

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



30 JULY 2023
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 am

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

WALT GABER

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL

THE REV. KAREN PARSH

Pastors in Residence

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

Director of Care & Health Ministries

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

BETH KELLER & SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

30 JULY 2023

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting One • 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 – Medley of Well-Known Hymn Tunes

arr. Cindy Berry

Be Thou My Vision

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

How Firm a Foundation

Beautiful Savior

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 FORGIVENESS

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

☐ In the name of God who is Source, + Sun, and Seed.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name.

☑ **Amen.**

☐ If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ►

P Most Merciful God,
C We confess that we are captive to sin
 and cannot free ourselves.
 We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed;
 by what we have done
 and by what we have left undone.
 We have not loved you with our whole heart,
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
 For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us.
 Forgive us.
 Renew us.
 And lead us.
 That we may delight in your will
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your Holy Name.
 Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us; and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Text and music for this hymn were written by a contemporary liturgical composer, workshop presenter, and performing musician who graduated from Luther College in 1984. Much of his work has proved enormously popular in Roman Catholic churches. He has published over 250 pieces and twenty-four recordings.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 532

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream - ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

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

Laban deceives Jacob by giving his older daughter, Leah, to Jacob in marriage instead of the promised younger daughter, Rachel. Because of his love for Rachel, Jacob agrees to work for Laban for an additional seven years so that he may also be married to her.

FIRST READING: Genesis 29:15-28

¹⁵Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah’s eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” ²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” ²⁶Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” ²⁸Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 128

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



¹ Happy are they all who fear the Lord,
and who follow in God’s ways!

² You shall eat the fruit of your labor;
happiness and prosperity shall be yours. **R**

³ Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house,
your children like olive shoots round about your table.

⁴ The one who fears the Lord
shall thus indeed be blessed.

⁵ The Lord bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

⁶ May you live to see your children’s children;
may peace be upon Israel. **R**

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

☒ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

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

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able.

In this hymn, Delores Dufner brings a fresh perspective to familiar parables of the kingdom of God, emphasizing its surprising and unexpected nature. God's reign is not triumphalistic or dominating but persistent and liberating. The contemporary text is set to DUNLAP'S CREEK, a nineteenth-century shape-note tune that gives it joy and openness. This hymn may be used whenever the parables it references appear in the lectionary, on Christ the King, or whenever the worshiping assembly needs to renew its attention to the small seeds of God's reign.

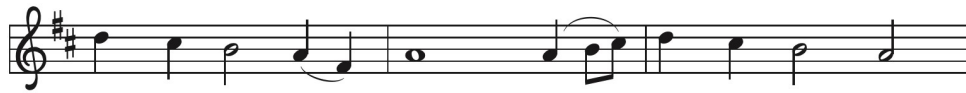
HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 952

The Reign of God Like Farmer's Field



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816
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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** Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.
- A brief silence.*
- A** Almighty God, we pray for the church and all servants of the gospel. Equip rostered and lay ministers to proclaim that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Form confirmands and catechumens into disciples. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**
- A** Gracious God, we pray for the well-being of creation. Safeguard the environment, clean polluted rivers and lakes, preserve the mighty tree and the tiny mustard seed, and send advocates for sustainable practices. Hear us, O God.
- C** **Your mercy is great.**



A Compassionate God, we pray for the nations. Instill in all who govern the ability to discern between good and evil, free those who are oppressed, and protect those facing danger. Promote peace across the world and in our towns and neighborhoods. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Merciful God, we pray for all in any need. Protect those fleeing from war, shelter any who are in poverty, clothe the naked, soothe all who grieve, and heal the sick. We pray for Abbie, Winnie, Shirley, Marilyn, Debbie, Elizabeth, Craig, Mark, John, Michael, Mary, Archer, Carol, Elayne, John, Nichole, Melissa, Kevin, Karen, Jean, Kate, Roger, Bob, Diane, Dean, Susan, Ian, Bernie, Branden, Caitlyn, Meghan, Bonnie, Michele, Cindy, Matt, Ben, Michael, Andrew, Alli and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Holy God, we pray for this congregation, both those gathered today and those absent from our assembly. Grant safety to travelers and refreshment and safety for children attending summer camps or community programs. Give direction to any experiencing life transitions. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Eternal God, we give thanks for your saints, especially the Becker and Benacci families and Barbara Braley, who now rest from their labors. Inspire us by their witness to treasure the gospel, and continually nourish us with your grace. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

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

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An Individual Silent Prayer as We Prepare to Make our Offering:

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

VOLUNTARY – "Let All Things Now Living"

arr. Cindy Berry

Please stand as you are able.

Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
 who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
 still guides us on to the end of our days.
 God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
 fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
 till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
 for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.
 Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
 Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of field and forest, sea and sky,
 you are the giver of all good things.
 Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
 and multiply your graciousness in us,
 that the world may be fed with your love,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

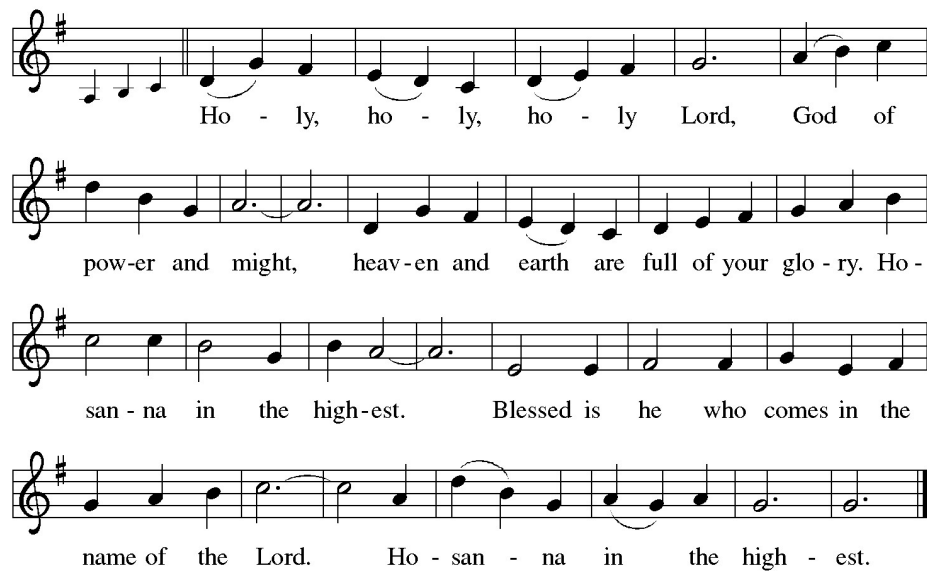
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P Sovereign God, you foreknew us, before the universe was created. In Abraham and Moses you called us to be your people. You predestined us through the power of your Holy Spirit to be conformed to the image of the Crucified-Risen One. In Jesus you justified us by your grace, and on the last day you will glorify us to life with you forever. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You, Lord God, are like a merchant who sacrifices everything because you above all want us, your pearl, buried in the world's field. And in that field you also grow grain and grape to feed us from your heart now and forever. Come among us now through the power of your Spirit, that we may be transformed into your likeness, and that these gifts of bread and wine may become for us the body and blood of Jesus; who

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.*



☐ Great is the mystery of faith:

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

☐ Everlasting God, you have promised that nothing can separate us from your love. Be with your children who know hardship, distress, or persecution; visit your beloved who experience famine, nakedness, peril, or sword; abide with us in death, as in life; give us nothing to fear from angels or ruler, from things present, or things to come, or in the face of powers, or height, or depth, or anything else in all creation. Knowing that you did not withhold your own Son, but gave him up for all of us, inscribe in us faith that you will with him bestow upon us everything else as well. We pray in union with Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, and intercedes with sighs too deep for words, Great Creator, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

☐ 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.**

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, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat and drink what is good.

☐ Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

The congregation is seated.

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast!
We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.*

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available for those who need them; please let the pastor know.

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

*All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine,
please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.*

The composer describes this hymn text as "the outpouring of my heart in Christ."

*It appeared on the front cover of *The Hymn*, published by the Hymn Society of America.*

The tune is a French church melody, designated to be sung in procession on the feast of Corpus Christi.

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 402

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ



1 E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ, I know not how to
2 Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your
3 Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need to serve my God and



ask or what to say; I on - ly know my need, as deep as life,
pur - pose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done a - miss;
all hu - man - i - ty; ful - fill - ment of my life in love out-poured:



and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
my life in you, O Christ, your love in me. A - men.

Text: Frank von Christerson, 1900–1996

Music: ADORO TE DEVOTE, plainsong mode V; *Processionale*, Paris, 1697

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A pastor of the ELCA, Rev. Susan Briehl was ordained in 1981. She has also been a program associate at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, IL. Rev. Briehl holds both a B.A. and an M.A. in English from Washington State University and a Master of Divinity from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA. She has written numerous books, hymns, and worship songs.

ELW 469

By Your Hand You Feed Your People



1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

☐ May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you to everlasting life.

☑ Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 881

Let All Things Now Living



2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re -
 joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise
 till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To
 God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt.
 Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
 Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** We thank you, generous God,
 for the refreshment we have received
 at your banquet table.
 Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
 through the one who is our dearest treasure,
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** Amen.

Please be seated.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

- P** The God who calls across the cosmos
 and speaks in the smallest seed
 ☩ bless, keep, and sustain you
 now and to the end of the age.
- C** Amen.

Text for this hymn comes from the pen of a distinguished American cleric, who wrote it for the opening of Riverside Church in New York City, which the congregation had built at his request. The composer of the tune was a Welsh coal miner and churchman, and the tune name honors his lifelong home, the Rhondda Valley, Glamorganshire, Wales. The tune was written for a singing festival in Wales, and in the first 25 years of the 20th century it was used in over five thousand such festivals.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 705

God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A Go in peace. Share the harvest.
- B Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "God of Grace and God of Glory"

arr. Paul Manz

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 by worship leaders from September 1, 2022 through November 30, 2025.*

— **SERVING TODAY** —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

GREETER – Stan Rose

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Emma Chaffee

LECTOR – Linda Melaragno

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Ann Flick

ALTAR GUILD – Loretta Deeds

USHERS – Martha & Tom Klomp, Carl Moore, Mary Mumford



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of the Becker and Benacci families by Nancy and Rob Benacci.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Barbara Braley, Donna Sedelmyer's sister, who died Wednesday, June 26.

Today's Events

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.

Get your car washed this morning following service from 11:30am – 12:30pm. Youth will be ready and waiting for you in our parking lot near the school playground to wash the dust and grime off your car.

Worship

Service of Healing will be held in Faith Chapel on Wednesday, August 9 at 7:00pm. Join together in a service of Holy Communion with prayer and anointing for healing.

Worship Leader Information Sessions are offered Sunday after each worship service. Brochures explaining the worship opportunities are located at the hospitality tables and in the church office. See the brochure for the sessions you might be interested in. Attendance is not mandatory but is strongly encouraged to ensure you are up-to-date on our shared worship practices. We will also be making a rotation for scheduling purposes from those in attendance.

*Today after worship, those who are currently serving as and are interested in **ASSISING MINISTERS** will meet. Following the 8:15 service, please meet Pastor Jay in the front two rows of Faith Chapel after the Postlude. Following the 10:30 service please meet in the main church.*

Blessing of the Backpacks, our school bound students and teachers will be offered during worship services on Sunday, August 27. We would like to send you off with lots of prayer and many blessings. Bring your backpack and get a tag. The tag will remind you that God is with you throughout the day and school year.

The Prelude brings us together for the beginning of our worship service each Sunday morning. Our worship time together concludes when the Postlude is complete. We ask that the chancel area remain unoccupied during these times of music as live video streaming continues through the entire worship service. Thank you.

Stump the Pastor

You will notice a stand in the parlor lobby with many tree stumps on it. You (whoever you are of all ages) are invited to use these to try and stump Pastor Jay. You may ask your question anonymously or you can put your name on the stump. Either way, look for Pastor Jay's response once your stump "sprouts" a tree!

Where Is Pastor Jay?

Pastor Jay would love to meet with you! You don't just need to have an emergency to have a great chat. If you want to get together, because Pastor Jay is often away from his desk doing other pastorly things, you should probably call the church office or e-mail Pastor Jay directly at JMitchell@LutherMemorialOnline.org. However, if you just want to drop in on him, for the week of July 30, Pastor Jay's drop-in hours will be Monday from 9-10:30am at the Topsy Bean OR Tuesday from 3-4:30pm in the church office.

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will be venturing to the Arundel Winery, 11727 E Main St, North East, on Tuesday, August 15. Join us for a delicious lunch and beautiful scenery from 11:30am – 1:00pm. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes by Friday, August 11.

Magic Fingers Grace Group has a great way to beat the summer heat; join us in the parlor the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month for knitting and crocheting. We'll gather August 8 and 22 from 10:00am-12:00 noon for a wonderful morning and hope to see you. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Paving Project

Parking has improved dramatically with the addition and improvements made over the last few weeks. We continue to ask for your financial support as our Capital Campaign moves forward. Additional commitments are needed as we look to fulfilling our financial goal. Your help and all that you do at Luther Memorial is appreciated; thank you.

Look What's Coming

ALT Worship (*A Lutheran Table*) will be offered on the first Wednesday of every month beginning September 6 at 5:30pm for a new worship experience. The service will be about 60 minutes and center around sharing a meal. We will begin by preparing the meal and the worship space together and end with dessert and clean-up. All part of the worship experience. We will also share in Communion. Come on out for something new and a unique encounter with the Divine!

Indoor Yard Sale will be held Saturday, September 9 from 8:00am – 1:00pm in our fellowship hall. Items for the sale may be dropped off beginning August 13. Books, TV's or large electronic items and soft furniture will not be accepted. C'mon down and catch the great deals!

Cash Bingo is scheduled for Friday, September 15. Doors open at 5:30pm with Bingo held from 6:00 – 9:00pm. All games are cash prizes of \$50. Tickets are \$20 each and available on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.

The month of October promises to be lots of fun with our Family Scavenger Hunt on Sunday October 1 and Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 22. There's always something happening at Luther Memorial!

Items to Note

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

In case of an emergency 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 or Linda Graffius at 440-5458. Thank you.

WEEKLY READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

July 31 – Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:25-36; James 2:13-18

August 1 – Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 20:37-43; Ephesians 6:10-18

August 2 – Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 46:2-47:12; Mark 4:30-34

August 3 – Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 14:1-12; Philippians 4:10-15

August 4 – Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 41:8-10; Romans 9:6-13

August 5 – Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 31:1-21; Matthew 7:7-11

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JULY 31

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

3:00pm

Prayer Group

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023 THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Liz Stroup
Communion Assistant	10:30am	Pam Masiroff
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Jeff Swanson
Counters	10:30am	Dave Griswold, Mike Hedlund

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon	Winnie Lyons	Shirley Brown	Marilyn Bohn
Friends and Family:			
Debbie	Elayne Morphy	Kate Collins	Bernie Wiest
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie	John Semonis	Roger Smith	Branden Jones
Mark Smith	Nichole Jones	Bob Guenther	Caitlyn Kessler
John Varner	Melissa Pierce	Diane Henry	Meghan Kessler
Michael Collins & Mary	Kevin	Dean Scalise	Bonnie Ford
Baby Archer Bardwell	Karen Chilcote	Susan Brooks	Michele Seifert
Carol E.	Jean C.	Ian Minner	Cindy Hessinger
Grief:			
Barbara Braley family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			



ERIE GIVES DAY 2023

Your Opportunity to Help a Non-Profit

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 8:00am – 8:00pm
12 Hours of Giving

Day and Time: The online event takes place on August 8. You have 12 hours to make your donation between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm.

Participating Nonprofits: Your organization must be a 501(c)(3), serve Erie County and either be a member of [The Nonprofit Partnership](#) or have an Agency Endowment with the Erie Community Foundation to participate in Erie Gives. **Luther Memorial Church, Luther Memorial Academy and Bethany Outreach Center appreciate your support.**

Gift Amount: The minimum gift is \$25. There is no limit to the amount of money you may give. There is no limit to the number of organizations you can donate to in a transaction.

Making a Donation: Simply log on to www.eriegives.org or call the Erie Community Foundation at 454-0843.

Credit Cards: Only Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover will be accepted. The credit card processor charges a nominal fee per transaction. The Erie Community Foundation does not receive any fees. (Credit card gift cards will not be accepted.)

Checks: Donors can write a check for their Erie Gives donation.

- Checks must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation;
- All check donations must be accompanied by a Check Donation Form. The Check Donation Form will be available for download beginning June 8, 2023. A Check Donation Form can be mailed to you by contacting the Foundation and requesting this;
- Checks must be delivered to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) no later than Monday, August 7, 2023.

Prorated Match: The Erie Community Foundation and our sponsors will enhance each donor's gift by providing a prorated match to each gift made to a nonprofit.

Your Receipt: You will receive an email receipt of your gift; please retain it for tax purposes. Unless you choose to remain anonymous, your donor information will be sent to the appropriate organizations.

ERIE GIVES CHECK CONTRIBUTION FORM

Please make checks payable to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th Street, Erie, PA 16507) and deliver with this completed form no later than August 8, 2023.



By writing a check to The Erie Community Foundation 100% of your donation will be given to your designated nonprofit(s).

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED.

Donor First Name(s): _____

Donor Last Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Your email is collected for receipt purposes only.

Check Number: _____ Contribution Total: _____

Please list how you wish to be identified in print: _____

Example: Jayne & John Doe | John Doe | Anonymous

Does your employer match donations? Yes No Company Name: _____

Please note, the employee is responsible for completing the employer's company match paperwork.

Erie Gives Nonprofit Name (s) <small>All nonprofits listed below must be listed on the Erie Gives website</small>	Gift Amount <small>\$25 minimum</small>

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received: Mail In-Person Information Verified Entered