

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



22 JANUARY 2023
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany
10:30 am

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

Pastor Emeritus

WALT GABER

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

BETH KELLER

Youth and Family Ministry

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

BECKY CAREY

Interim Academy Administrator



22 JANUARY 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Four • 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 – "Prelude & Fugue in G Minor"

Dietrich Buxtehude

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

☛ **Amen.**

☞ Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



P Holy One, source of our renewal,
C we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
 and cannot free ourselves.
 We have not practiced your righteousness.
 Our hearts have turned away from you.
 For the sake of the world you so love,
 forgive us,
 that we may be reconciled to one another
 for the glory of your holy name.
 Amen.

P Thus says our God:
 “The former things have come to pass
 and new things I now declare.”
 God’s mercy makes us new.
 We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness, and published as a pamphlet. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and although the author was very much opposed to the addition of a refrain, the composer was responsible for writing the one we sing today. Text, tune, and refrain have since become nearly inseparable.

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 661

I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
- C** Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

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

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1-4

¹There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time the Lord brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time the Lord will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

- L** The word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27:1, 5-13

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

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion.

- ¹The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
 The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- ⁵One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;
 that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- ⁶to behold the fair beauty of the Lord
 and to seek him in his temple.
- ⁷For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
 he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling, and set me high upon a rock. **R**



⁸Even now he lifts up my head
 above my enemies round about me.
⁹Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
 I will sing and make music to the Lord.
¹⁰Hearken to my voice O Lord when I call;
 have mercy on me and answer me.
¹¹You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
 Your face Lord will I seek.
¹²Hide not your face from me,
 nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
¹³You have been my helper; cast me not away;
 do not forsake me O God of my salvation. **R**

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, dear family, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my dear family. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain: *(Sung once by the choir, repeated by the congregation and repeated after the verse.)*



*Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and cured every sickness among the people.
 (Matt. 4:23)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the dominion of heaven has come near.” ¹⁸As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed Jesus. ²¹Going on from there, Jesus saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. ²³Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the dominion of heaven and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Moran

Please stand as you are able.

Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.

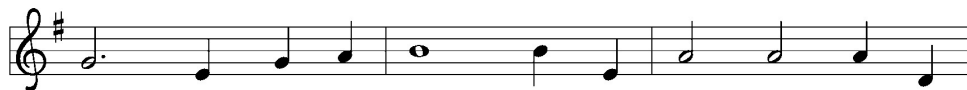
HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 696

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -





sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

APOSTLES' CREED

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

THE PRAYERS

- A** Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.
- A** Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- A** Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. Merciful God,
- C** **receive our prayer.**



A Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation's unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A We give you thanks for the leading of the Holy Spirit in the call process and for the hard work of our Call Committee and our Church Council. Guide Pastor Mitchell as he prepares to leave his congregation in Philadelphia and begin his ministry with us. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, especially Mark Lechner, as well as those both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C Amen.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

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:

“Jesus said, truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.”

Luke 21: 3-4

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "I Love to Tell the Story"

arr. Dan R. Edwards

Please stand as you are able.

This hymn combines a text by one of the most eminent Lutheran hymn writers with music by one of the most eminent Lutheran composers. The text was written by the author as an entrance hymn or introit, as "a list of awesome and exciting things that one should expect in worship."

The tune was written for the text in 1969.

OFFERTORY

Now the Silence

ELW 460



Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed



Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come



Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing



Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion

Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing

Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Liberating God,
 you break the bonds of injustice
 and let the oppressed go free.
 Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
 for all your works of merciful power,
 and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
 You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
- G** Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

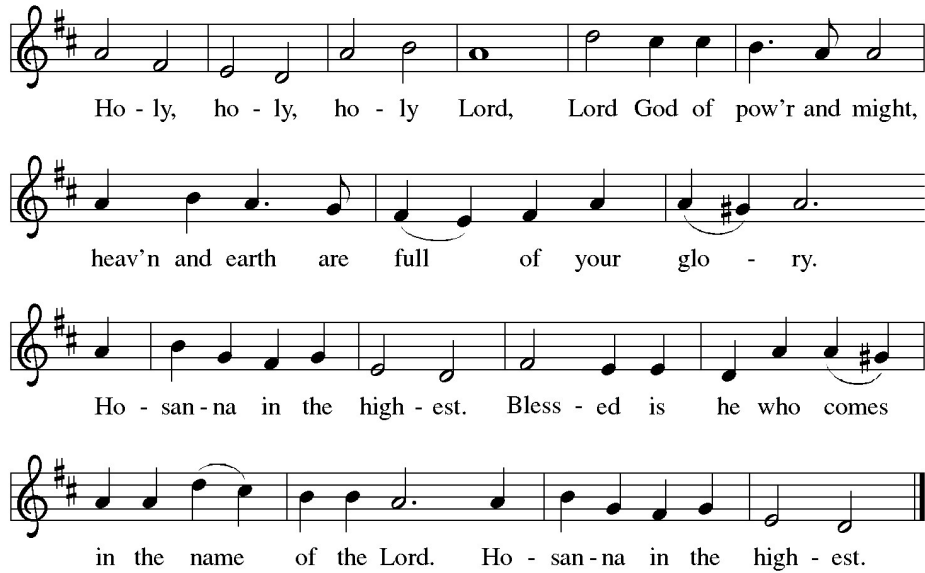
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

- 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: ▶



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

☐ Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

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.

☐ Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

☑ **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

☐ With this bread and cup
 we remember your Word dwelling among us,
 full of grace and truth.
 We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
 We look with hope for his coming.

☑ **Come, Lord Jesus.**



☐ Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

☑ **Come, Holy Spirit.**

☐ All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, 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.**

AGNUS DEI



☑ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and taste the joy of God!

C Amen.

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

O Jesus, our great high priest, be present with us as you were present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread. Lutheran Book of Worship

COMMUNION

Today's service is a celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the gifts of bread and wine, bringing forgiveness of sins and new life to all who receive this sacrament. All baptized Christians who come at our Lord's invitation are welcome at His table of grace.

Please come forward by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

Prefilled cups with white grape juice for those who prefer it

are located in the tray on the stand in front of the baptismal font.

Gluten-free wafers are also on the stand in the dish on top of the tray.

Receive the bread and wine and return to your place by the side aisle.

If you are not going to receive Holy Communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.



ANTHEM – "Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake"

Kevin Sadowski

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

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

Text and tune of this hymn are the work of one of the four "St. Louis Jesuits," a group of Catholic composers who popularized an "Easy Listening/folk music" style of church music through their compositions and recordings of the 1970s and '80s.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

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?"



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.

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☑ Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

C Amen.

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

BLESSING

P The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor’s rod
‡ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

C Amen.

Text and tune for this hymn are the work of a contemporary liturgical composer of Great Britain, active in churchly renewal since the Second Vatican Council. The priestly yearning of the text is reflected in the melodic move to a higher pitch in the refrain.

SENDING HYMN

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

G Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE – "Canzona in G Major"

Dietrich Buxtehude

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor Brian Moran

GREETERS – Sue Cappelletty, Pat Young

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pam Masiroff

LECTOR – Les Fobes

USHERS – Maria Brown, Sue Cappelletty, Elvin Montero, Betty Pletz

ALTAR GUILD – Dave Griswold



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Mark Lechner.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Stan and Rose-Marie Rose on January 19.

Today's Events

Please join us in the parlor for coffee and snacks following the 10:30 service this morning. Thank you to our Tuesday Circle for providing this time of fellowship.

Blood pressures will be taken in the school library following the 10:30 service.

Offering envelopes for 2023 are located on the table by the ramp door. To save on postage we ask that you please pick up your envelopes. They are arranged alphabetically. Thank you.

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.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, January 29, 2023 following the 10:30am service. The 8:15am service will not be held. Annual reports from staff members, committee heads and other key members of the congregation were to be submitted to the church office by January 15. The Annual Report will be emailed prior to January 29, and copies will be available to the congregation. Homemade soup and/or chili will be available for purchase. Proceeds benefit our youth.

Christian Education

Children's Church classes for PreK – grade 6 meets the second Sunday of each month from 9:30 – 10:15am. Our youth in grades 7 - 12 will continue meeting on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am.

Teachers and helpers are needed for our Children's Church classes. This will only be the second Sunday of each month. If you are able to help monthly or on a rotating basis it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the church office with any questions. Thank you.

Lent

The season of Lent will soon be upon us giving us an opportunity to revive our Wednesday luncheons. Due to Covid we have not had them for the past three (3) years. Hopefully, there will be much enthusiasm for them once again. A planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7 at 11:00am in the church parlor for all who are interested in helping. We need cooks and help with setup and clean up. Please contact Betty Pletz at 814-898-1053 with any questions.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Magic Fingers Grace Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00-12:00pm. Begin 2023 by keeping those knitting and crocheting needles busy and join us January 24. 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.

Quilt meeting will be held Saturday, March 11 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. The February meeting is cancelled.

“Souper” Bowl Tasting will be held Sunday, February 5 in fellowship hall following the 10:30 service. All are welcome to prepare a batch of their favorite soup to share. Tables will be set up in fellowship hall and everyone will have the opportunity for a sample taste. If you don’t have the knack for making soup, please come and have a taste of the many varieties available. Thank you to our Congregational Life Committee for making our fellowship time fun and scrumptious.

Your Health

Balance class will be offered the first Friday of each month from 10:00 – 11:00am meeting on the 5th floor. Our first gathering will be Friday, February 3. We invite you to join us and learn the many tools you can use to reduce your risk of falling and how to prevent injury. Please contact Linda Graffius, 454-0106, ext. 229, with any questions. Reservations are appreciated so materials are prepared for everyone.

Outreach

Special offering will be received Sunday, January 29 which will benefit the Bethany Outreach Center. Offerings may be placed in the pew envelopes and designated “Bethany Outreach Center”. As we continue to help those in our community that are in need, we thank you.

In Case of Emergency

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, JANUARY 23

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24 10:00am Magic Fingers Grace Group

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 6:00pm LMA Legos

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 **THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

Michael Snider will preach at the combined 10:30am service in the main church. The 8:15am service will not be held.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held in fellowship hall immediately following the 10:30 service.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	10:30am	Julie Ditz
Lay Distributor	10:30am	Stan Rose
Altar Guild	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeters	10:30am	Cheryl Brown, Richelle Denning
Counters	10:30am	Stan Rose, Jeff Swanson

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Jan & Skip MacInnes	C. Noelle Partusch	Chickie Braine	John Downey
Dave Parsh	Mark Howell	Mike Daniels	Paul Meucci
Torsten Carlson	Dave Birkner		
Friends and Family:			
Elise VanDamia	Elayne Morphy	Linda F.	Linda F.
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie	Mary Correll	Judy Skoog	Sue O'Mahony
Eddie Jackman	Nichole Jones	Bob Guenther	Christine Norris
Jessica & Damian Ream	Brittani H.	Tom McGrail	Meghan Kessler
Susan Brooks	Kevin	Tom Wilson	Dawn Weborg
Brian Nicewonger			
Grief:			
Kaitlyn Farley family	Mark Lechner family	Bev Held family	
Pastor Ralph Storm family	Carol Luebke family		
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			