

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



16 JULY 2023
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 am

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

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

BECKY CAREY

Interim Academy Administrator

16 JULY 2023

THE SEVENTH 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 – "On What Has Now Been Sown"

"God of the Fertile Field"

Gilbert Martin, John Innes

Jack W. Jones

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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 Creator, + Compassion, and Companion.

☛ **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.

A Dutch theologian and poet, this author is mainly known for his contribution to Christian music and liturgy in the Dutch language used in both Protestant and Roman Catholic churches.

Due to opposition to his work, several songs have been banished in certain Catholic dioceses.

In 1965, he became one of the major supporters of ecumenism, following the modernist interpretation of the Second Vatican Council. He is the author of numerous books, hymns, psalms and prayers.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 524

What Is This Place



1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive





when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem - ing word.
what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

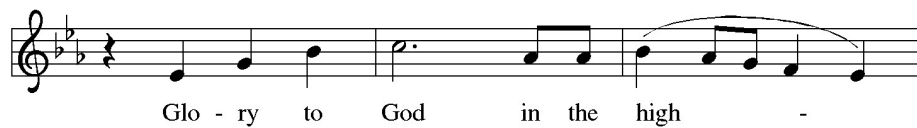
Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933
Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626
Text © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

GREETING

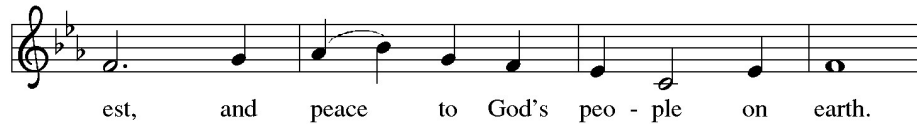
☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☑ And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



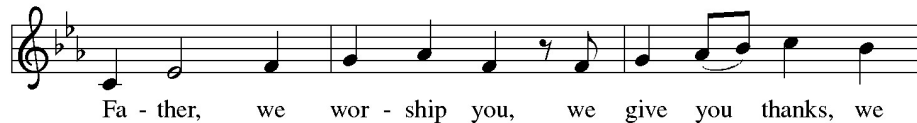
Glo - ry to God in the high -



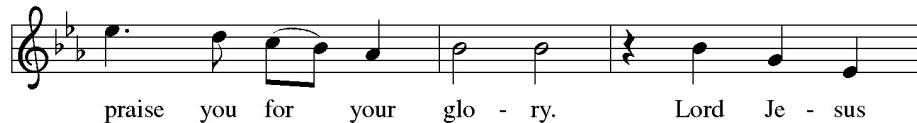
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

A MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

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

Although Jacob was younger than his twin, Esau, he eventually takes the birthright away from his brother. Jacob is portrayed in the Bible as deceptive, gripping his brother when he came out of the womb and driving a hard bargain by buying the birthright for a bowl of lentils.

FIRST READING: Genesis 25:19-34

¹⁹These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham’s son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²²The children struggled together within her, and she said, “If it is to be this way, why do I live?” So she went to inquire of the Lord. ²³And the Lord said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall ►

serve the younger.”²⁴When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. ²⁶Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau’s heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. ²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob. ²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!” (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹Jacob said, “First sell me your birthright.” ³²Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” ³³Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So Esau swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:105-112

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



¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light upon my path.
¹⁰⁶ I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.
¹⁰⁷ I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
¹⁰⁸ Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments. **R**
¹⁰⁹ My life is always in danger,
yet I do not forget your teaching.
¹¹⁰ The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
¹¹¹ Your decrees are my inheritance forever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹² I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
forever and to the end. **R**

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending God’s own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone ►

who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit that dwells in you.

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.**

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And in the sowing, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹If you have ears, hear!" ¹⁸"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Please stand as you are able.

Caring for God’s creation has, indeed, reached critical importance not just for human beings but for all living things. Having lived from 1891 to 1974, the author of this text, Georgia Harkness, was well ahead of her time. She was the first woman to teach theology in any American seminary. This hymn by Harkness was the winner of a hymn competition in 1955 sponsored by The Hymn Society. They were seeking a hymn that “expressed the needs and aspirations of people in the churches and communities of rural America.” Revised for use many decades later, its rooting in the Lord’s Prayer makes it a hymn suitable for many contexts.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 1063

God of the Fertile Fields



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.
 Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796
 Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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 Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Heal those who are sick, O God. We pray for Abbie, Winnie, Shirley, Debbie, Elizabeth, Craig, Mark, John, Michael, Mary, Archer, Michele, Elayne, John, Melissa, Kevin, Kate, Roger, Bob, Diane, Dean, Karen, Bernie, Branden, Caitlyn, Meghan, Bonnie, Susan, Nichole, Carol, Jean, Ian, Matt, Michael, Andrew, Alli, Ben, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, especially Frank Alvaro, 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 – “God of the Fertile Field”

H. Alexander Matthews

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

ELW 881

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.

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 Creator God, you made the earth of paths and rocks and thorns and soil. To Abraham you promised fertile land, and to Moses you offered blessing and freedom. In your prophets you called your people to cultivate the promises of your land and cherish the blessings of your freedom. In Jesus you gave us your superabundant soil. In his cross he was plowed and broken open, that we might be restored, replenished, and renewed, to be planted again as your good seed in this earth. 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 Abundant God, from your good soil you make enough and plenty to feed and inspire all your children, and out of your earth you bring the glory of resurrection life. 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 your Son Jesus Christ; who, ▶

*in the night in which he was betrayed, 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 Great is the mystery of faith:

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

P Transforming God, where your children are in the grip of evil and bewilderment, bring them your courage and clarity. Where they are without deep root and facing trouble or persecution, give them patient and endurance. Where they are burdened by the cares of the world and tempted by the lure of wealth, offer them wisdom and understanding. And where they bear fruit and yield, make that fruit so plentiful that it may feed all in your world who hunger for faith, for hope, or for love. Sanctify your groaning creation, that your universe may breathe your breath and be filled with your life anew, that we may love what you love, and do what you would do, Holy, Holy, Holy God.

C Amen.

OUR SAVIOR'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

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 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 author of this text, John Cawood, was the child of small-scale farmers in late 17th century England. Through diligent study, he earned a Master of Arts degree from Oxford University. His ordination led to a successful career in several positions as curate in English parishes, most notably St. Ann's Chapel of Ease. The composer of the melody, Robert Redhead, spent most of his adult life as a London organist.

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 516

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



- 1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text and music for this hymn were written by liturgical composer, workshop presenter, and performing musician Marty Haugen. The refrain text paraphrases a passage from the Didache (Teaching of the Twelve), a Greek text from the same period as the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

ELW 465

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

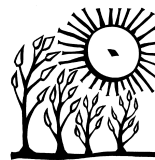
Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Please stand as you are able.

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.



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

- ☐ 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.

☑ **Amen.**

This hymn text is the work of an 18th century English vicar who described himself as "once infidel and libertine." He went on to a distinguished career in the church and was honored with a Doctor of Divinity degree from Princeton University. The tune is also from the pen of an English clergyman who found time to compose two volumes of piano sonatas and settings for all 150 psalms.

SENDING HYMN

On What Has Now Been Sown

ELW 550



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- ☐ Go in peace. Share the harvest.
☑ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE – "God of the Fertile Field"

Benjamin M. Culli

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

— **SERVING TODAY** —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

GREETER – Dave Griswold

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Liz Stroup

LECTOR – Anthony Cimino

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern

ALTAR GUILD – Pam Masiroff

USHERS – Elvin Montero, Carl Moore, Mary Mumford, Betty Pletz



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my husband, Frank Alvaro, by Diana.

Today's Events

Kenneth Snider Memorial Car Cruise will be held this afternoon from 1:00-4:00 in our parking lot. We invite everyone to join us for a fun filled afternoon. Feast your eyes on a variety of show cars, along with DJ Bill Mason, Magic Steve, food truck, bake sale, 50-50 Raffle, and a Chinese Auction with over 100 baskets. Monies raised will benefit Shriners Children's Erie and Luther Memorial's youth who will be traveling to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in 2024.

Worship Leader Information Sessions will be offered beginning on Sunday, July 23 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.

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

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.

Where Is Pastor Jay?

For the week of July 16, Pastor Jay's drop-in hours will be on Monday from 9-10:30am at the Topsy Bean OR Thursday from 2-3pm in the office. As always you can make an appointment at a different time by e-mail: JMitchell@luthermemorialonline.org OR by using: calendly.com/TheRevJCM.

Suds & Sparkle

Get your car washed following service on Sunday, July 23 from 9:00 – 10:15am and Sunday, July 30 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 grim off your car.

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will enjoy a delicious lunch and beautiful scenery on the Victorian Princess on Wednesday, July 19. **Please arrive at 11:00am for boarding.** Contact Jan MacInnes with any questions.

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 on July 25 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 and let us know 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.

Bethany Outreach Center

Are you a Golfer who Enjoys a Good Scramble? Join us at the 6th Annual Harbor Ridge Open, this year in Support of the Bethany Outreach Center!

Save the Date: Sunday, July 30 Time: 10:00am

Location: Harbor Ridge Golf Course at 3730 Harbor Ridge Trail in Erie, PA 16510

Highlights of this "Fun" Fundraiser:

- 16 Teams will compete in two 9-hole "Scramble" Rounds
- 9 optional "Fun" Skill Contests, such as Hole-In-One, Closest-To-The-Pin, etc.
- ***Even if you're not a golfer***, you can still enjoy the Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Pull-Tab Prizes/Games in the Club House during and after golf
- Hot dogs and drinks at the turn
- All Proceeds go to support the Bethany Outreach Center
- Cost is \$300 per Foursome

To sign up see the registration information at the Bethany Outreach Center website (www.bethanyoutreachcenter.org). Call, text, or email Eric Hedlund if you have any questions, at (814) 898-1233 or (814) 722-7732 or eric@bethanyoutreachcenter.org.

A Celebration of Ministry

All are invited to a Celebration of Ministry for Rev. Dr. Sandra K. Jones on Saturday, July 29, at 2:00pm. The service will be held at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 800 Moran Street, Oil City. A light reception and program will follow. Please RSVP to 814-676-9222 or officegoodhope@gmail.com by Monday, July 17. The Good Hope Senior Choir and Venango Chorus members will perform a piece of special music during the celebration. For those wishing to join in song, please contact the Good Hope office. Rehearsals will be held Wednesday, July 26 at 7:00pm and Saturday, July 29 at 1:00pm.

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 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.

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon	Winnie Lyons	Shirley Brown	
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	
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown

WEEKLY READINGS AND CELEBRATIONS

July 17 – Bartolomé de Las Casas, Missionary to the Indies, 1566 -- Psalm 142; Micah 1:1-5; I Thessalonians 4:1-8 *A native of Spain, Las Casas first came to the Western hemisphere while serving in the military. Upon arriving in the West, Las Casas was granted a large estate with Indigenous enslaved people whom he freed after he was ordained a priest. He worked in the Caribbean and Central America to improve the lives of the native peoples.*

July 18 – Psalm 142; Jeremiah 49:7-11; Ephesians 4:17-5:2

July 19 – Psalm 142; Obadiah 15-21; Matthew 13:10-17

July 20 – Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 2:1-9

July 21 – Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Ezekiel 39:21-29; Hebrews 6:13-20

July 22 – Mary Magdalene, Apostle to the Apostles – Ruth 1:6-18; Psalm 73:23-28; Acts 13:26-33a; John 20:1-2, 11-18 *Sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" because she told them of her encounter with the risen Lord, Mary was a woman of Galilee who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial.*

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JULY 17

TUESDAY, JULY 18

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

11:30am

OWLS / Victorian Princess Cruise

THURSDAY, JULY 20

FRIDAY, JULY 21

SATURDAY, JULY 22

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023

MARY MAGDALENE, APOSTLE TO THE APOSTLES

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

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistant	10:30am	Pam Masiroff
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Skip Meyn
Counters	10:30am	Jeff Swanson, Pat Young



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