

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



14 JANUARY 2024
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
10:30 am

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

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

THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

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

14 JANUARY 2024

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting IV • 10:30

Luther Memorial Church and Academy is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people, people of the Six Nations Treaty, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

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

PRELUDE – "Toccata & Fugue No. 5 in C Major"

Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702 - 1762)

TEMPLE TALK

Mary Lou Younke

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.

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

☛ **Amen.**

☞ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel or sit for confession.



- ☐ Most Merciful God,
 ☑ 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,
 so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your holy name.
 Amen.

☐ 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, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☑ Amen.

Please stand as you are able as we gather with song.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 314

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GREETING

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

GLORIA

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Please be seated.

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

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

FIRST READING: I Samuel 3:1-20

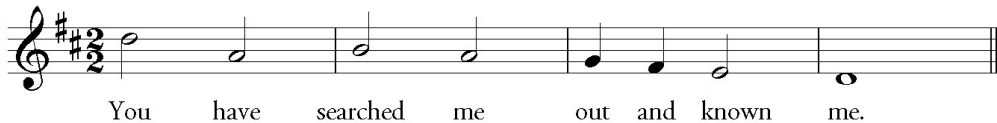
¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But Eli said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So, Samuel went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But Eli said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if the Lord calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” ¹¹Then the Lord said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.” ¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷Eli said, “What was it that the Lord told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that God told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then Eli said, “Let the Lord do what seems good to the Lord.” ¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

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



- ¹ LORD, you have searched me out and known me;
You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- ² You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- ³ Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- ⁴ You press upon me, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me. **R**
- ⁵ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- ¹² For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹³ I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well. **R**



¹⁴ My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
¹⁵ Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book;
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
¹⁶ How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
¹⁷ If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours. **R**

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²“All things are permitted for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are permitted for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for sexual immorality but for the Lord and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by divine power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with that prostitute? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with the Lord. ¹⁸Shun sexual immorality! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body.

L The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found the one about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” ⁴⁶Nathanael said to Philip, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael asked Jesus, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son-of-Man.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 574

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

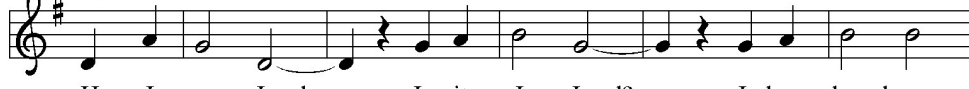


I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

Text and music © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLE'S CREED

- A** Let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
- I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**
- On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

- A** As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.
- A** Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**



A Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of peace.

Please be seated.

MEAL – “God feeds us with Jesus Christ.”

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

ANTHEM – “Come, Follow Me’, the Savior Spake”

Kevin Sadowski

*"Come, follow me," the Savior spake, "All in my way abiding;
Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey my call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whatever betide; Take my example for your guide."*

*"I am the light; I light the way, A godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show how you should sojourn here below."*

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

ELW 310

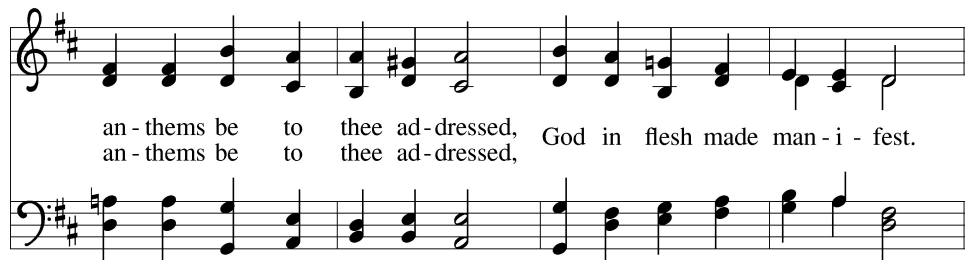
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;





an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,

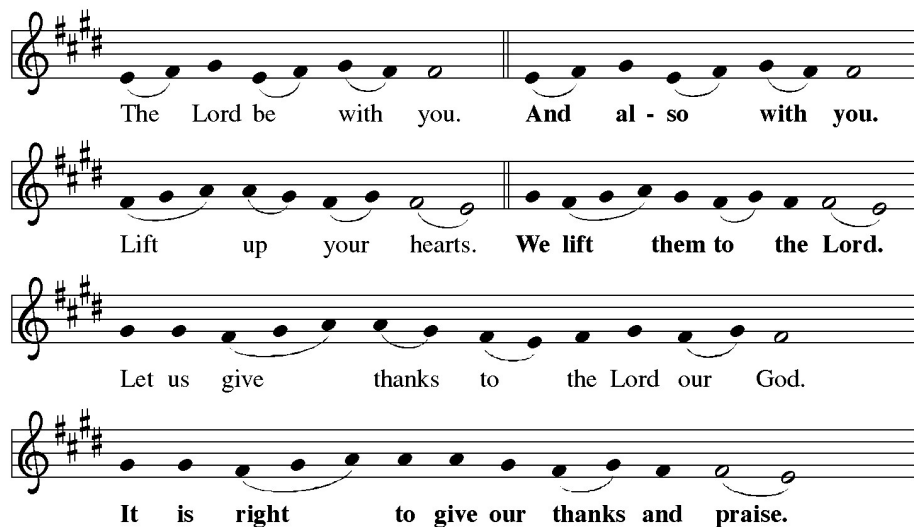
Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

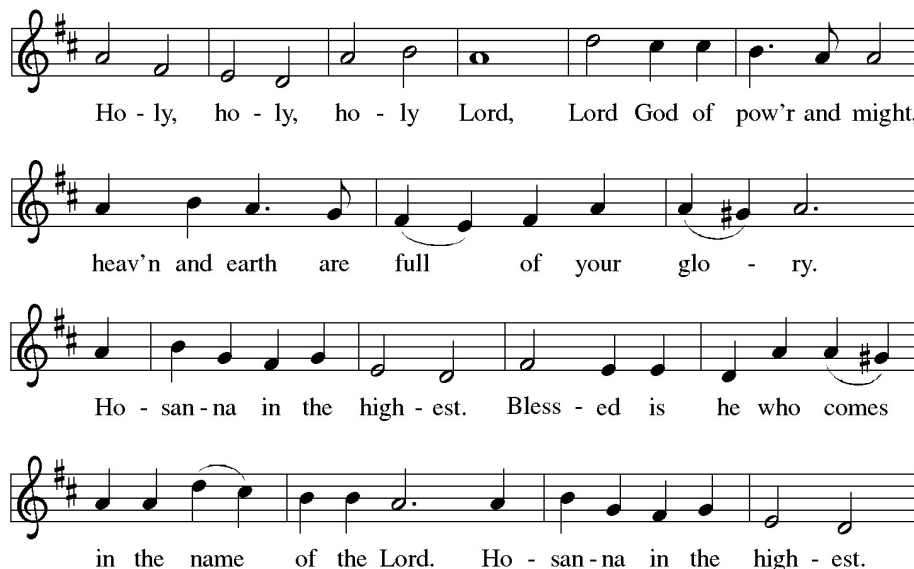


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, 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

- ☐ God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.
- ☐ In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

*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.*

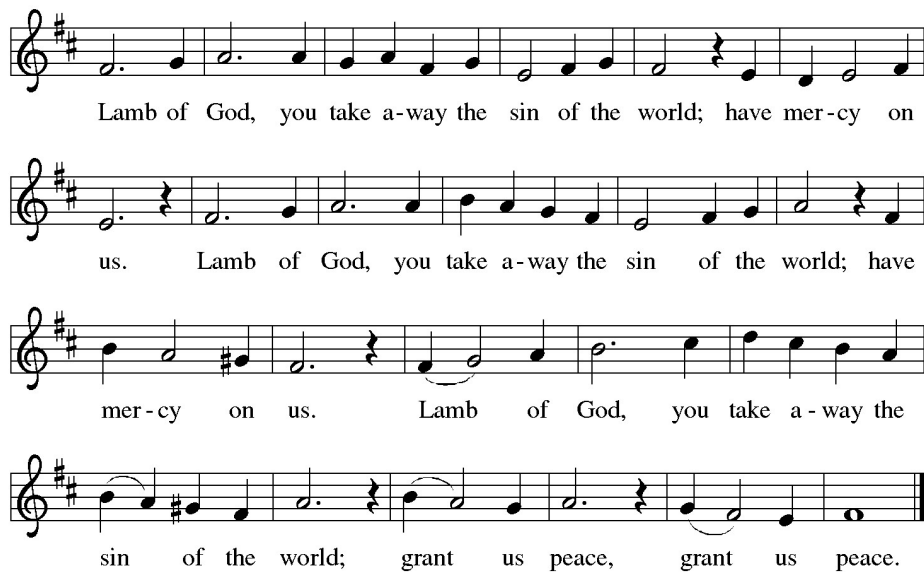
*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

- ☐ For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- ☑ **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**
- ☐ Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.
- ☑ **Amen.**
- ☐ Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.
- ☑ **Amen.**
- ☐ Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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

- ☐ At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
- ☑ Amen.
- ☐ Those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the body and blood of Christ 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.*

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Here I Am, Lord"

arr. Sondra Tucker

What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.
 Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

In This Feast of Love

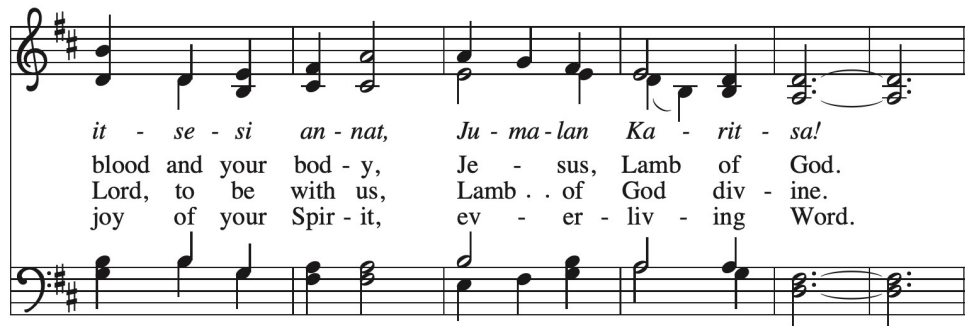


Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä, täs - sä
 1 In this feast of love, in this
 2 In this bread and wine, in this
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us



pöy - däs - sä syn - ti - sil - le
 feast of love, Lord, you share your
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the





it - se - si an - nat, Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

Text: Jarkko Maukonen; tr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
 Music: TÄSSÄ PÖYDÄSSÄ, Jarkko Maukonen; arr. Mark Sedio
 Text and music © 2017, 2020 Jarkko Maukonen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

☩ 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



☩ Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
 na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
 and will be for - ev - er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P ...remain with you always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ACS 991

Go to the World!



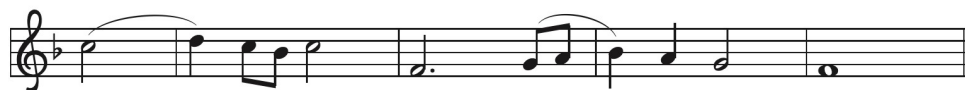
1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

THE INURNMENT OF RICHARD W. JEFFORDS

P Siblings in Christ, it is a privilege and a joy to gather together as the Body of Christ at all the stages of our members' lives. The Church gathers when a child is born and as they grow, the Church surrounds those in need of healing and wholeness with prayer and support, and it is the Church that gathers at the grave and proclaims Resurrection Hope and the Victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the eternity of Death.

P As such, we gather with our brother, Richard, to commend him to the mercy of God and to commit his remains to their rest:

P Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Richard. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

C Amen.

P *A reading from Matthew:* "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P Let us pray.

Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our brother Richard, whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise him up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our brother Richard, and we commit his body to its resting place; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless him and keep him. The Lord's face shine on him with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon him with favor and ☩ give him peace.

C Amen.

P Grant him eternal rest, O Lord;

C and let light perpetual shine upon him.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Go in peace. You are God's beloved!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Go to the World"

Benjamin Culli

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46819.

Scripture quotations have been prepared by Augsburg Fortress for provisional use. Citations from Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations based on Readings for the Assembly © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress; NRSV Bible © 1989 and NRSVue Bible © 2021 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Adapted and edited by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw. May be reproduced with a SundaysAndSeasons.com subscription for nonsale local use by worship leaders from September 1, 2022 through November 30, 2025.

— **SERVING TODAY** —

GREETER – Linda Graffius

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Julie Ditz

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Stan Rose

LECTOR – Jane Moran

USHERS – Linda & David Ditz, Brooke & Lincoln McCall

VIDEO STREAMING – John Bartlett

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Elsie and Herb Gehrlein by Pat Young.

Today's Events

Offering envelopes for 2024 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.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Worship Matters

During the Season after Epiphany, we will be using the *Nunc Dimittis* (Latin: “Now dismiss”) as our **Post-Communion Canticle**. This Gospel Canticle is the Song of Simeon, which the prophet sings while holding the child Jesus at the Purification in the Temple. Martin Luther added this canticle to the Communion service because, he explained, just like Simeon held the child Jesus in the Temple, in Communion we too hold Jesus in our hands. So, like Simeon, we can sing in prophecy, proclamation, and praise.

Also, this Sunday's Eucharistic Prayer, found on pg. 67 in the front of the ELW, takes its inspiration from the Hymn *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing* a hymn important in the African American community often called The Black National Anthem. Given our proximity to the feast of Martin Luther King, Jr., the inclusion of this prayer reminds us of the ongoing work for justice in our world.

Worship

Our prelude begins at 10:25 each week and flows into the 10:30am worship time. We hope that this will draw us together and into our time of worship. Please remember to be mindful of those around you and those worshipping at home by keeping conversations and visiting to the lobbies once the prelude has begun. Thank you.

A reminder that our livestream runs from the beginning of the prelude through the end of the postlude. To maintain a worshipful space for those joining from home, please remember to leave the chancel area (the area around the altar) clear until after the postlude.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 28, 2024 following the 10:30am service. The 8:15am service will not be held. Annual reports from staff members, committee heads and other key members of the congregation are appreciated to the church office by Sunday, January 14, 2024. The Annual Report will be emailed prior to January 28, and copies will be available to the congregation.

Altar flowers are available for Sunday, February 4. Please contact the church office if you would like to have flowers at the altar on that Sunday. Thank you.

Ecumenical Worship

We invite you to attend the Ecumenical Service in Celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to be held at Luther Memorial Church on Wednesday, January 24 at 6:30pm. A ministry faire and reception will be held following. Anyone interested in participating in the combined choir is asked to contact our church office. Thank you.

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. This week, Pastor Jay is available Monday, January 15 from 8:00-9:00am at Pressed Coffee (8th and Greengarden) and Wednesday, January 17 from 3:00-4:00pm in the office.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Dining together and supporting our youth is a win-win. Visit Max & Erma's from 11:00am – 10:00pm for a delicious meal on Monday, January 29. Present your flyer to your server and a percentage of your food sale will be donated to our youth. Flyers are available at the welcome tables, church and school offices and our youth. Thank you for your support.

“Souper” Bowl Tasting event will be held Sunday, February 4 in fellowship hall following the 10:30am service. All are invited to whip up a batch of their favorite soup for all to have a taste and enjoy. Soup may be taken to fellowship hall in the morning to keep warm. If you'd like to share your recipe, please bring along some copies. Thank you to our Congregational Life Committee for planning this fellowship time.

Magic Fingers Grace Group hopes you will join them this new year the second and fourth Tuesdays each month for knitting and crocheting. We will gather January 23 from 10:00am-12:00 noon for a creative and fun morning. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Faith Formation

Dinner With Our Flock, will be held on Wednesday, January 17. At 5:30 we gather for dinner; the main dish is provided, please bring a dish to share. A Bible lesson and a craft or activity will be held following our meal.

B.A.D. (Bible After Dark) will be held on February 7 at 6:30pm at the Brewerie. Our evenings are a wonderful time of fellowship as we gather with folks from Mt. Calvary to share in Bible Study and fellowship (with some adult beverages if you would like). Every **first** Wednesday, we gather to share from *Bible Stories for Grown-Ups* and discussion of what these stories we learned in Sunday School still mean for us today. RSVP is not necessary but helpful. Let Pastor Jay or the church office know if you're interested.

Vendor Fair

Amazing after Christmas finds will be discovered at our Vendor Fair on Saturday, January 20. Held in fellowship hall from 10:00am – 3:00pm over 20 vendors will have items available which will be sure to catch your eye. Admission is free.

Donations Needed

Saturday mornings have been creative for many of our quilters who have been making quilts for Bethesda Women's Center and local shelters. Quilts made are for children and adults. To assist them they are in need of some items such as portable table-top ironing boards and irons. Donations may be dropped off in the church office or with Jan MacInnes. Thank you.

Youth News

Movie Night will be held for all youth in grades 6-12 on Friday, January 26 from 5:30-9:30pm. Our theme will be Pirates of the Carribean with a great night of fun, snacks, games and laughter. Please contact the church office, Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski if you plan to attend.

Lenten Preparations

Do you have your palms from last year? Did you know that the former year's palms are used for the ashes on Ash Wednesday of the next year? Please bring your old palms (from any year) into church and/or the office any time before Sunday, February 11! A basket will be on the Welcome Table near the ramp entrance. We will be using them to make this year's ashes for Ash Wednesday. Thank you.

Tuesday, February 13 is Shrove Tuesday (some know it as Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday"). We will celebrate with a fundraiser for our youth: a Pancake Supper will be held from 5:30 – 7:00pm in our fellowship hall. Join us for a delicious meal as we celebrate Mardi Gras. Cost is \$8/adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Proceeds will benefit our youth attending the National Youth Gathering in July 2024.

First Holy Communion will be offered on Sunday, April 14, 2024 during the 10:30am service. In preparation for First Communion two Saturday morning sessions will be held on April 6 and April 13 from 9:00am – 12:00 noon, including snack time. These 2 All-Family Workshops will be our preparation for the big celebration! Any family interested in First Communion should plan to attend both sessions. First Communion is open to all the baptized so any child and family are welcome if you're ready. However, families with children in grades 3-5 are strongly encouraged to participate if your child has not received First Communion yet. Please contact Pastor Jay or the church office if your family will be attending these sessions. Thank you.

Items to Note

In case of an emergency and unable to reach Pastor Jay, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. During the weekend and evening you are welcome to contact Norma Buerk at 450-7162 or Linda Graffius at 440-5458. Thank you.

Readings and Commemorations This Week

January 15 – The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, Renewer of Society, Martyr, 1968 -- *An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968. [Note from Pastor Jay: technically, MLK should be commemorated on April 4, this death date like all other martyrs, but the ELCA has chosen not to do this.]* -- Exodus 3:7–12; Psalm 77:11–20; Luke 6:27–36

January 16 – Psalm 86; I Samuel 15:10-31; Acts 5:1-11

January 17 – Anthony of Egypt, Renewer of the Church, c. 356; Pachomius, Renewer of the Church, 346 -- *One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.* -- James 1:9–11; Psalm 91; Mark 10:17–22

January 18 – The Confession of St. Peter (beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity) -- *Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.* -- Acts 4:8-13; Psalm 23; I Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19

January 19 – Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, Martyr, 1156 – *When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.* -- Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 98; Acts 17:22-31; Matthew 28:16-20

January 20 – Psalm 62:5-12; Jeremiah 20:14-18; Luke 10:13-16

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 15		LMA & Church Offices Closed
<i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>		
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16	2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
	3:00pm	School Board
	6:00pm	Budget Meeting
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17	5:30pm	Dinner With Our Flock
	6:30pm	Worship & Music
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18	1:00pm	Grief Support Group
	2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19		
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20	10:00am	Vendor Fair
	10:00am	Quilt Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024 THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

Adult Forum will gather at 9:15am.

Blood Pressures offered at 11:30am.

Budget Meeting at 11:30am.

VASA will meet at 1:00pm.

Homemade soup will be available for purchase following the 10:30am service.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Kate Martin
Communion Assistant	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Pat Young
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	Pat Bellingham, Emma Chaffee
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	Cathy Beck, Mary Daniels, Dave Griswold

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Ann Flick	Rose-Marie Rose
Phil McAfee			

Friends and Family:

Mitchell & family	Jean C.	Jeannette Bowers	Ian Minner
Carol E.	John Semonis	Jeff Granger & family	Nick
Paul Gustafson	Melissa	Jim Berger	Jane Rose
Allison, Audree & family	Melissa Pierce	Scot & Robin	Janice Carpenter
Cindy B.	Scott Coleman	Suzie Hosterman	Lorraine Melms
Doug & Jenine	Doug Blum	Jonah Allgeier	Melanie Benn

Grief:

Jessica & Matt Kinzig & family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

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