

*Welcome to*  
Luther Memorial Church



20 JULY 2025  
**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEASON AFTER PENTECOST**  
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*

RON KING

*Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity*

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

*Pastors in Residence*

MICHELLE THOM

*LMA Principal*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

## WELCOME!

*This is the day that the Lord has made. Together, let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

~ Here are a few notes to help you participate in worship today: Almost everything you need is in this bulletin, including hymns. You are invited to participate with the words in **bold type**. You are invited to stand as you are able where indicated. Hymns are included in this bulletin, however if you need larger print, hymns may be found in the back of the red hymnal using the number indicated (#). Please join in singing all the music! Today especially we raise our voices in praise!

~ **You don't need to disconnect here!** You don't need to turn off your phone, but please place it in silent mode. Feel free to take pictures—of our building, of worship, but ask permission for any people-pictures. We ask that you not use flash during this worship service. Post your favorite quote from the sermon or verse from a hymn...just be sure to check in and let your friends know where you are!

~ **We welcome** all of God's children **no matter your age**. Wiggles, dancing, and singing welcome! Together we raise a joyful noise. If you would like a children's bulletin, a soft toy, or a book, they're near the ramp door (out the doors next to the pulpit on the long Welcome Table).

~ **Restrooms** may be found out either door at the front of the Sanctuary. There is an accessible ramp through the doors near the pulpit. At the top of the ramp(s), follow signs to the restrooms. A fully accessible restroom is available through the parlor.

~ There are **hand fans** available on the table by the pulpit. Please help yourself and remember to return after worship this morning.

+ + +

**PRELUDE – "I've Got Peace Like a River"**

C. Callahan

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

ONE: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin,  
and heals our lives.

**ALL: Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy, O God,  
**against you, you alone,**  
**we have sinned.**

**In your compassion,**  
**cleanse us from our sin**  
**and take away our guilt.**  
**Create in us a new heart**  
**and give us a steadfast spirit.**

**Do not cast us away,**  
**but fill us with your Holy Spirit**  
**and restore your joy within us.**  
**Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**ELW 834**

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, corresponding to the four vocal parts.

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains, of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

## OPENING SENTENCE

Blessed be our God,  
**forever and ever. Amen.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WORD**

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

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a**

<sup>1</sup>The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>Abraham looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup>He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup>Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup>Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." <sup>10a</sup>Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28**


<sup>15</sup>Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup>for in Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers— all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>Christ himself is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>Christ is the head of the body, the church; Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to God's own self all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. <sup>21</sup>And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>Christ has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before God, <sup>23</sup>provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel. <sup>24</sup>I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup>I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup>the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to the saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup>It is Christ whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise in body or spirit to greet the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

*Repeat alleluia*



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

## GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>38</sup>Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup>but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

ELW 826

### Thine the Amen



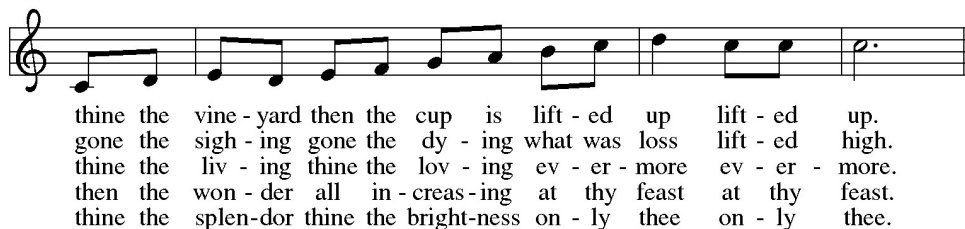
1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



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



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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

Inspire your church, like Sarah and Hagar and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. Dwell with Elizabeth and Michael, our Bishops and Kristen, our Bishop-Elect in this time. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Take storms and settle waters. Bring speedy and needy recovery to those facing floods and other disasters. Uplift the work and workers of Lutheran Disaster Response. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. Give them your heart to face powers and principalities with your harmony, justice, equity, and peace. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway particularly for migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. Grant unfathomable peace to those places where war has too long been known, particularly: Ukraine, Palestine, Iran, Haiti, the Sudan, the United States, Russia, and Israel. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair. Visit those who cry out to you in any need and those whose names and needs we lift up now: \_\_\_\_\_. Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. Strengthen the work of Global Refuge, Lutheran Services in America, and Episcopal Migrant Ministries. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints, especially Frank and Marilyn, who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

## MEAL

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

### THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED



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

### OFFERTORY – "In the Garden"

G. Near

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

### OFFERING HYMN

ACS 1092

#### Thank You, Lord

A musical score for the hymn "Thank You, Lord". It consists of two systems of music. The first system has four staves of lyrics: "1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you, / 2 Been so good, been so good, been so / 3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my / 4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you,". The second system has four staves of lyrics: "Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord. / good, I just want to thank you, Lord. / friend, I just want to thank you, Lord. / Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord." The music is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first system is in treble and bass clef, and the second system is in treble and bass clef.

Text: Traditional  
Music: THANK YOU, LORD, Traditional

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**  
**SURSUM CORDA**

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.

**THE PROPER PREFACE**

*It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:*

**SANCTUS**

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

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

*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.*

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:

**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

**The earth is full of your glory. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

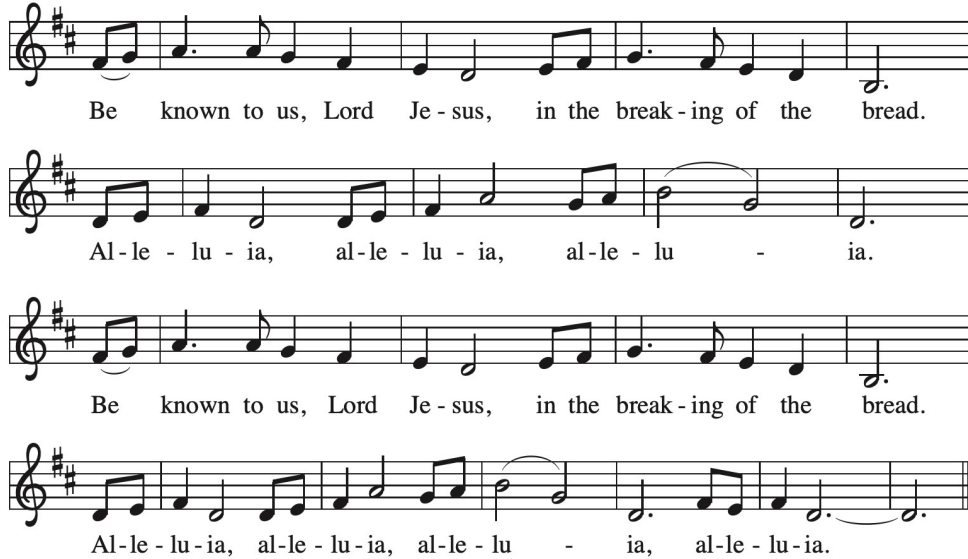
**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## FRACTION ANTHEM



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

**Thanks be to God!**

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

*Please be seated.*

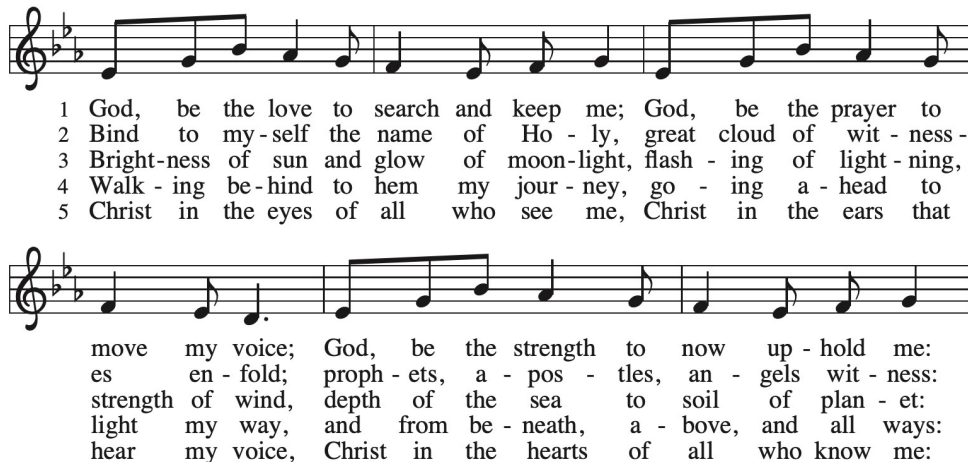
## THE COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is, himself, 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. 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.*

## HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ACS 1084

### God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that

move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:

*Refrain*

O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967  
 Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
 Text and music © 2004 This Here Music, admin. Augsburg Fortress

ACS 935

## Woman, Weeping in the Garden

1 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, who has  
 2 Wom - an, wait - ing in the gar - den, af - ter  
 3 Wom - an, walk - ing in the gar - den, Je - sus  
 4 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, weep for  
 5 Wom - an, danc - ing from the gar - den, find the

pushed the stone a - side? Who has tak - en Je - sus'  
 men have come and gone, af - ter an - gels give their  
 takes you by sur - prise; when the gar - d'ner calls you,  
 joy, for you have seen Je - sus, the Mes - si - ah,  
 oth - ers and pro - claim Christ is ris - en as he

bod - y, Je - sus Christ the cru - ci - fied?  
 wit - ness, si - lent - ly you watch the dawn.  
 "Mar - y!" faith and joy meet in your eyes.  
 ris - en; Christ, of whom the proph - ets dream.  
 prom - ised; tell the world he knew your name!

Text: Daniel Charles Damon, b. 1955  
 Music: CEDARWOLF, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962  
 Text © 1992 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.  
 Music © 2019 Augsburg Fortress

TFF 76

## Would You Be Free *There Is Power in the Blood*

1 Would you be free from the bur - den of sin? There's  
 2 Would you be free from your pas - sion and pride? There's  
 3 Would you do ser - vice for Je - sus your king? There's

pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood. Would you o'er e - vil a  
 pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood. Come for a cleans-ing to  
 pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood. Would you live dai - ly his

vic - to - ry win? There's won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.  
 Cal - va - ry's tide. There's won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.  
 prais - es to sing? There's won - der - ful pow'r in the blood.

*Refrain*

There is pow'r, pow'r, won-der - work - ing pow'r in the  
 there is

blood of the Lamb; there is pow'r, pow'r,  
 in the blood of the Lamb; there is

won - der - work - ing pow'r in the pre - cious blood of the Lamb.

## TABLE BLESSING

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION *if needed*

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

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

### SENDING

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

### BLESSING

...now and forever.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

ELW 574

#### Here I Am, Lord



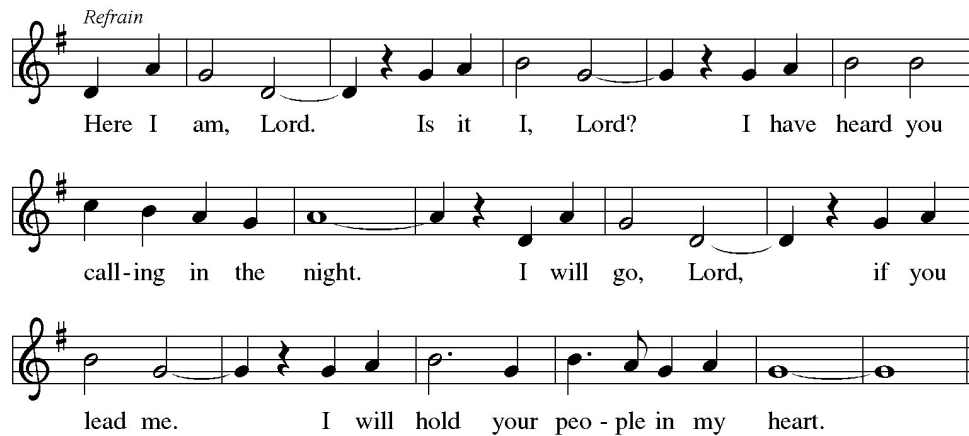
1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

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.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE – "Blessed Assurance"

G. Near

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### — SERVING TODAY —

*PRESIDING MINISTER* – Pastor Jay Mitchell

*ACOLYTE* – Jessica Copfer

*ASSISTING MINISTER* – Linda Swanson

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT* – Stan Rose

*LECTOR* – Cathy Beck

*USHERS* – Sharon Burke, Mary Daniels, Carl Moore

*ALTAR GUILD* – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

*VIDEO STREAMING* – John Bartlett



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

**Our love and sympathy** is with the family and friends of Marilyn Bohn who died Sunday, July 13. Her funeral service was held Saturday, July 19.

### Today's Events

**Adult Forum** will gather in the library at 9:30 this morning.

### This Week

**Please be patient** with our office staff and Pastor Jay the next two weeks! We are having carpeting installed in all offices and LMA followed by the annual cleaning of floors and preparation for the new school year. The office is open, but accessibility to computers, phones, and other tech will be affected by the work. If you do not make contact immediately, we will return your call or e-mail as soon as we can! Thank you for understanding.

### **Worship Matters!**

**The Magdalene** is honored this Tuesday, July 22. You will read below about her being Apostle to the Apostles. She is the first one sent with news of the Risen Christ to the disciples (still locked behind closed doors). She is also the only woman found by name in all four gospels at the foot of the cross AND at the empty tomb. Now, the history of Mary Magdalene is complicated but the only thing we know about her for certain (except her name and her appearance at the cross and empty tomb) is that she is the one “from whom Jesus cleansed 7 demons” according to the longer version of Mark’s gospel. Otherwise, her origins, her family life, her connection to Jesus are unknown. There is growing scholarship around Mary Magdalene and Mary of Bethany (who we hear about today with her sister Martha) being the same person; and perhaps even being one and the same with Martha as well. But that is still being studied. She is not the woman caught in adultery (who remains unnamed, and since Mary is named copiously throughout scripture, it seems unlikely these are the same person). She was almost definitely independently wealthy given that she has a title and Luke tells us she helps to fund Jesus’ ministry. She was not a prostitute (that would almost certainly have been named given how often both are named in the gospels). She is also not (at least until scholarship comes to a greater understanding of the Bethany/Magdalene connection) the one who anoints Jesus’ feet. Mary Magdalene has been blurred with all these women largely because throughout the ages the Church did not know how to handle an independent woman who was a financier of Jesus’ ministry and who was the first to proclaim the gospel without giving her a much more negative back story. Sadly, down through the ages the Church has done the same with many women who have felt the call to ministry in the Church. Mary gives us pause to celebrate that from the very beginning (like, before Peter himself) women have been entrusted with preaching the Good News! And thanks be to God for that.

Our second Communion Hymn this morning honors Mary Magdalene’s story.

### **Outreach Offerings**

**Giving offerings** to outreach ministries allows Luther Memorial to support vital work beyond our church walls, like serving those in need and spreading the gospel. It enables us to fulfill our mission of serving God and others by funding programs that improve lives, both physically and spiritually. On Sunday, August 31 our morning offerings will be donated to Augusta Victory Hospital, Lutheran World Federation sponsored hospital in Jerusalem (avh.org/).

### **Youth**

**Flea Markets** will be held in our parking area (rain or shine) the third Saturday of the month through September 20. Set-up begins at 8:00am with shopping held from 9:00am – 12:00pm. Cost of a parking space is \$10 so load your car with unwanted treasures and come on down to park and sell. Please see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski for more information.

### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

**Family Beach Night** and our L. I. A. gathering will be Tuesday, August 12 from 5:30-7:00pm. We will meet at the Stull Nature Center beach area. Bring your chair, towel, blanket and toys for a fun evening of building sand castles and playing spike ball. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

**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 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon; July 22. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**OWLS** will enjoy the beautiful scenery and a delicious lunch at Ferrante’s Winery and Ristorante, 5585 N. River West, Geneva, OH on Wednesday, August 13. Reservations are at 12:00 noon and the drive is approximately 1 ½ hours. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes, 833-0476, or the church office by Friday, August 8. If you are interested in carpooling, please let Jan know.

### **Items to Note**

**Cleaning** of floors and carpets throughout the building will begin on Monday, July 28. For your safety (wet and waxed floors) we are asking that you please contact the church office if you need to stop in.

**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.

**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.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Walt Gaber	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Pat Gilbert
Friends and Family:			
Mary Beth & Mary Kelly	Justin	Mary Lou	Dolores Koscinski
Maureen & Scott C.	Gwen Smith	Andrew Wachter	Sullivan
Carol Steffey & Marissa	Sandy M.	Ron Lester	Sherry Giles
Phil Nagy	Henderson family		
Grief:			
Marilyn Bohn family	Lois Fobes family	Woodard family	
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Lt. Col. Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	

**Readings and Commemoration This Week**

**July 21** – Psalm 119:97-104; Exodus 18:1-12; Colossians 1:27-2:7

**July 22** – **MARY MAGDALENE, APOSTLE TO THE APOSTLES** – Ruth 1:6-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 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.*

**July 23** – **Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, 1373** – Psalm 119:97-104; Deuteronomy 12:1-12; John 6:41-51 -- *Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.*

**July 24** – Psalm 138; Esther 2:19-3:6; Acts 1:15-20

**July 25** – **JAMES, APOSTLE** – I Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 7:1-10; Acts 11:27-12:3a; Mark 10:35-45 – *James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).*

**July 26** – Psalm 138; Esther 4:1-17; Luke 8:22-25

## CALENDAR

**MONDAY, JULY 21**

**TUESDAY, JULY 22**                      10:00am                      Magic Fingers Grace Group

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**

**THURSDAY, JULY 24**

**FRIDAY, JULY 25**                      4:00pm                      Caram Wedding Rehearsal

**SATURDAY, JULY 26**                      1:00pm                      Caram Wedding

**SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025**

**THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

***Pastor Jay on Vacation***

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

<b>SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025</b>		
<b>ASSISTING IN WORSHIP</b>		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Julie Ditz
Communion Assistants	10:30am	Tom Klomp
	10:30am	Jonathan Ulrich
Lector	10:30am	Jonathan Ulrich
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Sarah Prylinski
Counters	10:30am	Ely & Rob Cooney
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	Carl Moore

