

*WELCOME TO*  
**LUTHER MEMORIAL  
CHURCH & ACADEMY**



17 MAY 2026

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

10:30 am

## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

### LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

*Cantor*

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH,

THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

*Pastors in Residence*

MICHELLE THOM

*LMA Principal*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

## WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

+ 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).

**PRELUDE – "All That Thrills My Soul"**

T. Harris / arr. L. Lowe

*Susan Forsythe, Linda Melaragno – violinists*

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**ELW 377**

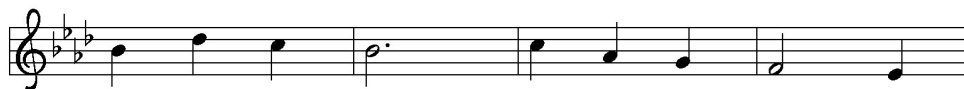
**Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!**



1	Al - le - lu - ia!	Je - sus	is	ris - en!
2	Walk - ing the way,	Christ	in the	cen - ter
3	Je - sus the vine,	we	are the	branch - es;
4	Weep - ing, be gone;	sor - row,	be	si - lent:
5	Cit - y of God,	Eas - ter	for - ev - er,	



Trum - pets	re - sound - ing	in	glo - ri - ous	light!
tell - ing the	sto - ry	to	o - pen	our eyes;
life in the	Spir - it	the	fruit of the	tree;
death put a - sun - der,	and	Eas - ter	is	bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem,	Je - sus	the	Lamb,	



Splen - dor,	the	Lamb,	heav - en	for - ev - er!
break - ing our	bread,	giv - ing	us	glo - ry:
heav - en to	earth,	Christ	to the	peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim	sing:	O	grave, be	o - pen!
riv - er of	life,	saints	and arch - an - gels,	



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



*Refrain*  
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## GREETING

Alleluia! God has gone up with a shout!

**The Lord with the sound of the trumpet! Alleluia!**

The grace of the risen and ascended Lord, the love of our God enthroned on high, and the communion of the gifted Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*The refrain is sung by all.*

*High Voices: vv. 1 and 3-4*

*Low Voices: vv. 2 and 5*



*Refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic to-ry for our God, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!



1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose  
 2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom and strength, And  
 3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, And  
 4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might Be to  
 5. For the Lamb who was slain Has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. ... *refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing and glo - ry are his. ... *refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: ... *to verse 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. ... *refrain*  
 gun his reign, Al - le - lu - ia! ... *final refrain*



*Final Refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic to-ry for our God, Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.*

## MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

### BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

Let us pray: Bless, O Lord, your servant Jonathan as he reads to us the holy word. May our hearts burn within us as you open to us the scriptures, through Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

<sup>45:1</sup>Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: <sup>2</sup>I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; <sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

### PSALM: 21

*tune: ST. PETER*

Sov'reigns rejoice in your great strength, O LORD, and in your care.  
You granted all their hearts' desire, and you have answered pray'r.

You welcomed them with every kind of grace you could unfold.  
Rich blessings you have given them; you crowned their heads with gold.

They asked for life from you, O LORD: you gave it endlessly.  
Their glory shines because you gave them strength and majesty.

You blessed them, LORD, by being near; their trust is firm and sure.  
Because of your unfailing love our sov'reigns stand secure.

### SECOND READING: I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

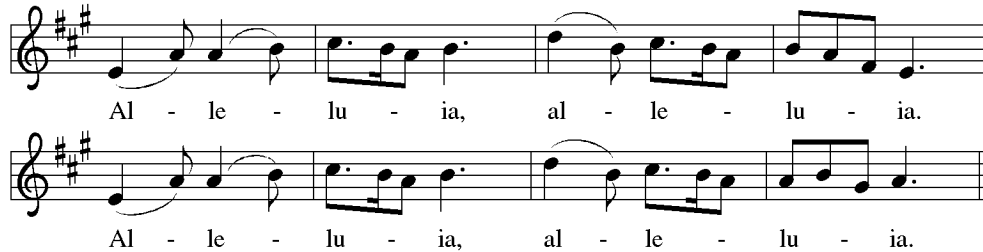
<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you...<sup>6</sup>Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls

around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*All sing the Alleluia. The choir sings the verse after which all repeat the Alleluia.*



*I will not leave you orphaned, says the Lord. I am coming to you.*

**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17:1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup>I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Jay


*After a brief silence for reflection, as the music sounds, please stand to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**


**Thine the Amen**

**ELW 826**






thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
 Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire Yehiel and Kristen, our Bishops; Jean, our dean; Jay, our pastor to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for justice, mercy, and equity. Bring peace as can only come from you to all places where children fall asleep to the lullaby of bombs. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment, and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us; Don, Gertrude, Pauline, Erik, Helena, Nicolaus, and Leonhard so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.  
**Amen.**

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*All share greetings and gestures of peace with those around you. Please be seated.*

### MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING



*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.*

### MUSICAL OFFERING – "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

arr. C. McMichael

*Susan Forsythe, Linda Melaragno – violinists*

*Please rise in body or spirit as the gifts are presented. Please remain standing.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

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!

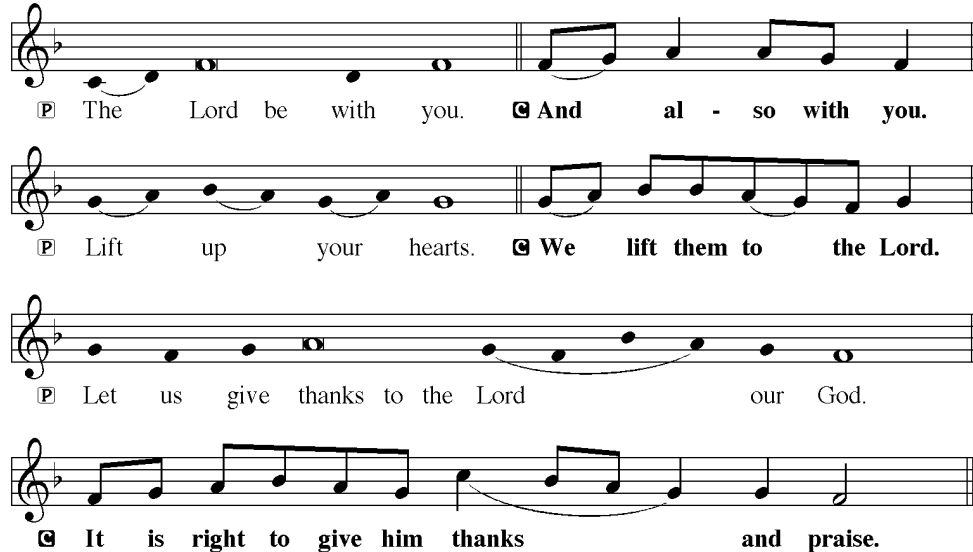
Text: Thomas Ken, 1709

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesange*, Cologne, 1623

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



① The Lord be with you. ② And al - so with you.

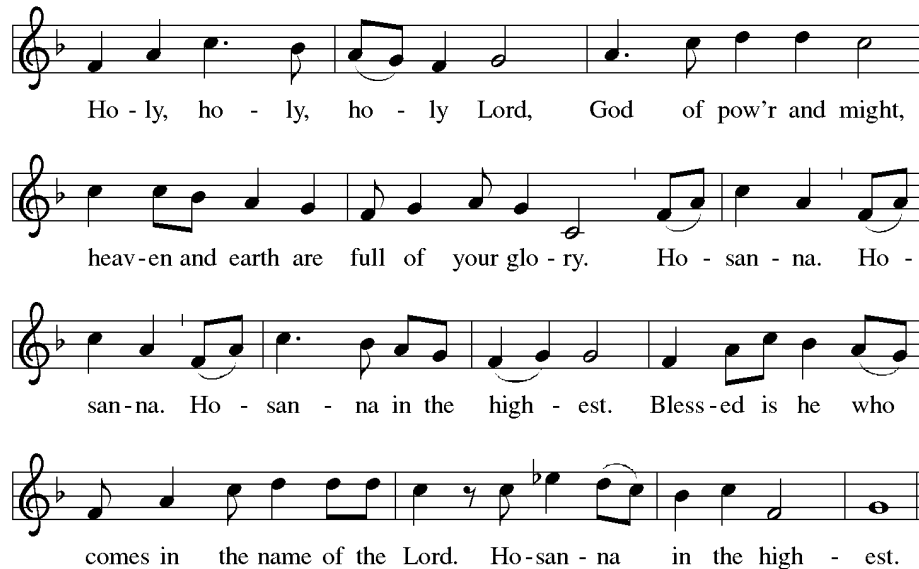
① Lift up your hearts. ② We lift them to the Lord.

① Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

② It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## THE PROPER PREFACE

### SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; when the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

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

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

**Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

**Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

**Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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.**

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Alleluia! Christ our paschal lamb has been sacrificed for us!

**Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

For those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

*Please be seated.*

#### THE COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is present whenever we feast together. **You** are welcome to the feast! 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. Receive the bread in your open palm. All bread is gluten free. Proceeding to either communion assistant, hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. Non-alcoholized grape juice is in the pre-filled cups. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the bowls. 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. If you need communion brought to you, please let a neighbor know to inform the Pastor.*

**HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION**

**ELW 744**

**Lord, Be Glorified**

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;  
 2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;  
 3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;  
 4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.  
 in our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.  
 in your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.  
 in your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952  
 Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick  
 Text and music © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

**Beautiful Savior**

**ELW 838**

1 Beau-ti-ful Sav-ior, King of cre-a-tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead-ows, fair are the wood-lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun-shine, fair is the moon-light,  
 4 Beau-ti-ful Sav-ior, Lord of the na-tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom-ing spring;  
 bright the spar-king stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904  
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### TABLE BLESSING

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,  
**Amen.**

#### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

*Please be seated.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### BLESSING

...now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## 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.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE – "Improvisation on 'Crimond'"

J. Nixon

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*Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.*

— **SERVING TODAY** —

*PRESIDING MINISTER* – Pastor Jay Mitchell

*ASSISTING MINISTER* – Pat Bellingham

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT* – Tom Klomp

*LECTOR* – Jonathan Ulrich

*VIOLINISTS* – Susan Forsythe, Linda Melaragno

*USHERS* – Betty Pletz, Stan Rose

*ALTAR GUILD* – Sharon Burke

*VIDEO STREAMING* – Patrick Cimino



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our moms, Gertrude Blasco and Pauline Fickenworth, by Vicky and Dion Blasco.

**Our love and sympathy** is with the family and friends of Don MacGregor who died Saturday, May 9, 2026. His funeral service will be held at Luther Memorial Church on Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 10:00am.

**Thank you** to Susan Forsythe and Linda Melaragno for enhancing our worship services this morning with their gift of music.

**We would like to recognize** our high school and college graduates. Please contact Norma in our church office by phone, 454-0106, ext. 221, or email, [nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org), by Friday, May 22 with the following:

For our high school graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. High school they are graduating from
3. Future plans, college, service, etc.

For our college graduates, please share:

1. Name
2. College they are graduating from
3. Degree

**Today's Events**

**Smile!** for your picture. With your help our church directory will soon be updated. All you need do is stop in and have your picture taken. Pictures will be taken every Sunday in May (May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31) from 9:15 – 10:15am and 11:30am – 12:00 noon on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. No appointment necessary; just stop up to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor and say “cheese”. If you are not able to come to the church to have your picture taken or prefer to submit a favorite photograph, please email the picture as an attachment to [nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org](mailto:nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org). Please include each person's name listed left to right by row as shown in your photograph. Thank you.

**Luther Memorial Concert and Cultural Series**

**Join us** Sunday, May 24 at 2:30pm as we welcome Assistant Grand Court Organist, Dylan David Shaw to Luther Memorial. Dylan is Parish Organist at Zion Lutheran Church in Bristol, PA and has served for nearly 11 years as Assistant Organist at the former Macy's Philadelphia, Wanamaker Grand Court with Peter Richard Conte. In addition to his duties at the Grand Court, Dylan is an Associate Organist at Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, home to the Largest Musical Instrument in the World.

## Worship Matters!

**Why isn't the Paschal Candle lighted?** It is an ancient tradition in the church to keep the 10 days between the Ascension and the Day of Pentecost as a commemoration of the “widow church.” We remember in these days what the first Church experienced: Jesus had ascended by the Holy Spirit had not yet come. In these in between days of waiting, the disciples were together, the community still held, they were—as we are—the Body of the Risen Christ in the world. In this final week of Eastertide, we keep the Paschal Candle in the place of honor it has held for the entire Easter season, near the Table where we encounter the Risen Christ week after week. But we do not light it. We remember that while Christ is not in our sight, he has not left us entirely alone. The Paschal Candle will again be lighted next Sunday for the Day of Pentecost—a baptismal feast day—the final day of Eastertide when we remember the fulfillment of the promise of the resurrection: the gift of the Spirit which the Church still carries.

After the Day of Pentecost, the Paschal Candle—symbol of the Risen Christ’s presence with us—will be placed in the columbarium near the baptismal font. Here, we remember that in baptism and for those who have claimed their baptismal promises the Risen Christ is present. It is then lighted for all baptismal feast days of the Church, at baptisms and confirmations, and at funerals; all reminders of the promises of baptism realized in the Risen Christ.

## Faith Formation

**Bible After Dark (BAD)** meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari’s Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. **YOU** are invited to join us on Tuesday, June 2. We are exploring *Belonging*, a study of the Woman at the Well by Karoline Lewis (you may have met her!). Books are available for purchase through the church office for \$15.

**Brown Bag Bible (B<sup>3</sup>)** gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. B<sup>3</sup> meets each Thursday in May with a study on the book of Revelation.

## Opportunities for Fellowship

**L.I.A.**, Lutherans in Action, will meet Tuesday, June 9 from 5:30-7:00pm for planning of our upcoming service projects and some very creative ideas. L.I.A. is open to families and those looking to help with small hands on service projects. And it’s a great opportunity to take care of those service hours many youth need. Be sure to check the bulletins for surprises all summer. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski as outings are also posted on the app. We’re looking forward to see everyone this summer!

**Come and join** us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Our next gathering is May 26 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. Contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**OWLS** will welcome Master Gardner Mary Hetrick on Wednesday, May 20. Mary will share some brilliant ideas to bring patriotism into your gardening. Come and discover patriotic container gardening and be ready to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U. S. A. Lunch will be provided. Please join us May 20 at 11:00am. RSVP to Jan MacInnes, 833-0476, or the church office.

## For Your Health

**No Strings Attached!** Begin your journey and learn how to better manage blood sugars, blood pressure, cholesterol and weight with nutrition. The National Diabetes Prevention Program will offer this free one year “journey” beginning Thursday, June 18 at 10:00am in our parlor. One hour sessions will be held weekly for 3 months, bi-weekly for 3 months and monthly for 6 months. Please join us on Thursday, June 18 for the free Discovery Session when information will be shared to learn more about the program. Delicious meals and free giveaways will be included throughout the one year journey. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve your health. Please RSVP to Diabetes Prevention Program of The Sight center at 814-455-0995, opt. 4 or contact Norma in our church office.

## 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.

**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.

— PRAYER LIST —

<b>PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:</b>			
<b>Our Members:</b>			
Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	David Leemhuis
Diane Parsons	Judy Karney	Karen Zamperini	Kate Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Sutton Rowland	Mary Mumford	
<b>Friends and Family:</b>			
Mary Beth & Nancy, Kelly	Gail Lesuer	Linda F.	Kris
Archer Bardwell; age 3	Brooks Davis	Ellie	Peggy S.
Erin N.	Carl Larese	Shirley	Brynlee
Kevin Soles & family	Jenny	Caroline Daniels	Valerie
Adam & Connie Ogle	Katja & family	Peter Maker	
<b>Grief:</b>			
Braendel family	Joann Perry family		
<b>Our Military Service Men &amp; Women:</b>			
Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	Justin Gajewski

**Readings and Commemorations This Week.**

**May 18 – Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160**—Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; I Peter 4:1-6 -- *Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.*

**May 19** – Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; I Peter 4:7-11

**May 20** – Psalm 99; I Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36

**May 21 – Helena, mother of Constantine, 330** – Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11 -- *Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.*

**May 22** – Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17

**May 23 – The Vigil of Pentecost** – Exodus 19:1-9a; Psalm 33:12-22; Romans 8:14-17, 22-27; John 7:37-39 -- *At this liturgy we gather in vigilant prayer as the disciples did in the days preceding Pentecost. Our world waits for an end to war and violence. The whole creation waits for an end to suffering. With undying hope we pray for the crowning gift of Easter—the Spirit of the risen Christ among us.*

## CALENDAR

<b>MONDAY, MAY 18</b>	4:30pm 6:00pm	School Board LMA Spring Program
<b>TUESDAY, MAY 19</b> <i>Voting Day</i>	10:00am	Pericope
<b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 20</b>	11:00am 2:30pm	OWLS LMA Cheer Team
<b>THURSDAY, MAY 21</b>	12:00pm 1:00pm 2:30pm 5:30pm	Brown Bag Bible Grief Group LMA Study Skills Handbells
<b>FRIDAY, MAY 22</b>		Church Offices & LMA Closed
<b>SATURDAY, MAY 23</b>		

### SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026 THE DAY OF PENTECOST

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

**Dylan David Shaw**, Assistant Grand Court Organist, will offer a program at 2:30pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Julie Ditz
Communion Assistant ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	Karen Lundwall
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	Rob Cooney, Stan Rose
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	



WHAT WOULD JESUS PRAY?

That they may  
all be one...

