau

arr. Brian Henkelmann

African American Spiritual

J. S. Bach; arr. Walter Beeler

arr. G.F. Kauffmann

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

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,
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.

P Holy God,
 C 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.

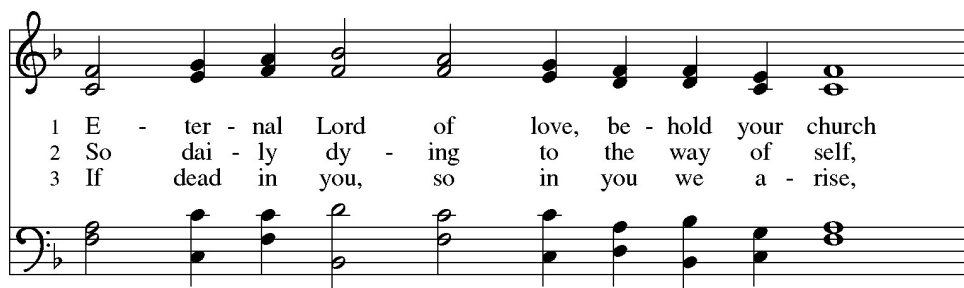
P May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins through our Lord + Jesus Christ, and by the power
 of the Holy Spirit, bring us to everlasting life.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 321

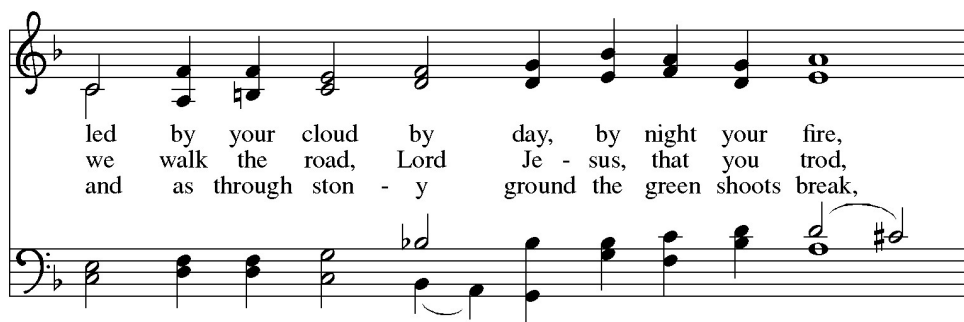
Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003
 Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
 Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

GREETING

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

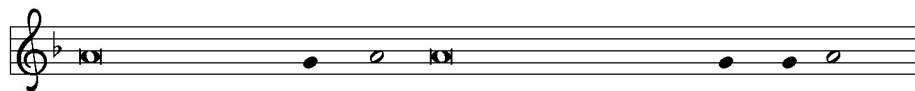
KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C 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, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

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

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

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



You de - li - ver your peo - ple from their dis - tress.

¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God’s mercy endures forever.

² Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

³ gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷ Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.

¹⁸ They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death’s door.

¹⁹ Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord
and you delivered them from their distress. **R**

²⁰ You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.

²¹ Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.

²² Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy. **R**

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus.

We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith.

Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, doing the will of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else, ⁴but God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which God loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved. ⁶With Christ God raised us up and seated us in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come might be shown the immeasurable riches of God's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not you own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly sings the acclamation. The cantor sings the verse after which all repeat the acclamation.



*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
(John 3:16)*

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to John.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus who had come to him under the cover of night: ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that God gave the Son, the only begotten one, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 759

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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.

Please kneel or sit for the prayers.

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.**

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS

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 – “God So Loved the World”

John Stainer

*God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.*

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

WOV 732

Create in Me a Clean Heart

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

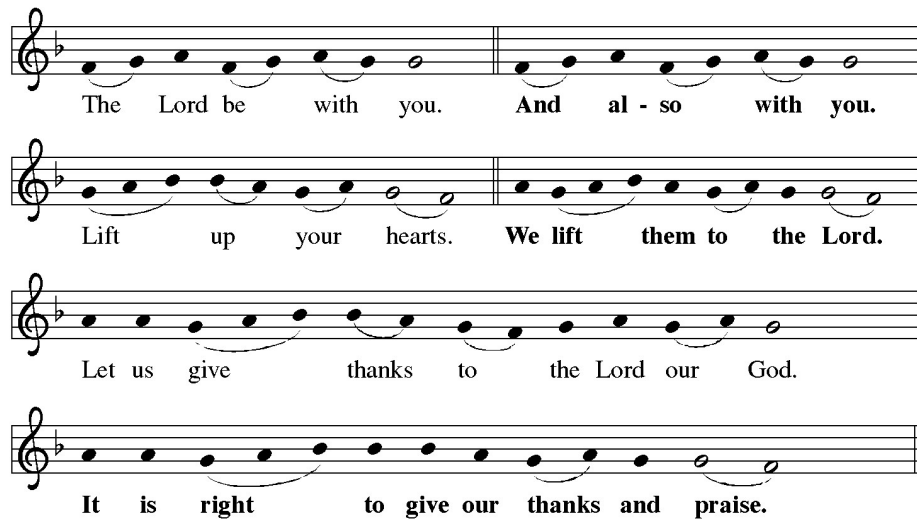
The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below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

Text: Psalm 51:10–12
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739, arr. Harold W. Gilbert

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.

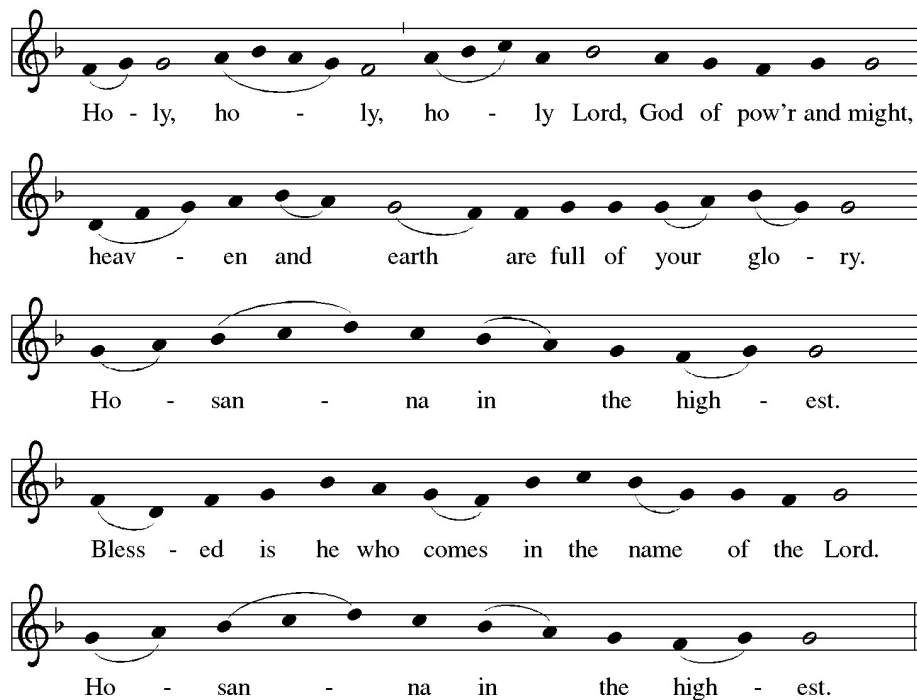
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

☐ 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

☐ 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.

☐ 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.

☐ 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.

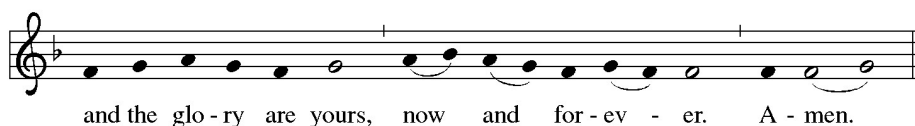
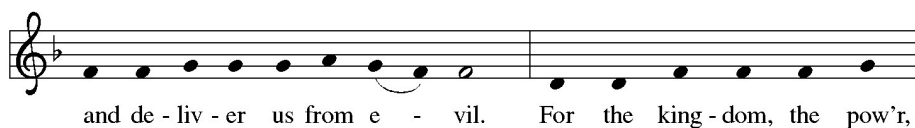
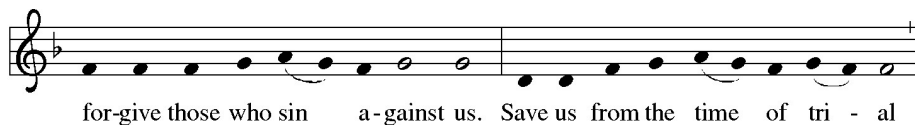
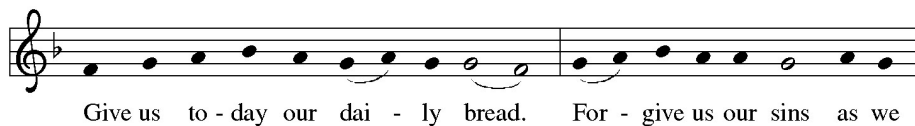
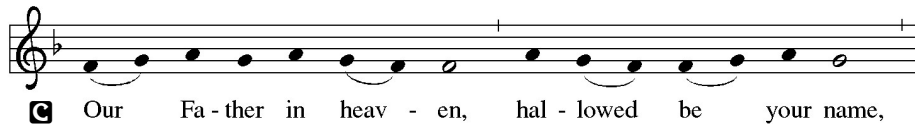
P Transform us, O God, + with your lively Spirit. Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son. Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance. Teach us your words of wisdom and justice. Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace. At the last, lead all your pilgrim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

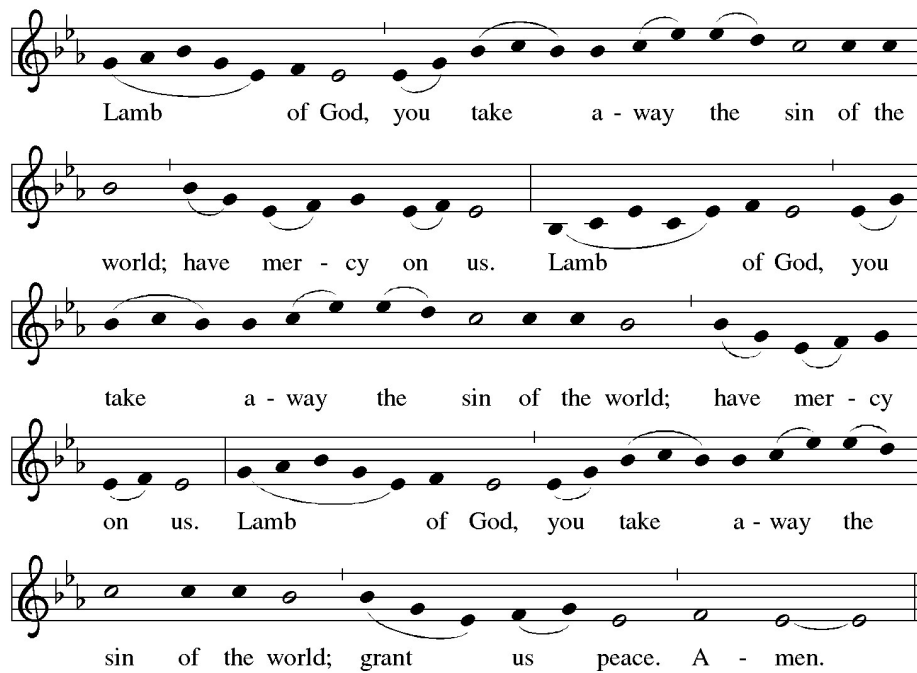
C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



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.

Oh, Love, How Deep



1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er
 3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 or of low - er place, but wore the robe of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion
 dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.
 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
 for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
 he bore the shameful cross and death;
 for us he gave his dying breath.

6 For us he rose from death again;
 for us he went on high to reign;
 for us he sent his Spirit here
 to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

7 All glory to our Lord and God
 for love so deep, so high, so broad:
 the Trinity whom we adore
 forever and forevermore.

Text: Thomas á Kempis, 1380-1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-1885, alt.
 Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.
 Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

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 in C Major"

Johann Ernst Eberlin

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— SERVING TODAY —

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer
ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham
COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Jeanne Gaber
LECTOR – Les Fobes
USHERS – Cathy Beck, Sue Cappelletty, Pat Gilbert
VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider
ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Lois and Les Fobes.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Jim Haskins by his family.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Jim Haskins who died Sunday, March 3, 2024. His funeral service was held Friday, March 8 at Luther Memorial Church. Our prayers are with his daughter, Meghan Snider, and family.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Richard Braendel who died Tuesday, March 5. Our prayers are with the Braendel and Graffius families.

Today's Events

This morning the 10:30 Second Sunday Family & Friends Prelude will feature **Kara Partusch** as the next musician in this feature of the LM Concert Series. Kara will play a set of hymn arrangements for solo trombone with keyboard accompaniment. Kara is very active in the McDowell High School Jazz, Concert, & Marching bands, the Erie Junior Philharmonic, North Coast Brass Company, and LM's handbell choir. Kara plans to continue her study of music beyond high school.

Easter flower and hamloaf orders are due this morning. Please place your flower order form in the offering plate. Hamloaf order forms are located at the welcome tables and in the church office. Hamloaf will be available for pick up on Sunday, March 24.

The Parent Teacher League (PTL) of LMA will host a fundraiser Trivia event at Lavery Brewing. This afternoon from 2:00-4:00, we will gather for trivia, raffles, and fun! Teams of 4 may attend at a cost of \$50. Individuals who would like to be assigned to a team, may attend at a cost of \$15 per person. All funds benefit LMA.

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

Why aren't there responses to the Prayers of Intercession? The format of the Prayers during Lent is one that follows what is known as *bid* or *bidding* prayer. For each of the Intercessions we usually offer during this time, there is a bid for us to pray and then silence for us to offer our own prayers either silently or aloud. As we live into the Lenten discipline of prayer, this helps us to add our own prayers rather than simply having someone read intercessions for us to respond to. The hope is that this draws us into a more interactive intercession on behalf of our world.

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

Worship services are held each Wednesday in Lent, February 21 – March 20 at 12:05pm in the main church. Pastor Jay will be preaching on the “The Seed of Joy”. This midweek series will flow in tandem with the daily devotional *Tending Joy* that is available at the hospitality tables.

Lenten Luncheons are offered on Wednesdays in Lent; February 21 – March 20 at 12:30pm in fellowship hall. A home-cooked meal will fill you up for the day; cost \$8. The main dish for Wednesday, March 13 will be hamloaf. 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, our evening Lenten gatherings, are held each Wednesday in Lent; February 21 – March 20. At 5:30 we 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. Join them the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; March 12 and March 26 from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Support Our Youth!

Luck of the Irish Bingo is set for Sunday, March 17. 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 and the church office.

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.

Readings and Commemorations This Week

March 10 – Harriet Tubman, Sojourner, 1919; Sojourner Truth, 1883; renewers of society – Wisdom 8:24-28; Psalm 146; Luke 11:5-10 -- *Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.*

March 11 – Psalm 107:1-16; Exodus 15:22-27; Hebrews 3:1-6

March 12 – Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604 – I Chronicles 25:1b, 6-8; Psalm 57:6-11; Mark 10:42-45 -- *Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.*

March 13 – Psalm 106:1-16; Isaiah 60:15-22; John 8:12-20

March 14 – Psalm 51:1-12; Isaiah 30:15-18; Hebrews 4:1-13

March 15 – Psalm 51:1-12; Exodus 30:1-10; Hebrews 4:14-5:4

March 16 – Psalm 51:1-12; Habakkuk 3:2-13; John 12:1-11

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*
Footwashing
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

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 11

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
3:30pm	Prayer Group
6:00pm	Church Council

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

12:05pm	Lenten Worship Service
12:35pm	Luncheon
5:30pm	Steps in Faith

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

1:00pm	Grief Support Group
2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
5:30pm	Handbells
6:30pm	Choir

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

6:30pm	LMA Middle School Dance
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SATURDAY, MARCH 16

10:00am	Quilt Group
	LMA St. Patrick's Day Parade

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024 THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Adult Forum will gather at 9:15am.

Luck of the Irish Bingo will begin at 1:00pm; doors open at 12:30pm.

VASA will meet at 1:00pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Pam Masiroff
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Lector	10:30am	Jonathan Ulrich
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	John Bartlett
Counters	10:30am	David Griswold, Mike Hedlund
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Rose-Marie Rose	Phil McAfee
Cathy Beck & Jim			

Friends and Family:

Paul Gustafson	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
Marlo	Stephanie Volland	Betty Peters	

Grief:

Jim Haskins family	Melanie Benn family	Carol Emerson family
Richard Braendel family		

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			