

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



14 MAY 2023
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
10:30 am

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ 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



14 MAY 2023

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Holy Communion • Of the Land and Seasons • 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 – "This Joyful Eastertide"

John Leavitt, Paul Bouman, Jan Bender

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

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

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

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 denied our need for daily new birth. We have scorned the means you provide to fertilize and cultivate our growth in grace. We have closed ourselves to pollination by others of your redeeming, particularly those whose fruits differ from ours. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, revive us, and open us to your gifts, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen. ►

- ☐ In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore proclaim to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- ☑ Amen.

Text for this hymn is the work of a 19th century licensed preacher in London, a gifted musician and translator who published many works. The melody comes from a popular 17th century Dutch song.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 391

This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has
 slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall
 riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.
 wake the dead in num - - ber.
 pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934
 Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

GREETING

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- ☐ The grace of our Risen Savior, the love of the ever-living God, and the fellowship of the life-breathing Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Choir 
We_ pray for peace, O Lord, make plow-shares of our swords, make


plow-shares of our swords: hear us when we cry to you.

All 
Lord, have mer-cy on_ us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have


mer - cy on_ us: hear us when we cry to you.


Choir 
Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un -


-til we see your face: hear us when we cry to you.

All 
Chrst, have mer-cy on_ us, have mer-cy on us, Christ, have


mer-cy on_ us: hear us when we cry to you.

Choir 
De - fend your church, O Lord, and root it in_ your


word, and_ root it in_ your word: hear us when we cry to you.

All 
Lord, have mer-cy on_ us, have mer-cy on_ us, Lord, have


mer-cy on_ us: hear our cry._ A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *Ruth 2:4*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C **O God, you give birth to all creation. By the power of your Holy Spirit, cause your word to bring forth new life in us, awaken our slumbering hearts, and enliven us with a patient and expectant hope; that we may break forth in blossom and stalk, full of the promise of fruit and grain; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Please be seated.

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

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

FIRST READING:

A reading from Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, the one who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is God served by human hands, as though needing anything, since that very God gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶“From one ancestor God made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about and find God— though indeed God is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In God we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are the offspring of God.’ ²⁹“Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now God commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because God has fixed a day on which to judge the world in righteousness by a man whom God has appointed, and of this God has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

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

Bless our God, you peo- ples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ Our God has kept us among the living

and has not allowed our feet to slip.

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;

you have tried us just as silver is tried.



- ¹¹ You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- ¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment. **R**
- ¹³ I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—
- ¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- ¹⁵ I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats. **R**
- ¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.
- ¹⁷ I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.
- ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
- ¹⁹ but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.
- ²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me. **R**

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution.
In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

SECOND READING:

A reading from 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. Christ was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you— not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

☒ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GRADUAL HYMN

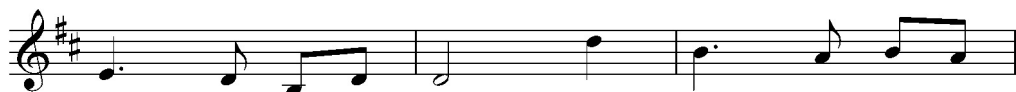
Please stand to welcome the gospel, singing this hymn.



1 O___ God, whose word well-plant ed___ yields fruit a hun-dred-
2 O___ God of seed and har vest, of___ sun and soil and
3 O___ God, your fi - nal har- vest of___ his - t'ry's an- cient



fold, we___ praise your grac - es grant - ed___ to___
rain, at - tend the word we sow, lest___ its___
field will___ test with truth the proud- est___ that___



those who sowed of old, who by their wit - ness
plant - ing be in vain. Send show - ers of your
hu - man work can yield. Op - pres - sion's blight will



scat - tered___ good seed up - on the soil where___
Spir - it,___ bright sun - shine of your grace, that___
van - ish,___ fair free - dom's fruits in - crease; and___



oth - ers, reap - ing, gath ered the___ har - vest of their toil.
mul - ti - tudes who hear it___ your gos - pel may em - brace.
love and joy will flour - ish___ to___ clothe the earth with peace.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, who will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because the world neither sees nor knows the Spirit. You know the Spirit because the Spirit abides with you, and will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Please stand as you are able.

Three stanzas, one for each person of the Trinity, are replete with diverse images of God found throughout scripture. The refrain reminds us that our limited human language can never adequately describe God. Using a multitude of names for God can help us avoid the idolatry of making a single characteristic of God the thing we worship. Thomas Troeger is a preacher, poet, and musician known for his hymn texts and writings on preaching. The tune name comes from the city in Wales where composer Joseph Parry lived and taught music. He wrote more than four hundred hymn tunes.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 947

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud



1 Source and Sov'-reign, Rock and Cloud, For - tress, Foun-tain, Shel - ter, Light,
 2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav - ior, Ser - vant, Lamb,
 3 Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem - pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De - fend - er, Mer - cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:
 Well and Wa - ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:
 Com - fort, Coun-s'lor, Pres - ence, Love, En - er - gies that nev - er tire:

Refrain



May the church at prayer re - call that no sin - gle ho - ly name



but the truth be - hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
 Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841-1903
 Text © 1986 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

NICENE CREED

- A** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C** We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God, begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.



For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

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

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS *1 Timothy 2:1*

A United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A God our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints, especially Martha Sturtevant. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C **Amen.**

P The peace of the Lord is 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

ANTHEM – “Commonwealth Is God's Commandment”

Mary Louise Bringle / W. Walker

Commonwealth is God's commandment; common goods are meant to share.

Tables set and doors wide open welcome angels unaware.

Refrain: Plead for the peace of all creation. Pray for a place where grace is found.

Shanti, pax, shalom, maslaha: common good is holy ground.

Sharing lavish gifts and blessings, love that not one mite withholds,
stretch out arms to friends and strangers: God has sheep of many folds.

Genders, races, tribes, and nations, hear the Holy One who calls,
biding all to work together, bridging lives and breaching walls.

This hymn's refrain includes words meaning "peace" from other religious traditions. Shanti (Sanskrit) is used in Hindi and Buddhist traditions. Pax is Latin for peace. Shalom (Hebrew) means peace and wholeness. Maslaha (Arabic) means reconciliation.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we



place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you, Lord, by your grace now



as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Gracious God
- C** You bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace and fruitful labor.
Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here.
Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the Son you sent us the living bread from heaven. By the Spirit you plant your word among us, filling the world with the promise of new life in your holy name. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in adoring song.

Choir

1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the
2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes__
3 Oh, what a sight it___ was to see and__

scrip - tures__ do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the
flow - ing__ through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels
oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple__ came to see the ho - ly Lord.
flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
shook and__ quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain

All

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's

glo - ry fills all heav'n and__ earth, God of pow - er and might.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** 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.
- P** 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.
- P** 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.*

- P** Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.
- C** Amen.
- P** Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.
- C** Amen.
- P** Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.
- C** Amen.
- P** 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.



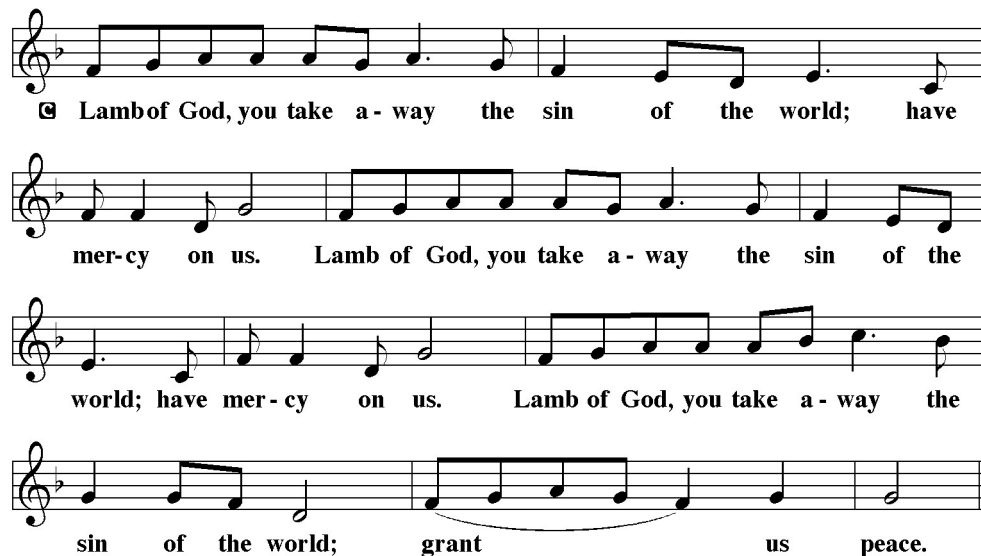
P O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.

C Amen.

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



C 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread

C as once you were known to your disciples.

P 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.*

HYMNS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION



1 We__ praise you__ for the life that__ stirs when
2 We__ praise the__ Fa - ther, praise the__ Son, and__



spring - time__ warms the sleep - ing earth; but__
praise the__ Spir - it, with the throng of__



most, we__ praise__ the__ grace that__ lures our__
saints and an - gels, - joined as__ one in__



slum - b'ring souls to love and mirth.
grate - ful, - ev - er - last - ing song.

The author majored in literature when entering college. After raising their two daughters she returned to college and earned a BA in English from Fresno Pacific College and an MA in Creative Writing and English from California State University. Music plays an important role in her life and after a semester of poetry she integrated them in a way that enriches both. Her hymn texts have been set to music and are included in several hymn books.

ELW 735

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
 2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
 3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - 'ry
 me your food of light, grain . . . of life, and grape of
 pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
 love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
 grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413
 Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936
 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Text for this hymn is the work of one of Sweden's best-loved hymn writers, Lina Sandell Berg (1832-1903), author of over 650 hymns. The melody is believed to be a folk melody from the Swedish province of Skåne.

ELW 613

Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
 and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
 Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune
 Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

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.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



1 O Lord of the blos som, O God of the seed, O gra - cious pro -
 2 O Lord of the har - vest, O God of the feast, where sor - rows are



vi - der for all hu - man need, you havenour - ished our faith at your
 van - quished and joys are in - creased, where the tree of life grows in your



ta - ble of grace, and nur - tured new life in the light of your
 or - chards a - bove, we'll join in the cho - rus in praise of your



face, O Lord of the grain - field, O God of the
 love. Sing praise to the Fa - ther, sing praise to the



vine, you've fed us your pres - ence in bread and in
 Son, sing praise to the Spir - it. Praise God, Three in



wine. In com - mun - ion you've blest to us ar - bor and
 One! You have made us one peo - ple you've fed by the



plow, and shown us the gos - pel, your word for us now.
 hand, O Lord of the heav - ens, O God of the land.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Let us pray,
Gracious God, we give you thanks for your pruning, planting and nurture.
We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us.
Lead us as we go from this life giving meal into lives of grateful service to you
and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.
- 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

- P** The God who brooded over the waters at creation;
the God who dances in Mary’s womb;
the God who is outpoured into your hearts in abundance;
God Mother, + Majestic, and Mighty,
bless you this day and always.
- C** Amen.

Text for this hymn was written by British businessman and gifted writer William C, Dix (1837-1898) and first published in 1867. The tune (whose tune name Hyfrydol means good cheer in Welsh), was written before the composer was 20 years old. Rowland Prichard (1811-1887) was a Welsh manufacturing laborer who wrote a number of good hymn tunes.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 392

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- A** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A** Go in peace. Tell what God has done. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Healey Willan

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Lois Smith

LECTOR – Jane Moran

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Pat Gilbert

ALTAR GUILD – Pam Masiroff

USHERS – Ann Flick, Jeanne Gaber, Natalie Montero, Krista Partusch



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our mother, Martha Sturtevant, by her children, Susan, Roger, Bob and Dave.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and for all the mothers, the grandmothers, the empty armed mothers, and all of those mothers who love us like their own; Happy Mother’s Day, from Peaceful Petals Flower Patch and The Treibers.

Our love and sympathy is with the many friends of Richard Jeffords. Richard died Wednesday, May 10, 2023. Service arrangements will be announced.

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, by Friday, May 26 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

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 May 14, as we prepare for our Ascension worship, please make an appointment with Pastor by calling the church office OR by e-mailing him: JMitchell@luthermemorialonline.org OR by using: calendly.com/TheRevJCM.

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.

Ascension of Our Lord

A festival service celebrating the **Ascension of Our Lord** will be held at Luther Memorial on the Thursday, May 18 at 7:00pm. All of the Erie County ELCA churches are invited to participate and Bishop Lozano will be preaching. During the service one of J. S. Bach's Ascension cantatas will be presented.

As in our previous Bach Cantata Vespers, this cantata will be sung in its original German and accompanied by a small orchestra. Much of the cantata is sung by soloists, with the chorus singing the first and last movements.

If you wish to sing in the mass choir leading the singing of the hymns and the psalm, please contact the church office (814.454.0106, x221) at your earliest convenience so that music and seating can be prepared. **Attendance at a 5:00pm rehearsal immediately preceding the service is required for participation in this choir.** Anyone wanting more detailed information should contact Cantor Walt Gaber or any choir member.

Christian Education

Children's Church classes for PreK – grade 6 will gather for their final class on Sunday, May 21 meeting from 9:30 – 10:15am. We hope to see many smiling faces before we break for the summer.

Vacation Bible School – It's a Family Affair! Four fun evenings are planned for children, youth, and adults for VBS this year. Add to your calendars Wednesdays, May 24, May 31, June 7 and June 14. Our evenings together will be from 5:30-7:00pm and begin with a potluck meal (main dish provided; please bring a dish to share), followed by a Bible message, craft, music and some energetic activities, too. VBS has always been a fun experience for our children, and we are excited to make it a Family Affair this year.

Opportunities for Fellowship

OWLS will enjoy a delicious lunch at the Shrine Club on Tuesday, May 16. Join us from 11:30am – 1:00pm for laughter, conversation and great food. Please see Jan MacInnes if you are interested in attending.

Magic Fingers Grace Group invites you to start your Tuesday mornings with a smile by joining us for some knitting, crocheting and your yarn projects. Gathering the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am-12:00pm is a perfect way to start your day. Join us on May 23 for a wonderful morning. 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.

Luther Memorial Academy

LMA Spring Program will be held Monday, May 15 at 6:30pm. All are invited to join us for this wonderful program and enjoy an ice cream social, art show and book fair.

LMA's Lego League team has been invited to a **FIRST** Lego League tournament at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts June 9-11, 2023. This is a huge opportunity for the LMA team and they are proud to represent LMA & Erie County. To make this happen for our team, it is necessary to raise \$845 per student, which means a total of \$5,915 for the team. If you are

aware of an area business that would like to sponsor our Lego League, please share the information with the school office. Every little bit helps & all donation and sponsorship can be mailed or dropped off in the school office. Be sure to make checks payable to LMA & earmark them for Lego League. Thank you.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Pasta/Soup Kitchen

We are praying for volunteers for our ministry. Holy Trinity serves Tuesday evening dinner at 5:00 and a simple, nutritious lunch at noon on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. For lunch, volunteers arrive at 10:30am to prepare the meal, then serve and clean-up, usually leaving by 1:00pm. Volunteers are especially needed for one Wednesday or Saturday a month. Substitutes will also be needed during the summer, as regular volunteers take some time for vacation.

Additionally, Holy Trinity has been awarded a grant to install a free laundromat for our friends, neighbors and the homeless to use. Installation will begin in June and July, and they are looking/praying for volunteers who would be willing to oversee the operations. Times being considered are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 9:00am-3:00pm, with volunteers working 3 hour shifts 9:00am-12:00pm or 12:00-3:00pm.

If you can help, please contact Ron King at rkingerie@roadrunner.com. Pastor Karen Lundwall can give you more information.

Bethany Outreach Center

The Bethany Outreach Center continues to serve the underprivileged in our community, and ***we are so thankful for the help that the Luther Memorial congregation has been giving us.*** Our Clothes Closet could use baby clothes, kids clothes, and adult male clothes. However, clothing of all types is always welcome. If you would like to donate clothes or food, please bring them in a bag or box and place them near the white cupboard in the Luther Memorial Parlor area.

Join us for the Highmark Walk at Presque Isle on Saturday, June 3, at Beach 11 at 8:30am. Our team will assemble, and the walk will begin at 9:00am! Sign up to join our team, or donate by going to Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, click on Erie, select Donate Now and choose Bethany Outreach Center. Feel free to call or text Eric Hedlund if you have any questions at (814) 722-7732.

Items to Note

Church offices and LMA will be closed on Wednesday, May 17 due to a planned Penelec power outage from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Penelec will notify us if this is cancelled due to weather conditions. If cancelled, the power outage will be rescheduled for Monday, May 22.

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.

CALENDAR

MONDAY, MAY 15	6:30pm	LMA Spring Program
TUESDAY, MAY 16	10:00am 11:30am 6:30pm	Pastors' Study OWLS / Shrine Club Orchestra & Soloists Rehearsal
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17		Church offices and LMA Closed due to Penelec planned power outage
	6:30pm	Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
THURSDAY, MAY 18	3:00pm 5:00pm 7:00pm	School Board Choir Rehearsal Ascension of Our Lord Worship Service
FRIDAY, MAY 19	9:00am	Kdg. – Grade 5 / Erie Playhouse
SATURDAY, MAY 20	10:00am	Quilt Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship with us at 8:15 and 10:30am.

Children's Church for PreK – Grade 6 will meet at 9:30am.

Blood pressures will be offered at 11:30am in the school library.

Coffee and refreshments will be offered in the parlor at 11:30am.

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeters	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Pat Young
Counters	10:30am	Dave Kinzig, Natalie Montero

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon	John Scott		
Friends and Family:			
Debbie	Elayne Morphy	Kate Collins	Bernie Wiest
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie	Mary Correll	Roger Smith	Branden Jones
Mark Smith	Nichole Jones	Bob Guenther	Caitlyn Kessler
John Varner	Melissa Pierce	Diane Henry	Meghan Kessler
Ginger	Kevin	Michael Collins	Adam Surovick
Baby Archer Bardwell	Curtis Krick	Barbara Dennison	Susan Brooks
Michele Seifert			
Grief:			
Dennis Sander family	Joan Peters family	Pia Glover family	