

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



19 APRIL 2026

**Third Sunday of Easter**

10:30 am

## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

### LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

*Cantor*

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH,

THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

*Pastors in Residence*

MICHELLE THOM

*LMA Principal*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

## WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

+ If you have a need to **children**'s bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.

- Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshipping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

**PRELUDE – "Prelude in d"**

J. Pachelbel

**TEMPLE TALK**

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia! Amen!**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**ELW 361**

**The Day of Resurrection!**

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

## GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

The grace of our risen savior Jesus Christ, the love of our ever-living God, and the communion of the life-breathing Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*The refrain is sung by all.*

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

*Low Voices: vv. 2 and 5*

*Refrain*

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

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

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

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of victo-ry for our God, Al-le - lu- ia, al-le - lu- ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Dignus est Agnus, tr. John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
 Tune: FESTIVAL CANTICLE, Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**WORD**

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

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

**BLESSING OF THE LECTOR**

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

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6**

<sup>51:1</sup> Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your forebear and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the Lord will comfort Zion; God will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. <sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: 34:1-10**

tune: *OLD HUNDREDTH*

I will at all times bless you, Lord, and in your praise I lift my voice;  
I glory in you and your word, let all the humble now rejoice.

Proclaim God’s greatness now with me; let us exalt God’s Name as one;  
I sought the Lord who heard my plea and all my terrors now are gone.

Look then on God and let your joy shine in your faces radiantly;  
in my distress, I called on God who from my troubles rescued me.

Around God’s people day by day, the angels stand with outstretched wing;  
taste, then, and see how happy they who trust the Lord in everything.

Fear God, you chosen ones, and then your wants and needs will be supplied;  
young lions hunger, but God’s own will have no good thing long denied.

**SECOND READING: I Peter 1:17-23**

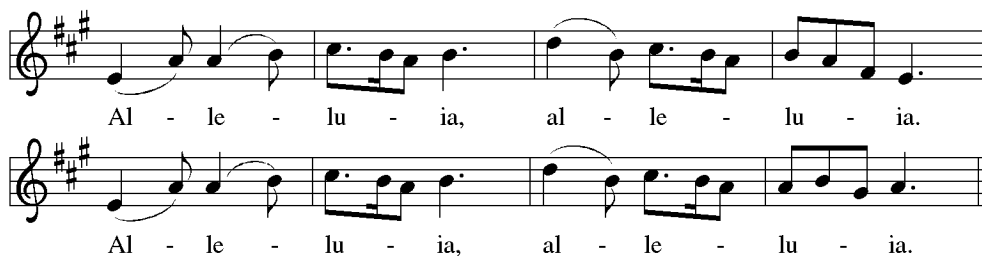
<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as holy parent the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>Jesus was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through Jesus you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. <sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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



*Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures.*

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [of resurrection] two of [the disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that

they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. <sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup>Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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

**SERMON**


Pastor Jay

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 374**


### Day of Arising




1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
 2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
 3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
 4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
 blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
 This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
 bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
 yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
 when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
 Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
 our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
 that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
 Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

## THE NICENE-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED

Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith of the Church:

**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 whom 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,  
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 congregation kneels, sits, or stands as is customary for the:*

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

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

*A brief silence.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick (*especially*). Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make yourself known around this Table in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup, you call us to become what we receive: your Risen Body for the life of the world. We give you thanks for Rykiah and Arden who today join us at this Table. Bless them as they continue to live in your love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal Light, we give thanks for Olavus, Laurentius, Anselm, Toyohiko, Mark, and all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

### MEAL

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

### OFFERING



*An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church.*

### MUSICAL OFFERING – “Voluntary”

### OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW 391

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has

sprung to life this mor - row.

*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: Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.; arr. hymnal version  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

☐ 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 him thanks and praise.

## THE PROPER PREFACE

### SANCTUS

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

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

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

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

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

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

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

**Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

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

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

**Amen.**

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

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

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

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

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

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

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

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

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

**forever and ever. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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

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

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

*Please be seated.*

#### THE COMMUNION

Our First Communion recipients will receive first with their families. Please wait until after they have received and Pastor Jay has indicated everyone else to join in Communion to stand and come forward following the instructions below.

*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is present whenever we feast together. **You** are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. Receive the bread in your open palm. All bread is gluten free. Proceeding to either communion assistant, hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. Non-alcoholized grape juice is in the pre-filled cups. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the bowls. All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, please let a neighbor know to inform the Pastor.*

## We Who Once Were Dead



- 1 We who once were dead now live, fully know - ing Je - sus  
 2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us  
 3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him  
 4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall



as our head. Life is o - ver - flow - ing when he breaks the bread.  
 strength to fight; death is all a - round us. Je - sus, be our light.  
 we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.  
 then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.

- 5 Jesus, you were dead,  
 but you rose and, living,  
 made yourself our bread,  
 in your goodness giving  
 life though we were dead.

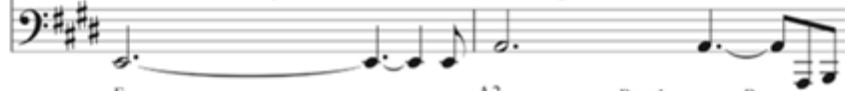
- 6 This is your design;  
 in this meal we meet you.  
 Be our bread and wine,  
 Jesus, we entreat you.  
 This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite  
 Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936  
 Text and music © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV., Baarn, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. Exclusive  
 agent for English-language countries: OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

## For Everyone Born



- 1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,  
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
 with wis - dom and grace di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,  
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver -  
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's  
 for young and for old, the right to be -  
 for just and un - just, a new way to  
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be

*Refrain*

head.  
 fair.  
 long.  
 live.  
 free.

And God will de-light when we are cre-

a - tors of jus - tice and joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

last time

jus - tice and joy.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1931-; Sp. tr. John Glaser, 1961-; Fr. tr. Ervelyne Bernard, 1973-  
 Music: Brian Mann, 1979-  
 Words © 1998 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 2006 Brian Mann (admin. General Board of Global Ministries, GBGMusik)

New Zealand/U.S.A.  
 11.10.11.10, and refrain  
 FOR EVERYONE BORN

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the

riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my

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.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

## SENDING

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

...now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

ELW 385

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:  
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE – "Menuet Gothique"

L. Boellmann

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

### — SERVING TODAY —

*PRESIDING MINISTER* – Pastor Jay Mitchell

*ACOLYTE* – Jessica Copfer

*ASSISTING MINISTER* – Chloe Meucci

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT* – Linda Graffius

*LECTOR* – Karen Braendel

*USHERS* – Diana Alvaro, Sue Cappelletty, Amy Swenson, Lee Swenson

*ALTAR GUILD* – Martha & Tom Klomp

*VIDEO STREAMING* – Nick Lang



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of departed members of the Women of the ELCA given by the Women of the ELCA of Luther Memorial Church.

### Today's Events

**Our young people** who will partake of their First Holy Communion at the 10:30 service this morning are:

ARDEN JULES FETCKO

RYKIAH LYNN ROGAN

Please join us in the parlor following the 10:30 service for a reception honoring our students.

**Pasta Dinner** will be served today from 4:00-6:00pm in our fellowship hall. Take an evening away from the kitchen and enjoy a delicious Italian meal. Your meal will include Valerio's penne pasta, meatballs, Metz tossed salad, bread and butter, and brownie dessert. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15/adults and \$10/children 10 and under. Proceeds will benefit LMA's PTL. Thank you!

### Luther Memorial Concert and Cultural Series

**Presque Isle Ringers**, Erie's only community handbell ensemble, will be showcasing their amazing and unique instrument at Luther Memorial on Sunday, April 26 at 7:00pm. You will see them pluck, mallet, thumb damp, echo and toll as they share their passion for handbells. Please join us for this wonderful concert with reception following.

### Worship Matters!

**Pastor Jay** is on vacation this week. In case of pastoral emergency, please call the church office.

**Easter's Great Week of Weeks** is the longest season in the church year (other than the green season of Summer and Autumn). Every year, stretching from the new first lighted at the Great Vigil of Easter until the fire descends on the Day of Pentecost, this season is full of joy and feasting, festive songs and reasons to celebrate. Christ is risen! Alleluia! As we come to encounter the gospel texts in this season, they again all come from John. Indeed, almost all festival Sundays and holidays use John as their gospel text. Every year they come from John and every year they follow a pattern: Resurrection of Jesus (Easter Day); Easter Day part two with Thomas (II Easter); Easter brunch with Jesus (III Easter); Shepherds and Sheep (III Easter); Teachings from the Final Discourse in the garden on Maundy Thursday (V & VI Easter); and a prayer by Jesus in the garden (VII Easter).

For this reason, since the Third Sunday of Easter is *always* some kind of Easter breakfast with Jesus, we celebrate with our children receiving their First Holy Communion! They, too, now share in the Easter Feast—the Feast of all the Baptized—that is the Sacrament of the Altar. We rejoice with them and ourselves remember the open arms and wide embrace of the table to which Jesus calls each of us. Together, may our heart burn within us and our eyes be open to the Risen Christ who walks the road with us in new and unexpected ways.

### **Faith Formation**

**Bible After Dark (BAD)** meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row (1317 State St.) for a time of conversation and fellowship. **YOU** are invited to join us on Tuesday, May 5. We will begin exploring *Belonging*, a study of the Woman at the Well by Karoline Lewis (you may have met her!). Books are available for purchase through the church office for \$15.

**Brown Bag Bible (B<sup>3</sup>)** gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. B<sup>3</sup> resumes on Thursday, April 30 with a study on the book of Revelation.

**Four workshops** for confirmation students, 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, will be offered throughout the year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday (in odd months: **November 9, January 11, 2025 and March 8, May 10, 2026**) after the 10:30am worship service. In order to successfully complete confirmation classes, each confirmand must attend all four. However, the *same four* will be offered every year in slightly different orders to allow for flexibility in attending all four. There will also be a worship leadership and a biblical literacy component that will need to be completed along with the usual service hours. Finally, ConfirCamp is strongly recommended for *at least* one year between the end of 7<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Confirmation will still be held in the autumn of 10<sup>th</sup> grade to each confirmand.

### **Worship**

**Rachel's Day** is an opportunity to lift up all of our youth who are threatened by the “Herods” of today; sex trafficking, gun violence, war, bullying, suicide. Rachel's Day and anti-violence work are not about fixing others but recognizing that children need to know that adults care. A Litany of Prayer and candle lighting service will be presided over by Bishop Kristen Papson, ELCA Bishop of the NWPA Synod. Prayer Stations will be available throughout the church building from 6:00pm- 8:00pm.

Rachel's Day is a day of remembering the young lives lost, and it should also be a time to recommit to children everywhere. It is important to celebrate as well as mourn. It is in celebrating that the faith community is stirred to hope and can envision a better future.

A light reception will be offered at the conclusion of the service. ALL faiths and denominations are welcome to join Women of the ELCA for this event.

### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

**L.I.A.**, Lutherans in Action, will meet Tuesday, May 12 from 5:30-7:00pm for planning of our upcoming service projects and some very creative ideas. All youth in grades 5-12 and their families meet the second Tuesday of each month; join us.

**Come and join** us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Our next gathering will be April 28 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. Contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**All are invited** to join with the OWLS on Wednesday, April 22 for a walking tour of Organ Supply Industries, 2320 West 50<sup>th</sup> Street. Bryan Timm, vice-president of Organ Supply, will take us on a 30-40 minute tour of the one floor facility beginning at 11:00am. Following the tour we will enjoy a stop at a restaurant for lunch. Please contact Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476, or Norma in the church office if you plan to attend.

**CampBlast** will be held at Camp Lutherlyn, Butler, Pa, on Saturday, May 9 from 11:00am – 4:30pm. Rain or shine, this is a day of fun for the entire family; archery, gaga ball, zipline, crafts, hiking, hay rides, kayaking, and so much more. The entire day is free. What a wonderful way to spend your day!

### **Luther Memorial Academy**

**Come celebrate!** The Luther Memorial Academy 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be Saturday, May 2 from 5:00-7:30pm. ***YOU*** are invited to the celebration! If you are interested in joining in this historic moment in our parish, admission is \$20 per person. You may fill out a RSVP form as found on the welcome table out the doors next to the pulpit and return to the office (church or school). You may also reach out to the school office (814.454.0106 x222). The celebration won't be the same without you! Hope to see you there!

### **Outreach**

**Bread for the World** is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Every year churches, community organizations and people of faith across the country write letters and emails to their members of Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger. Last fall over 20 people here at Luther Memorial wrote letters to Rep. Mike Kelly, urging him co-sponsor legislation to make it easier for women, infants, and children to receive nutritional support. Those letters were hand-delivered to Rep. Kelly's office in Erie.

*On April 26, 2026, we will again be participating in Bread for the World's Offering of Letters. At 9:15 and 11:30, you will have the opportunity to write your own letter to Rep. Kelly, urging him to restore, protect, and strengthen U.S. nutrition programs that help families put food on the table. Sample letters will be available, along with fact sheets, paper, pens, and some light refreshments. On May 3 during both worship services, our letters will be brought to the altar for a prayer asking God to bless our offering, that it may contribute to a world without hunger.*

Your letters matter! Leaders in Congress really do listen to their constituents. Every letter you write to your representatives on Capitol Hill is read and cataloged – and tells your representative which issues to prioritize. When enough people speak up, hunger is impossible to ignore!

In Matthew 14:16, when the disciples asked Jesus to send the hungry crowd away, he replied, “You give them something to eat.” Today, that same call comes to us. Join us on April 26 to make your voice heard. Let's double the number of letters delivered to Rep. Kelly this year!

For more information about Bread for the World, visit [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

### **Items to Note**

**In case of a pastoral emergency**, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

**Greeting cards** can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**Our Members:**

Betsy Brumagin	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Pat Gilbert
Diane Parsons	Judy Karney	Karen Zamperini	Loretta Deeds
Donna Sedelmyer	Kate Martin	Sutton Rowland	David Leemhuis
Mark Zamperini			

**Friends and Family:**

Mary Beth & Nancy, Kelly	Gail Lesuer	Linda F.	Kris
Archer Bardwell; age 3	Brooks Davis	Sharon Swick	Peggy S.
Henderson family	Carl Larese	Shirley	Diane Come
Kevin Soles & family	Jenny	Carol McFalls	Valerie
Adam & Connie Ogle	Katja & family	Peter Maker	Caroline Daniels
Erin N.	Brynlee		

**Grief:**

Braendel family                      Joann Perry family

**Our Military Service Men & Women:**

Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	Justin Gaiewski

**Readings and Commemorations This Week.**

**April 19 – Olavus Petri, priest, 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, 1573; renewers of the Church** -- *These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.*

**April 20** – Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; I Peter 1:23-25

**April 21 – Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, 1109** – Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; I Peter 2:1-3 -- *This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.*

**April 22 – El Día de la Creación** -- Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14 -- *This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.*

**April 23 – Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, 1960** – Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; I Peter 2:9-12 -- *Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.*

**April 24** – Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; I Peter 2:13-17

**April 25 – Mark, Evangelist** – Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 57; II Timothy 4:6-11, 18; Mark 1:1-15 -- *He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.*

## CALENDAR

<b>MONDAY, APRIL 20</b>	4:30pm	LMA Bowling Banquet
<b>TUESDAY, APRIL 21</b>	10:00am 4:30pm	Pericope School Board
<b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22</b>	11:00am	OWLS / Organ Supply
<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 23</b>	1:00pm 5:30pm 6:45pm	Grief Group Handbells Choir
<b>FRIDAY, APRIL 24</b>		
<b>SATURDAY, APRIL 25</b>		

### SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

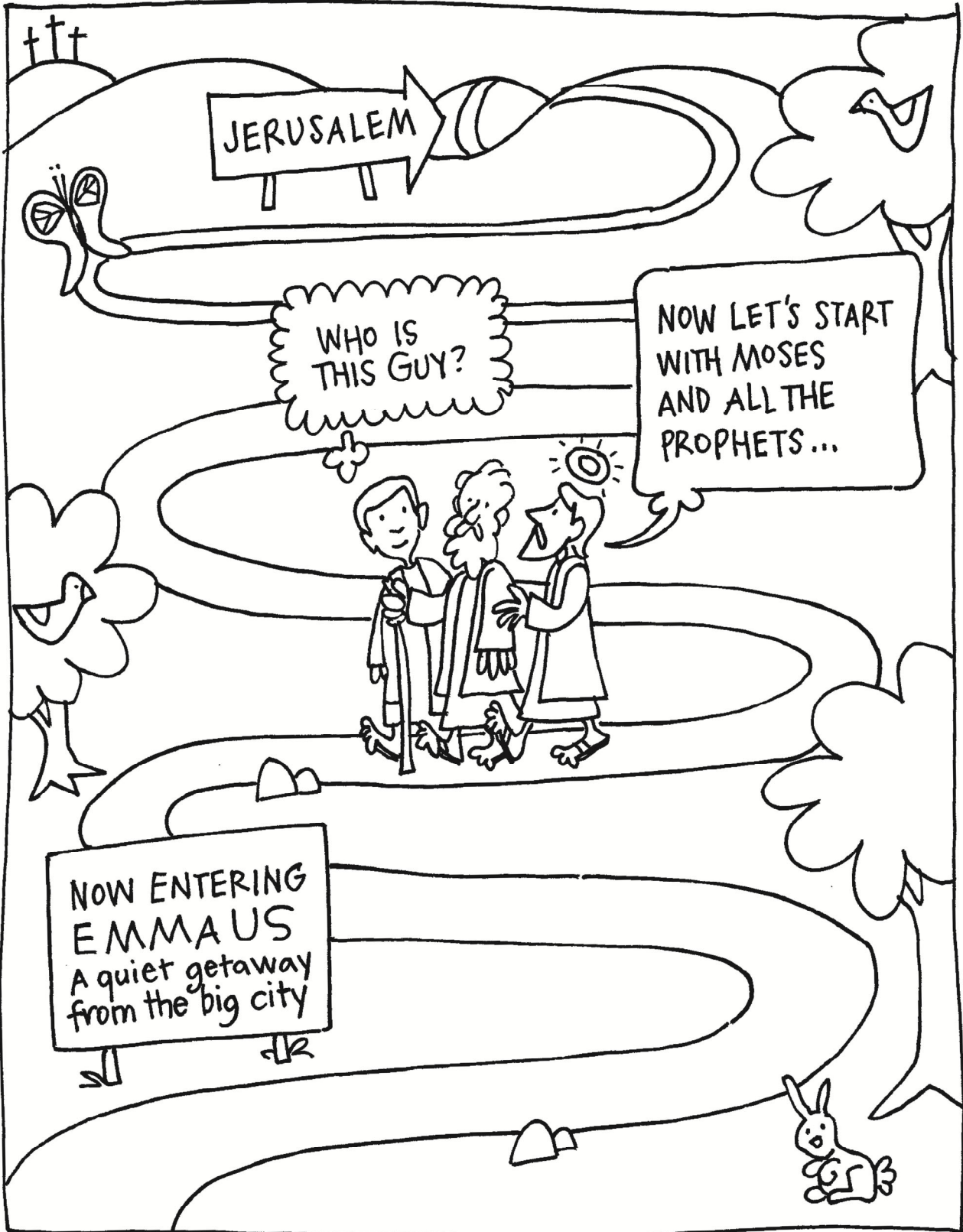
**Coffee Hour**, compliments of our Deborah Circle, will be offered following the 10:30 service.

**LMA Book Fair** will be open from 9:00am – 12:00 noon.

**Presque Isle Ringers** will offer a concert at 7:00pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Julie Ditz
Communion Assistant ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	
Lector ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Beth Keller
Counters	10:30am	Skip MacInnes, Stan Rose
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	





JERUSALEM

WHO IS THIS GUY?

NOW LET'S START WITH MOSES AND ALL THE PROPHETS...

NOW ENTERING EMMAUS  
A quiet getaway from the big city