

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



27 MARCH 2022
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

Pastor Emeritus

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

Youth and Family Ministry

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

CHRISTOPHER A. PAUL

Academy Administrator



27 MARCH 2022

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Ten • 8:15 & 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 – "Our Father, We Have Wandered"
"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

arr. Larry Shackley, Craig Courtney
arr. Paul Johnson, Jan Sanborn,
Kay Hawkes Goodyear

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

☐ In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

☑ **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.



P Holy One,
C we confess that we have wandered far from you:
 we have not trusted your promises,
 we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
 we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
 we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
 Have mercy on us!
 Forgive us and turn us again to you.
 Teach us to follow in your ways,
 assure us again of your love,
 and help us to love our neighbor.
 Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
 the Word draws near to you,
 and all who call out to God shall be saved.
 In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
 and gathers you under wings of love.
 In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
 God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.
C Amen.

Text for this hymn is the work of a prolific Silesian cleric who suffered much during the Thirty Years War, both from his own ill health and from the dangers of surrounding enemies. The hymn tune, whose source is uncertain, has long been associated with the present text.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 675

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True



1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
 3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
 4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
 5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,



those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
 lost in er - ror's maze. Set free all those whose hearts and
 way the need - less fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
 oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
 ev - er to re - joice with wond - 'ring grat - i - tude and



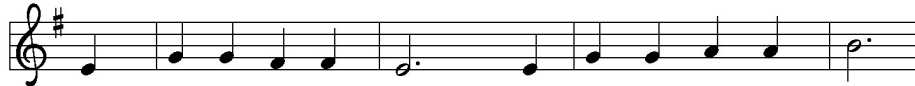
gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
 minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and binds.
 press the faith their in - most hearts con - fess.
 sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
 praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. composite
 Music: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT, *Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1676
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

GREETING

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

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray.
☑ **God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

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

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 32 (Spoken responsively by whole verse.)

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**



³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

*One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness.
All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection.
This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.*

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

🎵 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it.
The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother
who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Moran

Silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

The author of this hymn about the Prodigal Son was a Roman Catholic priest in England. The familiar melody probably began as a secular tune, later used to set a funeral hymn text, a penitential psalm, and the familiar "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded." It remains in secular culture, however -- Paul Simon employed it for his "American Tune" after Art Garfunkel introduced it to him via one of Bach's harmonizations.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Our Father, We Have Wandered

ELW 606



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006
 Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612
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APOSTLES' CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. Lead your church to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Equip farmers and farm workers who till the soil. Nourish the earth with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Heal grounds tainted by pollution or misuse. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations that experience conflict. Act quickly to bring an end to war. Move the Russian leadership to end their invasion of Ukraine. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members. Save those experiencing financial hardship. Hear our prayers for those who are sick or grieving. Console us with the promise that everything can become new. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Your love comes to us when a table is set and a feast is prepared. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation, especially Bethany Outreach Center. Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You guide us in all times of our lives. In this time of pastoral transition at Luther Memorial Church, strengthen all congregational members, leaders, and the Call Committee to hold firmly onto the promises of the Gospel, and continually give this congregation your wisdom and guidance. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, especially Robert Pletz and Bette Hoffman, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. *Romans 16:16*

Please be seated.

MEAL – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.”

VOLUNTARY – "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

arr. Carol Tornquist

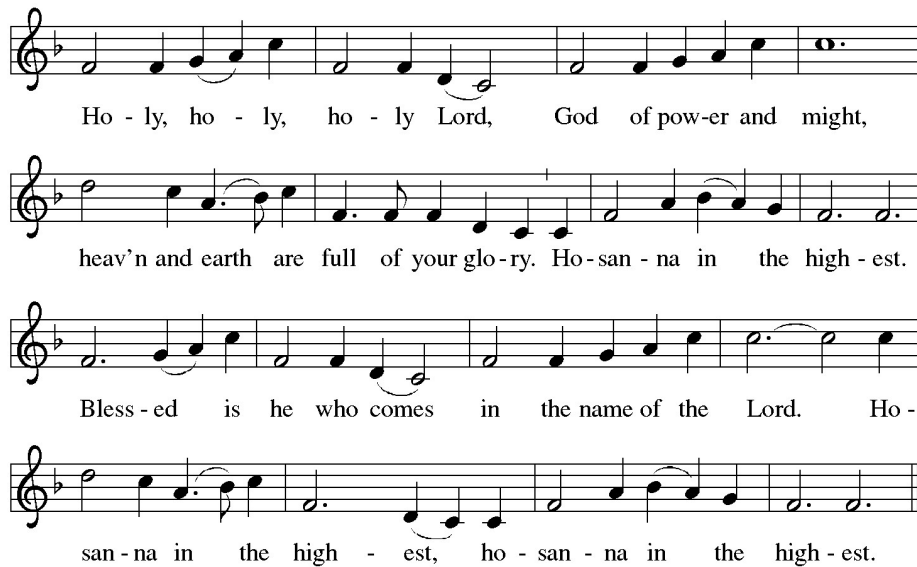
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.
Now we gather at your feast
where you offer us the food that satisfies.
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.
- C** Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P** 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
- 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, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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. *Matthew 6:9***

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Here is food and drink for the journey.
Take and be filled.

C Amen.

P Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.
(10:30 am Service)

The congregation is seated.

Today's service is a celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the gifts of bread and wine, bringing forgiveness of sins and new life to all who receive this sacrament. All baptized Christians who come at our Lord's invitation are welcome at His table of grace.

Please come forward by the center aisle and maintain appropriate physical distancing.

Receive the bread from the pastor then proceed to the assisting minister who will be holding a tray of cups with wine, and also cups with grape juice.

Take a cup and then return to your seat by the side aisle.

Gluten-free wafers are on the stand in front of the baptismal font.

If you are not going to receive Holy Communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.

COMMUNION

This 19th century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Luke 15:11-32, Jesus' parable of the prodigal son. Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 608

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☑ Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

☐ Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

☑ Amen.

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

BLESSING

☐ You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always.

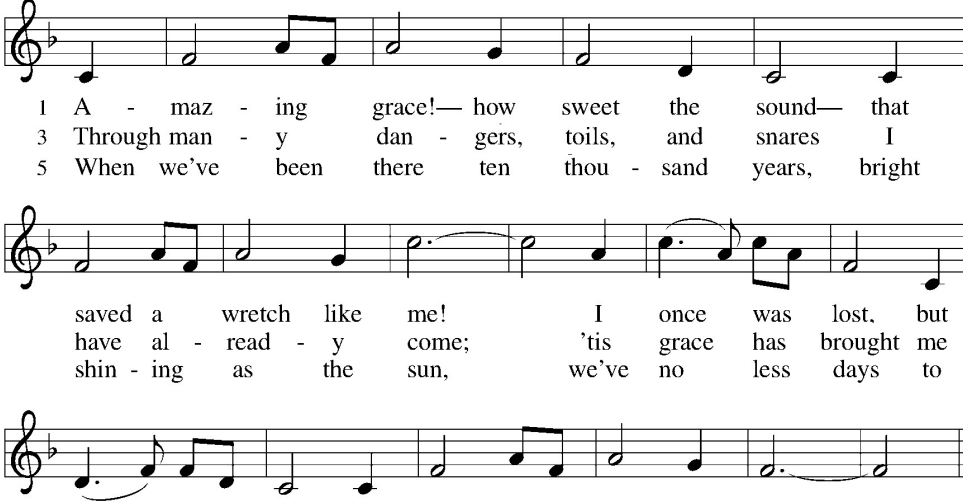
☑ Amen.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17: 16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

SENDING HYMN

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
5 When we’ve been there ten thou - sand years, bright
saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
have al - read - y come; ’tis grace has brought me
shin - ing as the sun, we’ve no less days to
now am found; was blind, but now I see.
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
sing God’s praise than when we’d first be - gun.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

G Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE – "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"
"Ukrainian National Anthem"

arr. Jack Schrader
Mykhaylo Verbytsky

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor Brian Moran

GREETERS – Vicky Blasco, Roberta Lobaugh (8:15 am)

Mary Daniels, Les Fobes, Jeanne Gaber, (10:30 am)

ASSISTING MINISTERS – Jan MacInnes (8:15 am)

Emma Chaffee (10:30 am)

LECTOR – Lois Smith (10:30 am)



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Robert Pletz, loving father and grandfather, by Julie and Jim Sturm, Jordan and Jimmy Sturm.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Bette Hoffman by the Spaulding family.

Columbarium flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Barb Holcomb.

Our love and sympathy is with the friends of Barb Holcomb who died Monday, March 21, 2022. Pastor Lundwall officiated at her memorial service held Friday, March 25 at Luther Memorial.

Satisfy your curiosity and come to our sale in memory of Barb Holcomb. Take what interests you and leave a donation to benefit our W/ELCA. The items will be available in the parlor today through Sunday, April 3. You are welcome to stop down during the week between 8:00am – 4:00pm as well.

Flyers listing possibilities for your Lenten disciplines are located at the welcome tables. Please pick one up and prayerfully consider how you will keep the season of Lent this year.

Today's Events

It's a Movie Day for our youth beginning at 11:30 this morning. A get-together to watch Princess Bride, make homemade pizzas, popcorn and have fun. Bring along something comfy to sit on; sleeping bags, pillows. The event will end at 3:00pm.

Worship

Lent is a more quiet and somber time than others in the church year. On Sunday mornings in Lent we will be intentionally extending the times of silence for your own reflection and prayer.

Lenten services are held each Wednesday in Lent at 12:05pm in the main church. Come join us in the observance of a holy Lent and be changed by the grace of God. Lenten meals will not be offered this year, but we are hopeful they will resume next year.

March 30 "Love Your Enemies"

Mr. Ron King

April 6 "Perfect Love Casts Out Fear"

Pastor Brian Moran

Volunteers who would like to take part in the 7:00pm Maundy Thursday service are asked to remain following the 10:30 service on Sunday, April 10. We will meet in the main church and review the procedure for Stripping the Altar. Please see Les Fobes with any questions.

Palm Sunday 10:30 worship service will begin with a processional using rhythm instruments led by our children. We hope many of our children will join us for this special service as we celebrate the day that Jesus entered Jerusalem. Please contact our church office or Beth Keller if your child(ren) would like to participate.

Volunteers are needed to welcome those attending worship on Sunday mornings for the 8:15 and 10:30am services. Please contact Norma, in the church office, if you would like to welcome our friends with a smile. Thank you.

Music Ministry

The time of Lent and the Passion have inspired a rich collection of Christian hymns and chorale tunes. Continue your Lenten journey with an hour of reflective piano music presented by Luther Memorial's Cantor, Walt Gaber, that will transport you through Christ's last days - known as his Passion. Central to the Christian faith is the miracle of the Resurrection celebrated in Easter - and Easter can only be fully understood in light of the preceding events, experiences and emotions of Christ and those around him. During this hour, you will hear many of our most well-known and well-loved hymns and chorales. They will be presented in piano settings by classic and contemporary composers in a variety of styles. Some will shed new light on these familiar tunes. Some will challenge your listening. Expect to have a more meaningful Easter through this brief time of personal musical and spiritual reflection as we begin Holy Week on Sunday, April 10 at 7:00pm. The program will also be livestreamed on the Luther Memorial YouTube channel.

The **Luther Memorial Choir** and **Handbell Choir** have resumed rehearsals on Thursdays. Handbells practice at 6:00pm with the choir practicing at 7:00pm. Please contact Walt Gaber (WaltGaber@gmail.com; 814.602.2755) if you are interested in joining us as we prepare for Holy Week and the Easter season.

Christian Education

Children's Church classes are held Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15am in the classroom next to fellowship hall. Masks are worn and all safety protocols are followed. We hope to see many of our children join us. Our class schedule is as follows:

- Pre-K and Kindergarten – first Sunday of the month (April 3)
- Grades 1-3 – second Sunday of the month (April 10)
- LYO – third Sunday of the month (April 17; not in session)
- Grades 4-6 – fourth Sunday of the month (March 27)**

First Holy Communion classes continue to be held each Sunday morning at 9:30 through April 10. Students will receive their First Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14, at the 7:00pm service.

Luther Memorial Church's 7th, 8th and 9th graders will be attending **Confirmation Camp at Camp Lutherlyn** from June 19 to June 24, 2022. Information has been sent to all parents and students about the details of Confirmation Camp. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

Luther Memorial Church's 10th grade students will prepare for their confirmation and gather for classes beginning Sunday, April 24 through Sunday, May 22 from 11:30am – 1:00pm. These youth will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday during the 10:30am service, on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Magic Fingers Grace Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00-11:30am. Fill your Easter basket with spring colored yarn, hop over and join us on April 12. 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.

Youth Event

Youth will spruce up the outside grounds of Luther Memorial and nearby area on Sunday, April 3 from 11:30am-12:30pm. Help us do a little raking, picking up trash and brighten up our church for spring.

Supporting our Youth

Fundraisers continue to help offset the church cost of Confirmation Camp for our youth. We invite you to stop by the youth table in the parlor area and browse the wide assortment of items to order; dips from Gourmet Creations, Cookie Cards from Ye Ole Sweet Shoppe, Tropical Sweet Heat sauce from Hot Diggity Pepper Company, and hamloaf for your Easter dinner.

Summer Camp

Register for a great week of summer fun at Camp Lutherlyn. There are camps available for every interest from Horse Camp to Rocketry to Arts & Music. Even the youngest can attend Small Fry Days and the entire family can enjoy Family Camp. Flyers are available at the welcome tables.

Military Outreach

Military Care Packages are being prepared to be sent to our servicemen and women. Donations and cards may be placed in the marked boxes in the parlor area. Homemade cookies may be dropped off in the church office, marked "military". Monetary donations are appreciated to help with the shipping cost. Please help us support our troops with some gifts from home and prayers for their safe return. **A list of needed items can be found at the welcome table. Donations will be accepted from through April 2. A drive-by drop off at the church will be held April 2 from 10:00-11:00am.**

Support for Ukraine

To offer support to people in Ukraine donations may be made to the following organizations:

- Lutheran Disaster Response at www.ldr.org or call 800-638-3522
- Lutheran World Relief at www.lwr.org
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service at www.lirs.org

If you would prefer to place your donation in the offering this morning, please mark it Ukraine and we will send all donations to Lutheran Disaster Response. Thank you.

The Grace Slavic Pentecostal Church located on Carriage Hill Drive in Erie wanted to create a reliable place where the community can donate towards Ukraine. This humanitarian effort is currently providing support to the refugees that have left Ukraine. Information on ways to donate, as well as their newsletter and videos, can be found on their website at <https://linktr.ee/ErieForUkraine>.

Save the Date

St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 940 E. 22nd Street, will be closing. A definite date for the closing has not yet been determined. Pastor Owen Rhodes and St. Stephen's congregation would like to invite you to their 10:30am worship service on Sunday, May 1, with special music and keynote speakers, followed by a Farewell Luncheon at 12:00 noon. Reservations are necessary for the luncheon; please RSVP to 814-456-0121 (messages can be left) or saint10@verizon.net.

Luther Memorial Church Policy

Masking at Luther Memorial Church is now optional. Masking recommendations will be revisited monthly and changes made if community numbers increase. We continue to respect your choice for physical distancing. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our 8:15 worship service will return to the Chapel beginning Sunday, April 24, the first Sunday after Easter.

In Case of Emergency

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday ~ April 10



8:15am Worship – *Main Church*
 9:30am First Holy Communion Class
 Children’s Church / Grades 1st – 3rd
 10:30am Worship – *Main Church*
 Children’s Processional
 4:00pm ReCharge Contemporary Service
 7:00pm Journey to the Cross – Piano Reflections
 on the Passion of Christ
 Cantor Walt Gaber, pianist
 Main Church

Maundy Thursday ~ April 14



7:00pm Worship ~ *Main Church*
 First Holy Communion Students
 commune / Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday ~ April 15



7:00pm Tenebrae Service
 Main Church

Easter Sunday ~ April 17



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

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 28

TUESDAY, MARCH 29 8:45am LMA Buddy Program
 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group
 5:30pm Call Committee

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 12:05pm Lenten Worship Service
 Newsletter Mailing

THURSDAY, MARCH 31 6:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 10:00am Military Drop-off

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022 THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Michael Snider will preach at the 8:15 and 10:30am worship services in the main church. The 10:30am service is live streamed on our church YouTube Channel; go to YouTube, in the search bar type in “Luther Memorial Church, Erie, PA”. Subscribe to the channel. **The recorded service** is also available on Luther Memorial Church’s website at www.luthermemorialonline.org by clicking on the tabs of “Resources & Online Worship” and “Sunday Morning Worship, Daily Prayer and Bible Study”.

Children’s Church for Prek – Kdg. children will gather at 9:30am.

First Holy Communion class will be held at 9:30am.

Youth Outdoor Clean-up at Luther Memorial at 11:30am.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Ministers	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Stan Rose
Lay Distributors	8:15am	Roberta Lobaugh
	10:30am	Linda Graffius
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Dave Griswold

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Sarah Prylinski	Dorothy Overberg	Judy Crissman	Cathy MacGregor
Mike Daniels	Dorothy Respecki	Lois Fobes	Bill Grande
Elaine Kern	David Ruler	Jessica Copfer	Peyton Thomas
Joyce Zwilling	Mark Howell	Laura Beth Kraut	Shirley Brown
Bev Held	Suzanne Franks	Linda Soles	Mark Lechner
Rosanne & Roy Strausbaugh	Dave Mumford	Kathy & Ken Kraut	Nancy Downey
Julie, AJ, baby Gigi Chandler	Matt Kinzig	Brent Young	Dave Kinzig
Bob Banks			

Friends and Family:

Cecily & Addison DeMille	Patty Chadwick	Bob Sadowski	Bobbi MacInnes
Frank Nalepa	Kristen	Larry E.	Kirsten Braley
Bob	Amy Valentine	Jesse McFadden	Abby
John & Naomi Howard	Ed Hokaj	Josie W.	Ray Polasky
Marianella	Linda Grimm	Gayle Rumbaugh	Shelly
Kim Robertson	Edna Pett	Bea Becknell	Shaffer family
Eli Martinez Montero	Aahron	Kimberly Ferry	Juan Esparza
Amanda, Joe & Mitchell S.	Clarice Moore	Don Ingraham	Bob Guenther
Linda & Woody F.	Julie Pond	David	Debbie S.
Steven & Ally Soltesz	Paul Spierling	Frank S.	Mitch Dougan
Mike Cesnick & family	Ben Young	Pamela Hagele	Pam Torrelli
Chet & Pam W.	Bill	John Shafer	Norman Jensen
N. S.	Aiden Mack	Marie Checkley	Kim Hunkins
Tom Ridge	Ethan Polasky	Julie	Betsy
Laurie, Eric & family	Tom Kraut	Kayley Prinzi	Amy
Brandon Jones	Bruce Elfvin	Clarence Chase	Dick Lechner
Christian	Jeff F.	Sue Kuhn	Amanda Toms
Brandon & Stacey Campbell	Paula and Chet Bixby	Pete Battersby	Sue Gerke
Tom McGrail	Judy Skoog	Dr. Carl Seon	Sam Ruma
Missy & Jeff	Kathy Kisak	Sophia	Lesley
Jim Haskins	Dennis Chevalier	Patrick L	Paula Bauda
Marilyn Schultz	Ron Trisket	Sidney	Loraine Pond
Allison & Erick	Bryan & Bev	Judy Oosterkamp	Marianella
Carolyn & Viktor Soder	Meghan Kessler	Jennifer Bluey	Jim Schumacher
Bishop Michael Lozano	Lucas Smith	Steve & Leah W.	Scott Respecki
Mike & Paula Lombardozzi family	Bonnie Ford	Jim Sturm	Amy & Nate
Eli Martinez Montero	William Lemmon	Rev. Ralph Storm	Kevin
Brendon Sauers & Carol Stinson	Jim Berger		

Our Military Service Men & Women:

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