

*Welcome to*  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
*of the Erie Lutheran Parish*



24 NOVEMBER 2024  
The Reign of Christ  
10:30 am

## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

### LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

*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*

## WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

+ If you have a need to **children's** bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.

- Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for “Handicap Bathroom.” Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshipping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

**24 NOVEMBER 2024**

**THE REIGN OF CHRIST**

**Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Four • 10:30**

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

**PRELUDE – “Lead on, Oh King Eternal”**

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**

M. Helman

P. Manz

## Lift High the Cross

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956  
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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## 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of 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.*

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

### FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

<sup>9</sup>As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One sat on the throne, whose clothing was white as snow, and the hair of whose head like pure wool; whose throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued and flowed out from the presence of the Ancient One, whom a thousand thousands served, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood in attendance. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. <sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One before whom he was presented. <sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his reign is one that shall never be destroyed.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: Psalm 93 (tune: FESTAL SONG)

1. You are the Ruler, Lord, in glorious robes arrayed;  
arrayed in glory, clad in strength, in majesty displayed.
2. You set the world in place by your most sure command;  
your throne has stood, eternal Lord, since first the world began.
3. The floods lift up their voice, lift up their pounding waves,  
but mightier than the flood is God who dwells on high and saves.
4. Your testimonies, Lord, are fixed most certainly,  
and holiness adorns your house for all eternity.

### SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4b-8

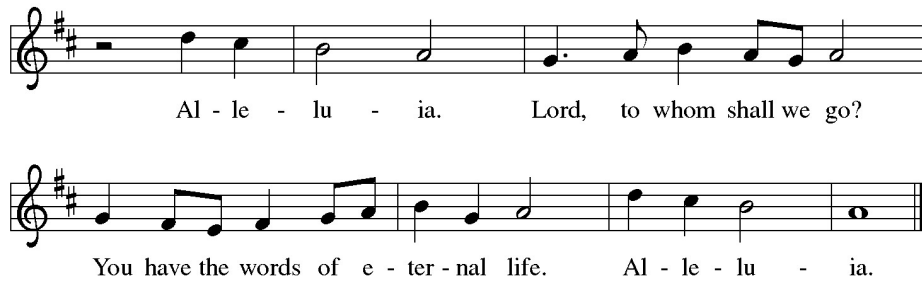
<sup>4b</sup>Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before God's throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the rulers of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup>and made us a dominion, priests serving his God and Father, to Jesus Christ be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen. <sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>33</sup>Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, “I am not Jewish, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?”

<sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Judean authorities. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Pastor Moran

*Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 855

### Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave time,  
5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,  
hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4  
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## NICENE CREED

**A** Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith of the Church:

**C** We believe in one God,  
 the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth,  
 of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 of one Being with the Father;  
 through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
 he came down from heaven,  
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
 and became truly human.  
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
 he suffered death and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again  
 in accordance with the scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

*You may kneel, sit, or stand as is your custom.*

- A** Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.  
*A brief silence.*
- A** Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders who teach and serve your people. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf. Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration. Empower activists who advocate for change. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons. Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** In your eternal presence the saints, especially Robert Pletz and Harriet Engesser, sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C** **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

- P** The peace of the Lord is with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

**MEAL – “God feeds us with Jesus Christ.”**



## **THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED**

*An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Additionally, you may visit <https://bit.ly/LMCDonate> or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.*

**ANTHEM – “One Faith, One Hope, One Lord”**

C. Courtney

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY (*The Doxology with Alleluias*)

Thomas Ken, 1709 Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly  
Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Free © Oxford University Press  
153 x 215 cm

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

**C** Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

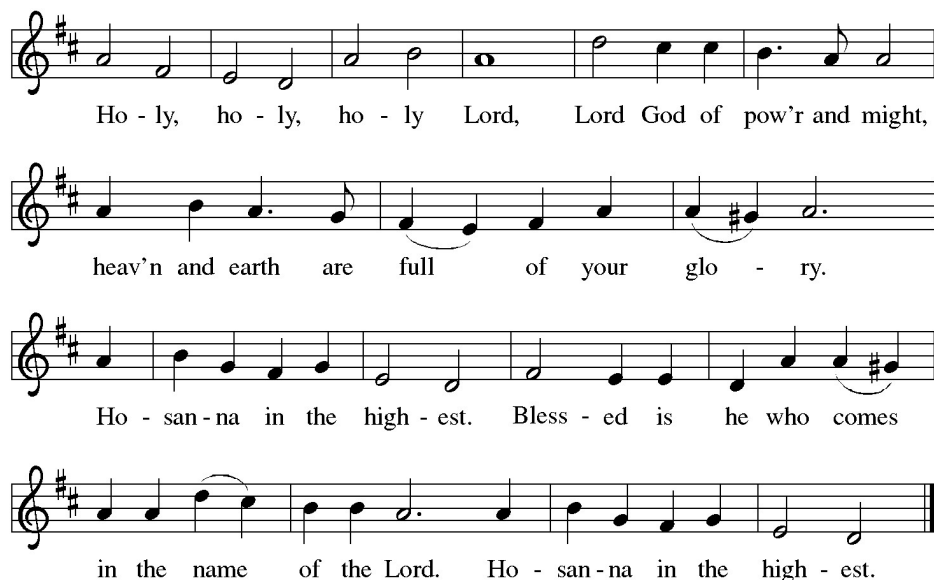
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

**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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who enthroned forever at your right hand intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P** We bless you, O God, Sovereign of all things, Might of the ages. We your people praise your mystery, ever one, always three. O radiant Source of creation, you brought light out of darkness. Planets and stars, plants and animals receive their life from your throne. Apostles, monarchs, parents, children; your dominion enlivens us all. We praise your majestic power, saying,

**C** **Blessing and glory to you, O God.**

**P** O Christ Jesus, Ruler and Guide, you call us to follow your path. Your scepter is your hand reaching out to the needy. We bow before you, enthroned on the cross. We laud your supreme mercy, saying,

**C** **Wisdom and thanks to you, O God.**

*On the night before he died,  
our Lord Jesus Christ 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 remember his life of service, his suffering and death, and his rising to eternal life. We acclaim the reign of Christ our King, saying,

**C** **Honor to you, O God.**

**P** O Spirit, our supreme Defender, transform this meal into the banquet of life. Gather all the sick and the poor into your palace of safekeeping. Govern the nations with your justice and peace. We plead for your surpassing grace, saying,

**C** **Power and might to you, O God.**

**P** O God the Father, you uphold the universe that you create; O God the Son, you are crowned with compassion for all; O God the Spirit, you protect your saints with arms of love. We praise you today, tomorrow, and forever.

**C** **Amen.**



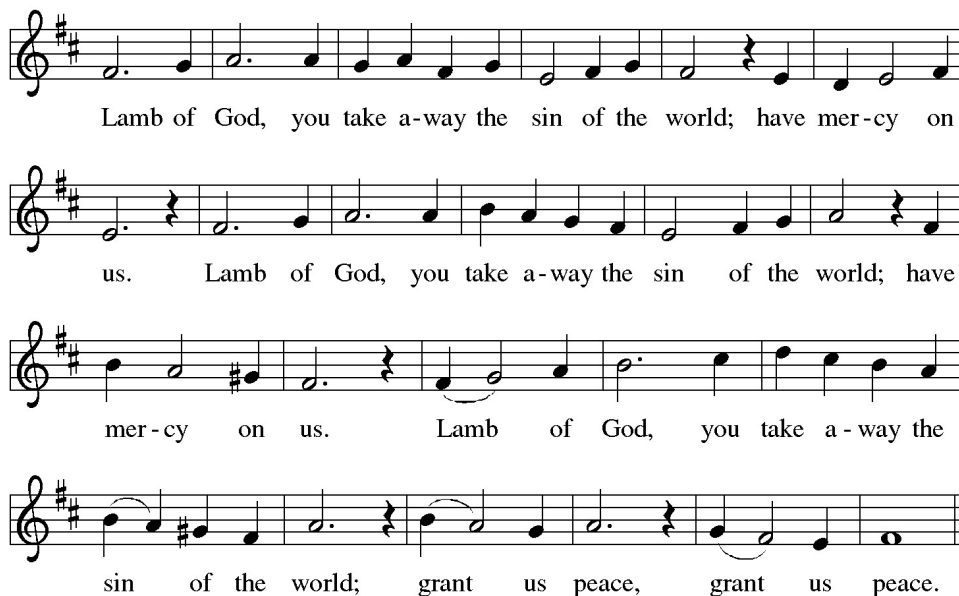
## LORD'S PRAYER

☐ 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



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

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

*The congregation is seated.*

## THE 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.*

*Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available;  
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.*

## HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ELW 431

### O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -

king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
all, you said the first must be the last and  
nown; you died for us up - on a cross with

praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
we might rise and live. To break the law of  
ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the

glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
 death you came, the law of love to bring: a  
 church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
 span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for

walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
 dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous-ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902  
 Text © 2001, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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ELW 432

## The Head That Once Was Crowned

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;  
 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov - reign right,  
 3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low  
 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;

a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.  
 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.  
 to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;  
 their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below;  
 they reign with him above;  
 their profit and their joy to know  
 the myst'ry of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,  
 though shame and death to him;  
 his people's hope, his people's wealth,  
 their everlasting theme!

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855  
 Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669-1707

*You may remain seated until after the announcements.*

## TABLE BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, keep you in all goodness and health, and bring you to everlasting life.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION

**P** Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth from this table to share your word and sacrament with those of our community who are not here. In your loving care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts that the Meal we have shared here may be extended for our siblings who are not here.

**C** We who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup. Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Let us pray: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**BLESSING**

☐ The Ancient One, enthroned, ✠ the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, bless you now and forever.

☑ Amen.

**SENDING HYMN**

**ELW 439**

**Soon and Very Soon**



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
3 No more dy - in' there,  
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE – “Soon and Very Soon”

B. Wolaver

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### — SERVING TODAY —

*PRESIDING MINISTER* – Pastor Brian Moran

*ACOLYTES* – Evelyn & Ella Graffius

*CRUCIFER* – Gia Fracassi

*ASSISTING MINISTER* – Chloe Meucci

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT* – Jeanne Gaber

*LECTOR* – Karen Lundwall

*ALTAR GUILD* – Martha & Tom Klomp

*USHERS* – Cathy Beck, Jessica Copfer, Carl Moore, Mary Mumford

*VIDEO STREAMING* – Beth Keller



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my husband, Robert Pletz, by Betty.

**Front lectern flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my aunt, Helen Engesser, by Harriet DiAndrea.

### Today's Events

**Offering envelopes** for 2025 are located on the table by the ramp door. To save on postage we ask that you please pick up your envelopes. They are arranged alphabetically. Thank you.

**St. Lucia rehearsals** will be held this morning at 11:30. The St. Lucia Festival will be held Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm with a reception following. Our children will have a wonderful time taking part in this annual and joyful festival.

**Christmas cheer** monetary donations would be appreciated in the coming weeks as we prepare to assist families in our church and school. If you would like to make a donation please place your gift in the offering plate marked “Christmas Cheer” or drop off in our church office. Thank you for your kindness in helping to make Christmas a little more cheery for some families and friends.

**Desk calendars** for 2025, compliments of Burton, Quinn, Scott Funeral Home, are available at the welcome tables so you can begin scheduling all your upcoming events. Please feel free to take as many as you wish.

**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.

### Christian Education

**Brown Bag Bible** will gather each Wednesday in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our topic is: *O Word of God Incarnate*. We will not meet on November 27.

**Book Group**, Paging Through with Pastor Jay, will meet the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. Our next gathering will be January 13.

**B.A.D. (Bible After Dark)** gathers at Calamari's the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book Context by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

## **Worship Matters**

**The Reign of Christ** (officially called the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, Sovereign of the Universe) is the most recent festival to be put on the Church's calendar. While so many of our festivals, feasts, and fasts come from long traditions of celebration: of events in Jesus' life, of people in the Bible, of anniversaries in the Church, The Reign of Christ (or Christ the King, or whatever you would like to call it) was only added to the calendar in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. It was originally an October festival but was moved during the liturgical reforms of the 1970s to the last Sunday of the Church Year. The focus of the feast was meant in its inception to juxtapose the reign of Christ and the way of Christianity with fascism, secularism, and ultra-nationalism that was rising around the world. On this day, when we celebrate the ultimate power of God in Christ over all of creation, we hear in the gospel from the moments of Christ's ultimate weakness in the Passion. No matter the year, the Gospel for this feast is not one of bombastic, temporal, military, or even earthly power but rather power in weakness with scenes from the Passion or of Jesus identifying with the "least of these." We are called upon on this Sunday to consider what it means to follow our servant-savior, the King who reigns from the cross, and how that shapes the ways we live in the world.

## **Opportunities for Fellowship**

**Come and join** us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; November 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.

**OWLS** will visit Penn State Planetarium on Wednesday, December 4 at 11:00am. Jim Gavio, Director of the Yahn Planetarium will share the Mystery of the Christmas Star. The program takes viewers on a journey to discover a scientific explanation for the star the Wisemen followed to find Baby Jesus. Cost of this event is \$4/person and due prior to December 4. A map showing where the Planetarium is on campus and parking permits are available from Jan MacInnes or the church office. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office no later than November 27.

**OWLS** annual Christmas party will be held Wednesday, December 18 in the parlor. Join us from 11:00am – 1:00pm for a festive holiday gathering complete with carols accompanied by our cantor, Bryan Timm. The main dish for lunch will be provided; all are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. In the spirit of giving a collection will be taken which will be given to the ELCA Good Gifts Program. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes by Friday, December 6.

## **Christmas Preparations**

**Hanging of the Greens** is coming up on Sunday, December 1; the First Sunday in Advent. Plan to join us following each service as we trim trees and prepare our church for a joyful Christmas. There is something for everyone in the family to help decorate.

**Christmas cookie coffee hour** will be held following each service on Sunday, December 1. Join us for some delicious holiday cookies, fellowship and decorating. It is sure to be a festive morning.

**St. Lucia** will be presented at Luther Memorial on Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm in our main church with a reception following in fellowship hall. Rehearsals will be held this morning and Sunday, December 1. Please contact Lena Donnelly at 814-403-7825 with any questions.

**Blue Christmas Service** will be offered Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00pm in our main church. For many the holidays are a difficult time, and we invite you to join us for this special service to hear a message of hope and love. The service will be live streamed and will also be available on our website the following day.

**Family Christmas Pageant** will be presented on Sunday, December 15 at the 10:30am service. We are looking forward to our families taking part in our pageant. Please join us.

**Cheer baskets** will be delivered to our homebound friends on Sunday, December 15. The baskets will be prepared on Saturday, December 14 at 9:30am. If you would like to help in any way, please contact the church office. Thank you.

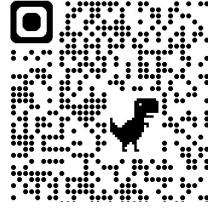


## Youth Event

**The annual Christmas Extravaganza** is coming up on Friday, December 6. The plans this year are a surprise and our youth in grades 6-12 are sure to have a great time. Join us from 5:30-9:30 and get in that holiday spirit. RSVP to Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or the church office by Sunday, December 1.

## Luther Memorial Academy

**Here's a delicious** way to support LMA. The PTL will be selling cookie assortments this holiday season. Please help us raise funds to support the Luther Memorial Academy family by baking cookies to be available for purchase during the month of December. Please note that cookies for this fundraiser cannot require refrigeration due to storage limitations. Cookies will need to be brought to school on the morning of December 17. To volunteer to bake cookies, please to go <https://forms.gle/H4KPLZvnCKLVXveU6>, use the QR code, or contact the school office. Please volunteer by Wednesday, November 27 if you would like to bake cookies. Thank you!



## Items to Note

**In case of a pastoral emergency**, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

## Readings and Commemorations This Week

**November 24 – Jehu Jones, Jr., pastor and missionary, 1852** – Jeremiah 17:7-8; Psalm 16:5-11; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 9:35-38 – *Pastor Jones was the first person of African descent ordained in the Lutheran Church in North America. He served in Philadelphia where he began mission work—baptizing upwards of 600 individuals in a single year at one point—eventually founding St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. He subsidized his ministry and his congregation by working as a tailor. Eventually, the Ministerium of Pennsylvania took possession of the congregation’s building, overtaking its administration as Pastor Jones was sent to New York. They eventually sold the building and kept the money. To his dying day, the Ministerium of Pennsylvania never paid Pastor Jones for his indelible ministry in Pennsylvania and North America—a reminder of the inequity even in our church.* **William Passavant, renewer of society, 1894** – Genesis 22:9-14; Psalm 10; John 9:1-4 -- *William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.*

**November 25 – Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, 1748** – II Chronicles 20:20-21; Psalm 96; Ephesians 5:18b-20; Matthew 26:26-30 -- *Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.*

**November 26** – Psalm 76; Ezekiel 29:1-12; Revelation 11:15-19

**November 27** – Psalm 76; Ezekiel 30:20-26; John 16:25-33

**November 28 – Day of Thanksgiving** – Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 126; I Timothy 2:1-7; Matthew 6:25-33

**November 29** – Psalm 25:1-10; Nehemiah 9:16-25; I Thessalonians 5:12-22

**November 30 – ANDREW, APOSTLE** – Ezekiel 3:16-21; Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 10:10-18; John 1:35-42 -- *The first of the disciples to be called by Jesus, Andrew quickly began to bring others to the Savior, including Simon Peter. The Bible also shows him leading some Greeks to meet Jesus, and he brought forward the boy with five loaves and two fish, with which Jesus fed thousands.*

## CALENDAR

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**      10:00am      Magic Fingers Grace Group

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**    11:00am      LMA Thanksgiving Feast  
    12:30pm      LMA Dismissal

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28**                      LMA & Church Offices Closed  
*Happy Thanksgiving*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29**                      LMA & Church Offices Closed

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**      1:00pm      Family Gathering

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024 THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**Worship services** at 8:15 in Faith Chapel and 10:30am in the main church.

**Christmas cookie** coffee hour following each service.

**Adult Forum** at 9:15am.

**Hanging of the Greens** following each service.

**St. Lucia rehearsal** at 11:30am.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Ann Flick
Communion Assistant ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	Jeanne Gaber
Lector ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	Bill Lasher
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	( <i>1 needed</i> )
Video Streaming	10:30am	Christy Adams
Counters	10:30am	Mike Hedlund, Pat Young
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	Sue Cappelletty, Eric Hedlund, Carl Moore, Betty Pletz

## — PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Dorothy Youngman	Dave Parsh	Rose-Marie Rose	Ron King
Matt, Jessica Kinzig & family	Virginia Long	Pat Gilbert	Lois Fobes
Marilyn Bohn & family	Rosanne Braine	Lois Smith	Ed Hokaj
Friends and Family:			
Kate Collins & family	Jenn	Joann Guilianelli	Jenn Eddy
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Phil F.	Donna Peck	Curtis Krick
Leigh Ann Fassnacht	Janine Frank	Casey Smith	Fred Kern
Jean Coburn	Teddy & Rebecca	Branden Jones	Cheryl Atkinson
Tom Kraut	Kevin D.	Bernadette Mulder	Steve Sensor
Andy Zimmerman	Jim Roberts	Cheryl Runstedler	Dale Dannhaus
Norma Lynch	Racheal Thompson	Joey & family	Michele Seifert
Grant, Alina, Charlie Jane McGrail	Phil	Jane	Amy S.
Betsy & Rudy, Sydney Kohn			
Grief:			
Emma Houseman family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	