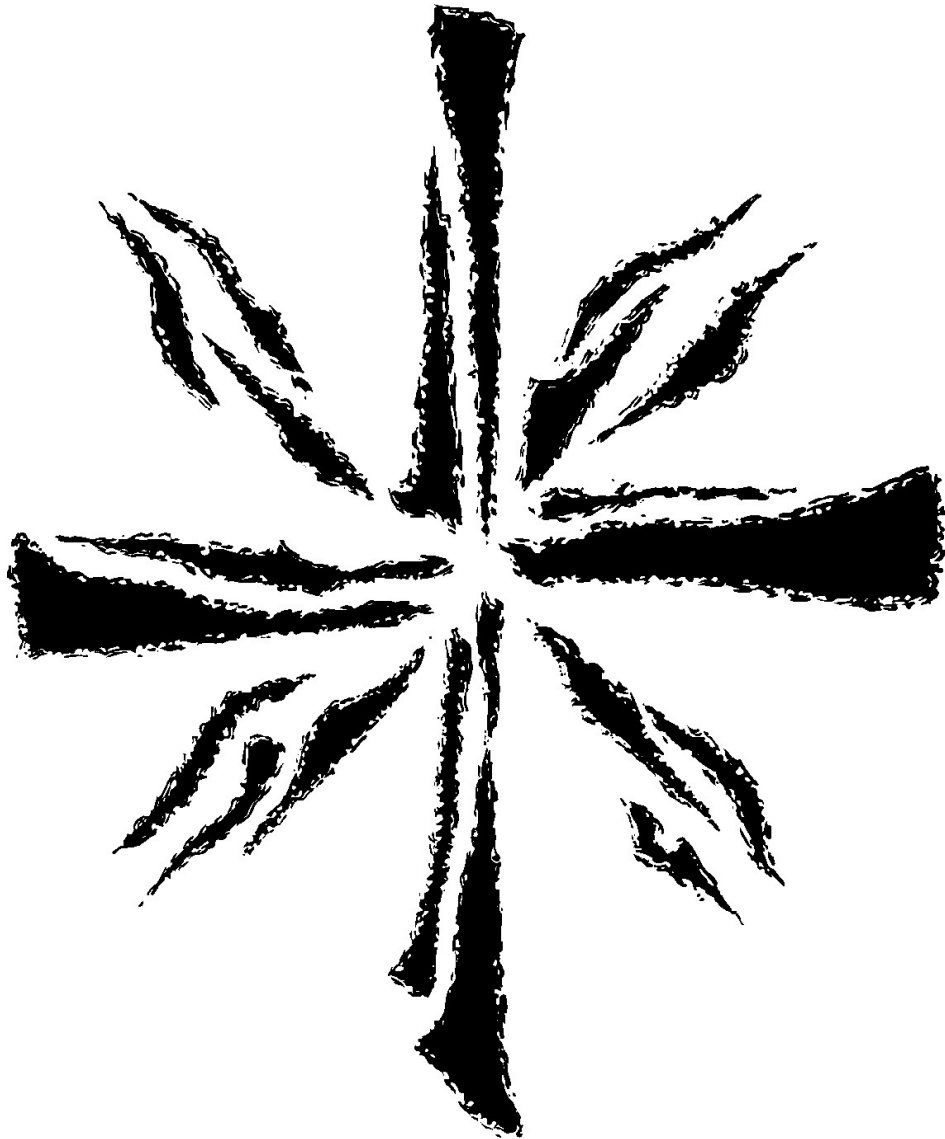


*Welcome to*  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
*of the Erie Lutheran Parish*



3 MARCH 2024  
The Third Sunday *in* Lent  
10:30 am

# 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. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

*Pastors in Residence*

MICHELLE THOM

*Academy Administrator*

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

**3 MARCH 2024**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Holy Communion • ELW Setting Five • 10:30**

***GATHERING – “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”***

**PRELUDE** – Partita on "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow"

John A. Behnke

**HANDBELL VOLUNTARY** – "Solemn Melody"

John S. Dixon

### **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 ASSURANCE**

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

**☞** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**☞ Amen.**

**☞** Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please kneel or sit. Silence is kept for reflection.*

**☞** Holy God,

**☞ we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know,**

**forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

☐ May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins through our Lord + Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, bring us to everlasting life.

☑ Amen.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GATHERING HYMN

ELW 327

### Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward  
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the  
3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as  
4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



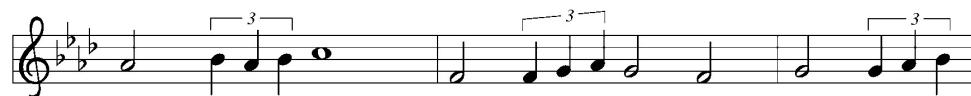
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -  
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and  
from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the  
with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -  
ter - ror, bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the  
per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the  
bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the  
ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which  
glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -  
come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of  
nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing  
ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y  
of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.  
for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.  
Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.  
shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.

## 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.

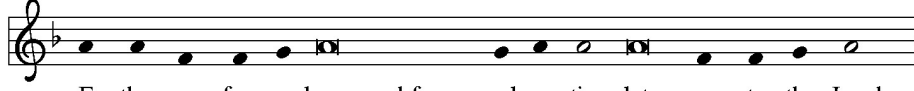
## KYRIE



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** 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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

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

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

### FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words, <sup>2</sup>“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses the divine name. <sup>8</sup>Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work— you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it. <sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s spouse, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: Psalm 19

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

The com - mand - ment of the LORD  
gives light to the eyes.

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker’s handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

<sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup> their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

- <sup>5</sup> It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- <sup>6</sup> It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat. **R**
- <sup>7</sup> The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- <sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. **R**
- <sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- <sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **R**

## SECOND READING: I Corinthians 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

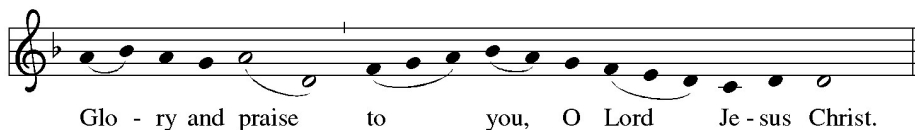
**L** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly sings the acclamation. A cantor or the choir sings the verse after which all repeat the acclamation.*



*We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.  
(1 Corinthians 1:23, 24)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jewish people was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Judeans then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Judeans then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

SERMON

Pastor Jay

*Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 927

### Christ Is the Life



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive  
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning  
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing  
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the  
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to  
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as  
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all  
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing  
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y  
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor  
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise  
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from  
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.  
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.  
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.  
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
Music: COE FEN, Kenneth Naylor, 1931–1991  
Text © 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress  
Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** Let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:

**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.**

*Please kneel or sit for the prayers.*

## THE PRAYERS

**A** Trusting in the promises of baptism, the mercy and grace of God, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

**A** Let us pray for the Church; for deacons, pastors, and bishops; for all the faithful.  
*Here you may pray silently or aloud for the Church of Jesus Christ in every place.*

**A** Let us pray for God's good creation; for the changing of the seasons; for the promises of spring; for shelter from harsh weather; and for all who work for clean water and fresh air for all.  
*Here you may pray silently or aloud for the needs of creation.*

**A** Let us pray for the nations; for those who rule, govern, and lead; all who run for public office; and all places that know war and strife.  
*Here you may pray silently or aloud for the nations of the world.*

**A** Let us pray for those in need; the underhoused and underemployed; the sick; those who bear another's burdens; those who will die today.  
*Here you may pray silently or aloud for the sick, suffering, and those in need.*

**A** Let us pray for those preparing for baptism; for those who seek after the mysteries of God; those who prepare for ministry in the Church.  
*Here you may pray silently or aloud for those in their catechetical journeys.*



**A** Let us pray in thanksgiving for those who have gone before in the way of the cross; those whose faith inspires our own; those whose faith was known only to God.

*Here you may give thanks silently or aloud for our beloved dead.*

**A** Keep us, O God, in the promises of baptism until we come to the Feast around the Lamb in whose mercy and grace we trust.

**C** Amen.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you.

**C** And also with you.

*Please be seated.*

## MEAL – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.”

### THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An Individual Silent Prayer as We Prepare to Make our Offering:

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

### ANTHEM – "A Lenten Walk"

American Spiritual; arr. Hal H. Hopson

*Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself;  
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.*

*We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves;  
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.*

*Jesus bore the cross of sorrow; he had to bear it by himself;  
Oh, nobody else could bear it for him, he had to bear it by himself.*

*We must take our cross and follow; Yes, we must follow by ourselves;  
Oh, nobody else can follow for us, we have to follow by ourselves.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OFFERTORY

WOV 732

### Create in Me a Clean Heart Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The image shows a musical score for a two-part setting of the offering song. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right".

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**A** Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**C** Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

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.



## PREFACE

☐ It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

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

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ☐ O God, Creator of our wilderness world, Savior of the lost, and Comforter of the sick and suffering, we give you thanks for your everlasting might; we glorify you for your covenant of mercy.
- ☐ For forty days you cleansed the earth with the waters of the flood. For forty days you illumined Moses with the words of your law. For forty years you fed your people with manna from heaven.
- ☐ You became truly human in Jesus our brother. For forty days, with fasting and prayer, he renounced the power of the devil.

*On the night before he died he 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.*

- ☐ We extol his life:
- ☑ Amen.
- ☐ We lament his death:
- ☑ Amen.

**P** We celebrate his resurrection:

**C** Amen.

**P** Transform us, O God, + with your lively Spirit. Make this food into manna for our journey, the body and blood of your Son. Grant us with the Ninevites forty days of repentance. Teach us your words of wisdom and justice. Renew the whole earth with baptismal grace. At the last, lead all your pilgrim people through our deserts to your Easter garden.

**P** To you, O God, Creator, Savior, Comforter, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be our worship and praise, adoration and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** *Lord, remember us in the kingdom and teach us to pray:*



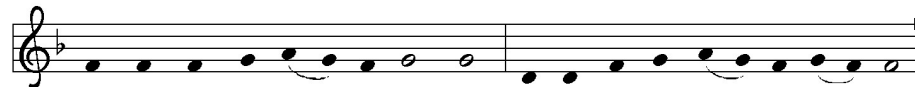
**C** Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## AGNUS DEI



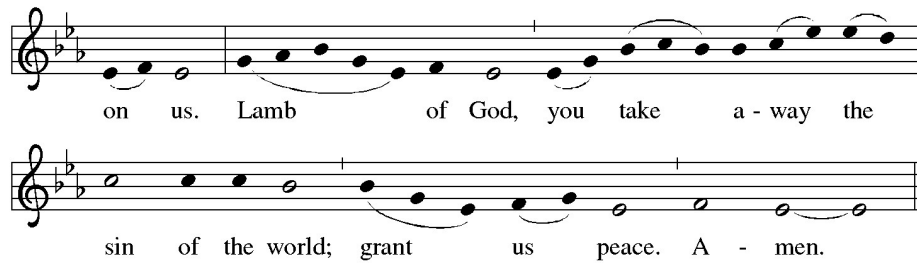
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Here is the Lamb of God. Here the one who takes away the sin of the world.  
Happy are we who are called to the supper.
- ☑ **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**
- ☐ Those communing at home: take, eat, drink: 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

ELW 803

### When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

ELW 772

## Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!  
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;  
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;  
 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;

Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
 let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
 Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**C** Amen.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**BLESSING**

☞ ...until we meet again.

☞ **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE**

☞ Go in peace. Share your bread.

☞ **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE – Fugue on "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow"**

John A. Behnke

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**— SERVING TODAY —**

*ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer*

*ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham*

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern*

*LECTOR – Vance Meucci*

*USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Dave Griswold, Brooke & Lincoln McCall*

*VIDEO STREAMING – Beth Keller*

*ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke*



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of cherished loved ones by the Hubbard family.

**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**

**Our prelude** begins at 10:25 each week and flows into the 10:30am worship time. We hope that this will draw us together and into our time of worship. Please remember to be mindful of those around you and those worshipping at home by keeping conversations and visiting to the lobbies once the prelude has begun. Thank you.

**A reminder** that our livestream runs from the beginning of the prelude through the end of the postlude. To maintain a worshipful space for those joining from home, please remember to leave the chancel area (the area around the altar) clear until after the postlude.

**Lutheran Schools Week** is an annual week of activities and celebration hosted by the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association. This year it runs from March 3 through March 9. A worship service will be held tomorrow, **Monday, March 4 at 1:00pm** in our main church with Bishop Michael Lozano preaching. **Cookies** are needed for the reception which will be held following the service. If you are available to provide cookies, please contact Les Fobes or the church office. All are welcome to attend.

## Worship Matters

**What's with the liturgical yoga? Standing, sitting, kneeling, so much movement!** Worship is an act of the whole body. We often focus on our voices, our ears, our eyes, our minds. But we are called to bring our whole selves to this time wherein God is the primary actor in our lives. Regardless of our physical ability, we can be mindful of the ways we approach this time and our encounter with God. Prayer is no different. There are a multitude of postures for prayer. When we stand for prayer—perhaps even extending our hands outward, palms up in what is known as *orans* position which is the most ancient posture for prayer—we are standing in surety and hope, we trust and proclaim the good news of resurrection. Similarly, when we kneel or sit for prayer—an ancient posture for supplication—we acknowledge our position before God and show respect with our bodies. During Lent, we adopt this prayer of penitence and supplication for the *Confession and Assurance* and for the *Prayers of Intercession*. We will again stand in body and spirit confident in the resurrection, but for this season of penitence, we use our bodies to remind ourselves of what this season calls us to.

## Music Ministry

**Plan to arrive** in time for the prelude beginning at **10:25 next Sunday, March 10 when Kara Partusch plays a set of hymn arrangements for trombone** as part of the **LM Second Sunday Family & Friends Prelude** series. Kara is very active in the McDowell High School Jazz, Concert, & Marching bands, the Erie Junior Philharmonic, North Coast Brass Company, and LM's handbell choir. Kara plans to continue her study of music beyond high school. P.S. don't forget the time change and miss out on this and the service that morning.

## Lent Opportunities

**Worship services** are held each Wednesday in Lent, February 21 – March 20 at 12:05pm in the main church. Pastor Jay will be preaching on the “The Seed of Joy”. This midweek series will flow in tandem with the daily devotional *Tending Joy* that is available at the hospitality tables.

**Lenten Luncheons** are offered on Wednesdays in Lent; February 21 – March 20 at 12:30pm in fellowship hall. A home-cooked meal will fill you up for the day; cost \$8. The main dish for Wednesday, March 6 will be macaroni & cheese. Help is always appreciated and anyone interested in lending a hand with cooking, serving and/or clean-up may contact Betty Pletz at 898-1053 or the church office.

**Steps in Faith**, our evening Lenten gatherings, are held each Wednesday in Lent; February 21 – March 20. At 5:30 we gather for dinner; the main dish is provided, please bring a dish to share. A Bible lesson and a craft or activity will be held following our meal.

**Walking** is a simple form of exercise for many, but a Lenten walking practice can be a time for spiritual development. The main church is open each weekday thru **Wednesday, March 27 from 9:00am – 2:00pm**. We invite you take advantage of a comfortable place to walk and take those extra steps as a time for prayer or fellowship with a companion walker.

**Hamloaf** orders will be accepted through Sunday, March 10. Be sure to stock up as they won't be available again until December. Order forms are located at the welcome tables and in the church office. Hamloaf will be available for pick up on Sunday, March 24.

## Christian Education

**First Holy Communion** will be offered on Sunday, April 14, 2024 during the 10:30am service. In preparation for First Communion two Saturday morning sessions will be held on April 6 and April 13 from 9:00am – 12:00 noon, including snack time. These 2 All-Family Workshops will be our preparation for the big celebration! Any family interested in First Communion should plan to attend both sessions. First Communion is open to all the baptized so any child and family are welcome if you're ready. However, families with children in grades 3-5 are strongly encouraged to participate if your child has not received First Communion yet. Please contact Pastor Jay or the church office if your family will be attending these sessions. Thank you.



## Opportunities for Fellowship

**Magic Fingers Grace Group** continues to spend wonderful mornings together knitting, crocheting, and being creative with needlepoint, cross-stitch and more. Join them the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; March 12 and March 26 from 10:00am – 12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

## Support Our Youth!

**Spring Craft Show** will be held Saturday, March 9 from 10:00am-3:00pm in our fellowship hall. Everything from handwoven items to gourmet treats to home décor will have you leaving with a bag full of goodies. Professional crafters will have a large selection of items from which to choose. Bring your friends and stop down.

**Luck of the Irish Bingo** is set for Sunday, March 17. Doors open at 1:30pm with Bingo beginning at 1:00pm. Eight games of bingo will be played with case prizes. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Bring a 4 leaf clover for luck and have an exciting afternoon. Tickets are available from Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski and the church office.

## Luther Memorial Academy

**At the conclusion of Lutheran Schools Week**, the Parent Teacher League (PTL) of LMA will be hosting a fundraiser Trivia event at Lavery Brewing. On Sunday, March 10 from 2:00-4:00pm, we will gather for trivia, raffles, and fun! Teams of 4 can sign up for \$50 by calling Kim Wertz. Individuals who would like to be assigned to a team, may sign up for \$15 per person. All funds benefit LMA.

## Donations Needed

**Bethany Outreach Center** is in need of canned fruit for the food pantry. Pull tab lids are preferred as many do not have access to can openers. Donations may be placed in our Bethany cupboard outside the parlor. Thank you.

## Items to Note

**In case of an emergency** and unable to reach Pastor Jay, 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. Thank you.

**Daylight Saving Time** begins next week. Be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour before turning in for the night on Saturday, March 9.

## Readings and Commemorations This Week

**March 4** – Psalm 84; I Kings 6:1-4, 21-22; I Corinthians 3:10-22

**March 5** – Psalm 84; II Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19; Hebrews 9:23-28

**March 6** – Psalm 84; Ezra 6:1-16; Mark 11:15-19

**March 7 – Perpetua and Felicitas and companions, martyrs, 202** – Psalm 124; Hebrews 10:32-39; Matthew 24:9-14 -- *Vibia Perpetua, a noblewoman and mother to a child who was still nursing, and Felicity, an enslaved pregnant woman, were catechumens at Carthage, northern Africa. They, with four other catechumens, had defied the Roman emperor who had forbidden conversions to Christianity, and were put to death in the amphitheater.*

**March 8** – Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Daniel 12:5-13; Ephesians 1:7-14

**March 9** – Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Numbers 20:22-29; John 3:1-13

## CALENDAR

<b>MONDAY, MARCH 4</b>	9:00am	Erie High School Band visits LMA Middle School
	1:00pm	Lutheran Schools Week Worship Service
	1:45pm	Reception
<b>TUESDAY, MARCH 5</b>	2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
<b>WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6</b>	12:05pm	Lenten Worship Service
	12:35pm	Luncheon
	5:30pm	Steps in Faith
	5:30pm	Worship & Music
<b>THURSDAY, MARCH 7</b>	11:00am	Etiquette Luncheon
	1:00pm	Asbury Presentation/Gr. 3-5
	1:00pm	Grief Support Group
	2:30pm	LMA Play Rehearsal
	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:30pm	Choir
<b>FRIDAY, MARCH 8</b>		LMA Closed
	6:30pm	Club 50
<b>SATURDAY, MARCH 9</b>	10:00am	Vendor/Craft Fair
	10:00am	Julia Hospice Meeting

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024 THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

**Second Sunday Family & Friends Prelude** will begin at 10:25am in the main church.

**Adult Forum** will gather at 9:15am.

**Trivia Fundraiser** at Lavery Brewing; 2:00-4:00pm.

<b>SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024</b>		
<b>ASSISTING IN WORSHIP</b>		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Communion Assistant)	10:30am	Jeanne Gaber
Lector	10:30am	Les Fobes
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	Emma Chaffee, Rob Cooney
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	Cathy Beck, Sue Cappelletty, Pat Gilbert

– PRAYER LIST –

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Our Members:**

Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Rose-Marie Rose	Phil McAfee
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**Friends and Family:**

Paul Gustafson	Lorraine Melms	Jeannette Bowers	Doug Blum
Jeff Granger & family	Janice Carpenter	Heather Keaster	Russ Wiest
Nikki & Ayden Moyer & family	Louise Seth	Marky Stein	Jonah Allgeier
Pam (Battersby) Latronca	Tony B.	Betty M.	Kay Kaberline
Stephanie Voland			

**Grief:**

Jessica & Matt Kinzig & family	Melanie Benn family	Carol Emerson family
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**Our Military Service Men & Women:**

Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon			