

WELCOME TO
**LUTHER MEMORIAL
CHURCH & ACADEMY**



4 OCTOBER 2026
27th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Francesco d'Assisi, Renewer of the Church
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 that the Lord has made. Together, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

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.

WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

+ Please note that our 10:30 service is livestreamed at: youtube.com/LutherMemorialOnline. While the cameras usually only broadcast the first third of the pews and chancel (where all the action happens), faces may be visible as individuals return to their seats from Communion.

+ 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.

+ 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 worshiping 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).

+ + +

In accommodation for those with allergies and anxieties,
we ask all who are worshiping with their pets and animal companions
to use the pews after the gap on the left side
of the sanctuary as you face the front. (Pulpit side)
Please remember all furry friends must remain leashed
and/or crated for the duration of the service.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE – "Pastorale"
"Sonata in C"

Bartolomeo Franzosini
Quirino Gasparini

The assembly may rise in body or spirit at the invitation of the presiding minister.

LITANY IN PRAISE OF CREATION

ONE: Glory to you, O God: you speak a word of power,
and so you create the world.

ALL: **We praise you, O God.**

For the Spirit hovering to bring forth life, for the earth ordered from chaos, and for light and dark, **we bless you, O God.**

For the cosmos beyond our earth, for the sky above our heads, and for the cycle of evening and morning, **we exalt you, O God.**

For the seas, the lakes, and the rivers, for the land with its mountains and plains, and for the trees, the plants, and their fruits, **we magnify you, O God.**

For the sun to rule the day, for the moon to brighten the night, and for the shining stars, **we extol you, O God.**

For the fish in the sea, for the birds of the air, and for the monsters in the deep, **we glorify you, O God.**

For wild animals and creatures of all kinds, for cattle and all livestock, and for everything that creeps on the earth, **we adore you, O God.**

For humankind made in your image, for setting us on your good earth, and for providing us food to eat, **we worship you, O God.**

Bless us, your creatures. Accept our praise, and make us worthy of your marvelous creation. **We praise you, O God.**

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to you, our God, forever and ever.

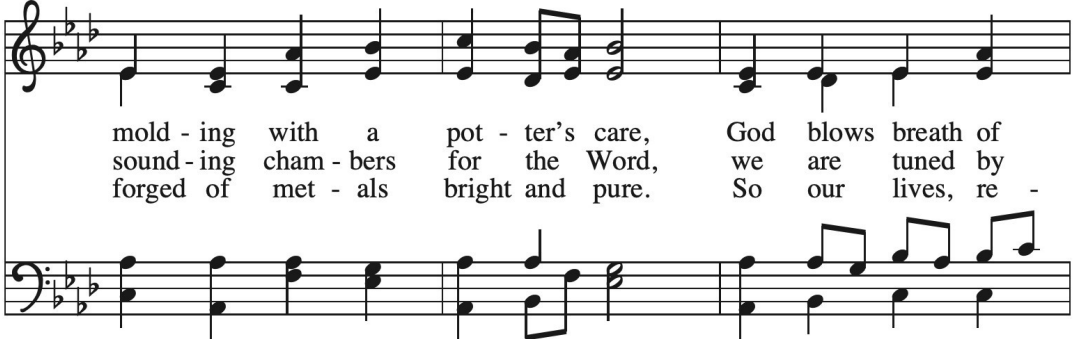
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

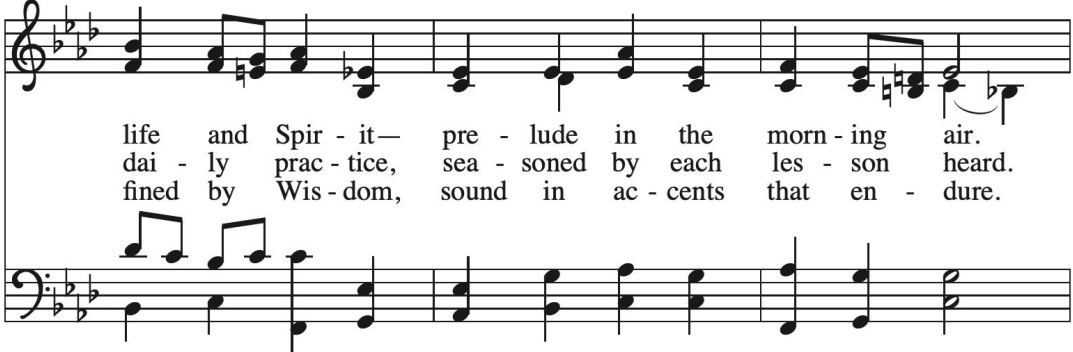
ACS 1099

Kneeling in the Dust to Form Us

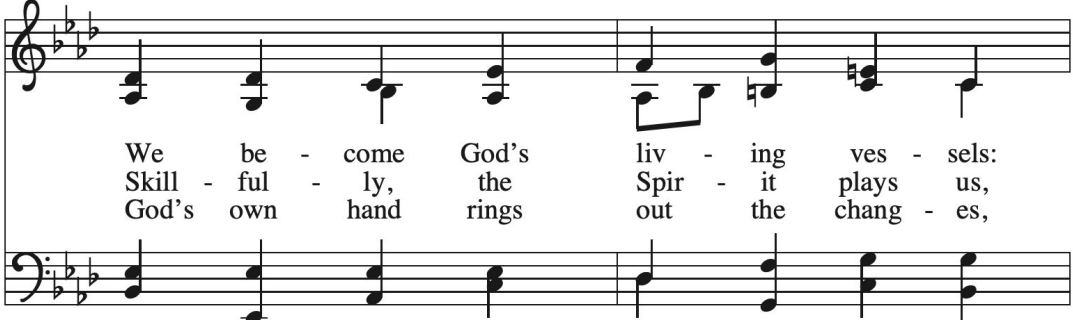
1 Kneel - ing in the dust to form us,
2 Shaped of flesh and bone and sin - ew,
3 Tem - pered bells re - sound more clear - ly,



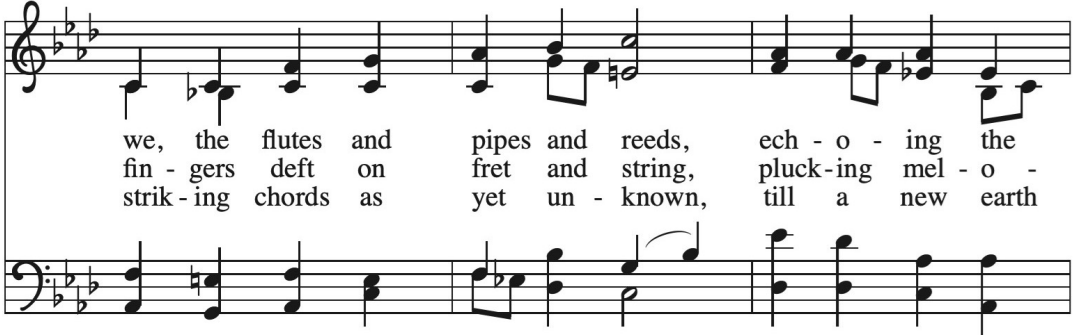
mold - ing with a pot - ter's care, God blows breath of
 sound - ing cham - bers for the Word, we are tuned by
 forged of met - als bright and pure. So our lives, re -



life and Spir - it— pre - lude in the morn - ing air.
 dai - ly prac - tice, sea - soned by each les - son heard.
 fined by Wis - dom, sound in ac - cents that en - dure.



We be - come God's liv - ing ves - sels:
 Skill - ful - ly, the Spir - it plays us,
 God's own hand rings out the chang - es,



we, the flutes and pipes and reeds, ech - o - ing the
 fin - gers deft on fret and string, pluck - ing mel - o -
 strik - ing chords as yet un - known, till a new earth



Spir - it's mu - sic through the wit - ness of our deeds.
 dies of yearn - ing as our hearts re - spond and sing.
 fills with mu - sic rich and sweet as heav - en's own.

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Blessed Trinity, we worship you, the Source and Savior and Strength of all the worlds. We laud you for your wondrous creation. Breathe your blessing on us and on all that you have made, and form us by your wisdom to be caregivers of your gift of this good earth. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

and again: Almighty God, most high, omnipotent, good Lord, your servant, Francesco sought to reflect the image of Christ through a life of poverty and humility: Grant your people grace to imitate his joyful love, renounce gladly the vanities of this world, and delight in your whole creation: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

WORD

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

FIRST READING: Job 38-39 select verses

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped'? Have you commanded the morning since your days began and caused the dawn to know its place, so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? Have you entered into the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? Has the rain a father, or who has fathered the drops of dew? From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven? The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades or loose the cords of Orion? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch to give birth to their offspring and are delivered of their young? Their young ones become strong; they grow up in the open; they go forth and do not return to them."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 149

The choir introduces the antiphon and all repeat and again where indicated (A).

The psalm is chanted responsively according to the tone.



- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.
- ² **Praise the Lord, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**
- ³ Praise the Lord, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the Lord, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**
- ⁵ Let them praise the name | of the Lord,
who commanded, and they | were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. A**
- ⁷ Praise the Lord | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**
- ⁹ mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ **wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;
- ¹² **young | men and maidens,
old and | young together. A**
- ¹³ Let them praise the name | of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted,
whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ **The Lord has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all | faithful servants,
the children of Jacob,
a people who are near the Lord. | Hallelujah! A**

SECOND READING: REVELATION 5:11-14

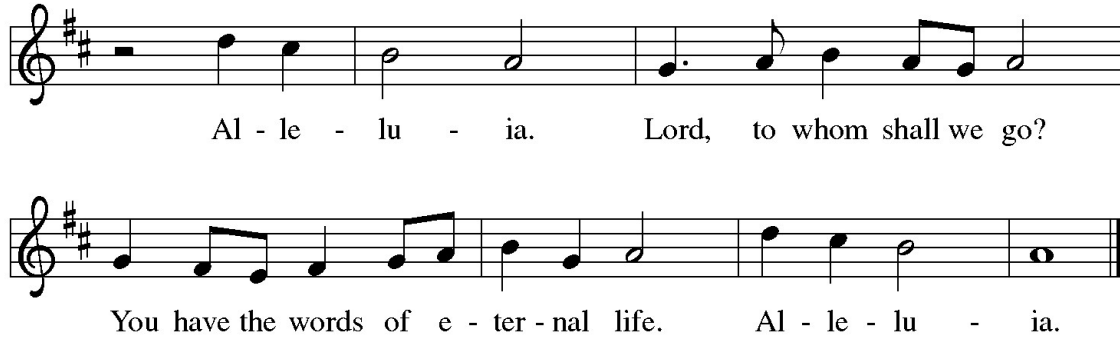
Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshipped.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The assembly may rise in body or spirit to greet the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 1:1-15

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Long ago, in the time before all days, before the creation of all things, the one who is known as the Word was there face to face with the Great Spirit. This Word fully represents Creator and shows us who Creator is and what Creator is like. The Word has always been there from the beginning, for the Word and Creator are one and the same. Through the Word all things came into being, and not one thing exists that the Word did not create. Creator's life shined out from the Word, giving light to all human beings. This is the true Light that comes into the bleakness, and the bleakness cannot overcome it or put it out.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON

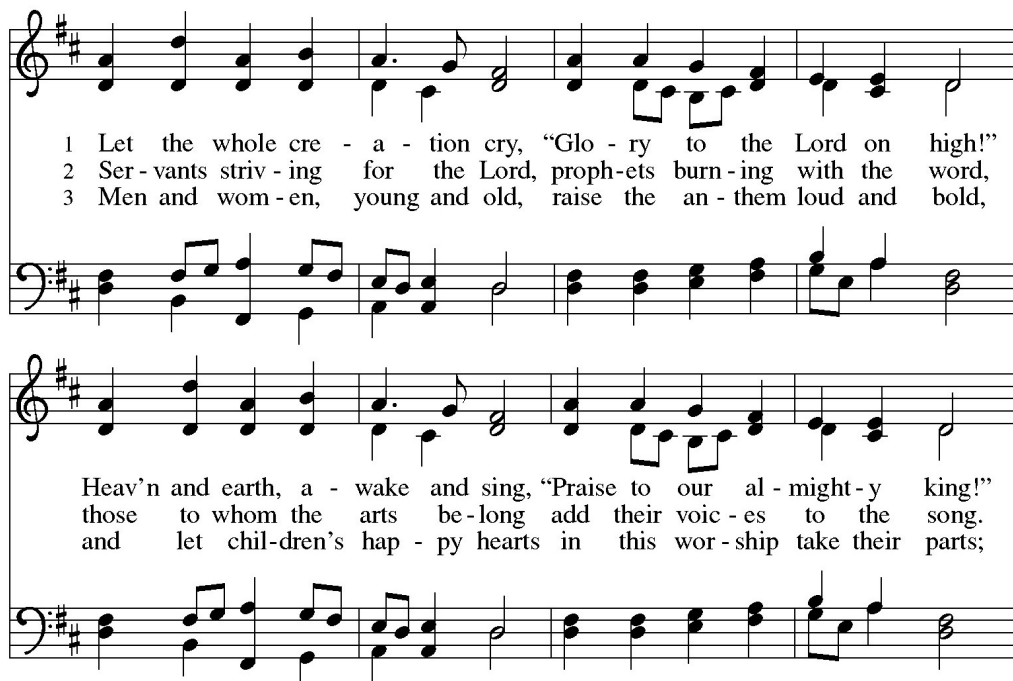
Pastor Jay

After a brief silence for reflection, as the music sounds, the assembly rises in body or spirit to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 876

Let the Whole Creation Cry



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,

Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl-edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south-ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

APOSTLES' CREED

Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

A brief silence.

O God of mystery, mercy, and might, for the church we pray: that churches around the globe collaborate in care for the earth, and that all the baptized nurture a zeal for the wellbeing of creation. Hear us, O God, source of life and ground of our being: **Your mercy is great.**

For the earth we pray: that this bounteous creation receive continued divine blessing, that the air be wholesome, that the waters be plenteous and clean, that the land be treasured, and that animals be protected. Hear us, O God, our creator and fruitful garden: **Your mercy is great.**

For the nations we pray: that farmers, herders, foragers, fishers, and grocers provide the food humans need, that legislators strive in all things for the common good, and that science and technology lead us toward more responsible ways to live. Hear us, O God, our stronghold and sun of justice: **Your mercy is great.**

For our country we pray: that national parks, forests, and wildlife refuges be safeguarded, that all natural resources benefit the whole population, and that our children learn respect for nature. Hear us, O God, our guardian and rainbow of promise: **Your mercy is great.**

For those in need we pray: that humankind be sheltered from pandemic and from extreme weather, and that all who are sick or suffering receive medical attention and communal support. Give heed to those whose names and needs we hold dear. Hear us, O God, our healer and heart of the universe: **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for Hildegard, Francis, and for all believers who have lived and died in communion with the earth. We thank you for your saints: Gertrude, Theodore, William, Heinrich, Massie and our own beloved dead; Ruth, James, Miriam, Wilfred, Catherine and Bill. Grant that in your good time we join with all your creatures in your presence forever. Hear us, O God, the beginning and the end: **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, our maker and keeper, we commend ourselves and your whole creation, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The assembly shares a sign and greeting of peace.
Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. After, the assembly is seated.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL

God feeds us with 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 – "For the Beauty of the Earth"

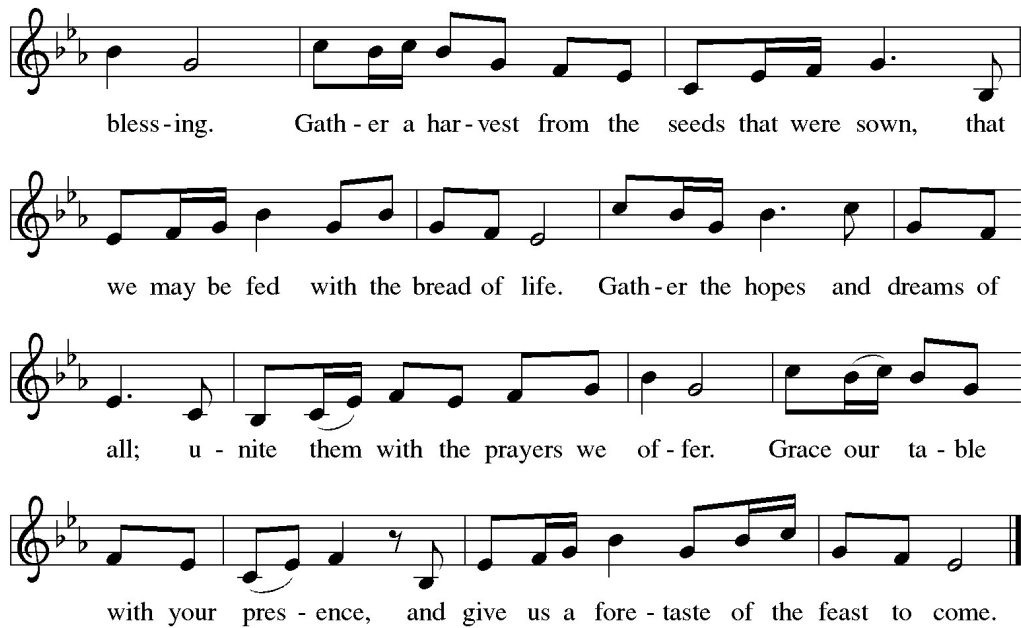
D. Evans
F.S. Pierpoint

The assembly may rise in body or spirit as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY CANTICLE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of Your good creation. But we neglected this gift, turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

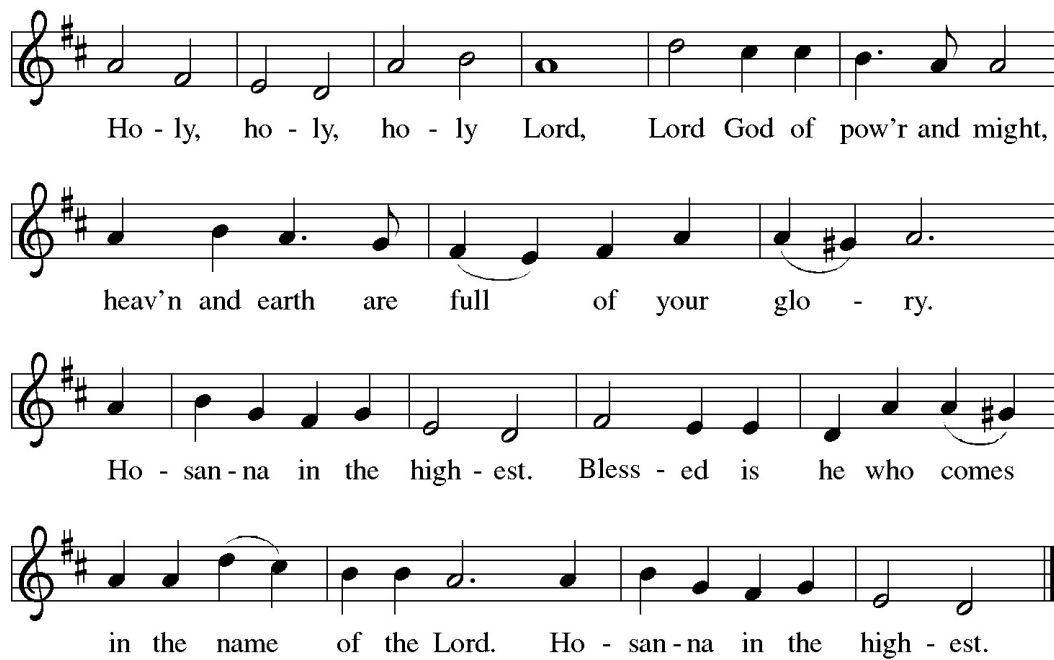
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all your creatures great and small, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

*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.*

*In the same way 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 love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.
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

Please be seated.

THE COMMUNION

*This is Jesus' Table and Jesus 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 presiding minister.*

HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION



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.

MEDITATION – "Canticle of the Creatures"

Text: St. Francis of Assisi
Music: Angelo Maria Trovato

(also known as "Canticle of the Sun")

Narrator: Jonathan Gaber

*The Highest, all powerful, good Lord,
Yours are the praises, the glory, the honor, and all blessing.*

*To You alone, The Highest, do they belong,
and no man is worthy to mention Your name.*

*Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun,
who brings the day; and you give light through him.*

*And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor!
Of you, The Highest, he bears the likeness.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
in heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene,
and every kind of weather through which you give sustenance to Your creatures.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,
through whom you light the night and he is beautiful
and playful and robust and strong.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth,
who sustains us and governs us and who produces
varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love,
and bear infirmity and tribulation.*

*Blessed are those who endure in peace
for by You, The Highest, they shall be crowned.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,
from whom no living man can escape.*

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

*Blessed are those who will find Your most holy will,
for the second death shall do them no harm.*

Praise and bless my Lord, and give Him thanks and serve Him with great humility.

*When all who so desire have received the Sacrament of the Altar, the assembly may rise in body or spirit at the
invitation of the presiding minister.*

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with Jesus Christ.

BLESSING

...now and forever.

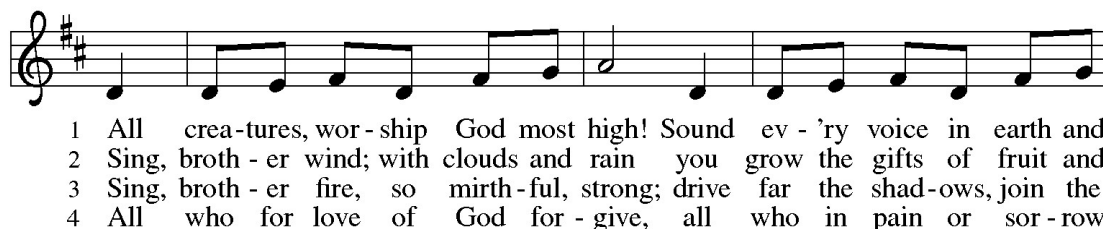
Amen.

During the singing of the Sending Hymn, all whose animals companions (or pictures) have joined in worship, are invited to bring their friends to the Luther Chapel (in the front of the sanctuary on the right) for a blessing in honor of Saint Francis.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 835

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



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

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Fugue in G Minor"

Giuseppe Gherardeschi

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – The Rev. Jay C. Mitchell

ASSISTING MINISTER – Pat Bellingham

COMMUNION ASSISTANT –

LECTOR – Linda Graffius

USHERS – Carol Davis, Carl Moore

ALTAR GUILD – Sharon Burke

VIDEO STREAMING – Beth Keller / Sarah Prylinski



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents, Ruth and James Timpe; our grandparents, Miriam and Wilfred Boyd; and our sister, Catherine Timpe DiFuccia, by Elaine Kern and Sandy Barbaro.

Columbarium flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my beloved husband, Bill Schaal, Sr., by his wife, Carol.

Thank you to Walt Gaber for leading our worship in song this morning.

Today's Events

Oktoberfest, our annual delicious feast, will be held this morning at 11:30 in fellowship hall. The main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be served, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Raise your glasses and cheer – Oktoberfest!

We will celebrate Confirmation on October 25, Reformation Sunday. Classes for 9th or 10th grade youth will begin this morning following the 10:30 service and meet each Sunday in October with Pastor Jay. We'll see you in the conference room.

Faith Formation

*Faith Formation brochures are available at the Welcome Table.
Class dates are listed for children, youth, confirmation and adults.*

Bibles will be presented to children in third grade on All Saints' Sunday, November 1, during the 10:30am service. Please contact Norma in the church office by Monday, October 19 if your son and/or daughter are in third grade so a Bible can be prepared for them. Thank you.

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, October 6.

FAITH5! A new program is here! Faith5: Cross+Gen. This program gathers all ages around various topics to share in single "eduworship" opportunity. We will gather in the Parlor at 9:15am on the Second Sunday of each month and share a chance for everyone from our oldest to our youngest members to share and learn and grow and have a fun time growing deeper and broader and higher and further in faith together! It won't be the same without you! Our next Faith5: Cross+Gen gathering will be Sunday, October 11. See you there!

Brown Bag Bible (B³) gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. We will continue our study on the book of Revelation. Our next gathering will be Thursday, October 8.

Opportunities for Fellowship

L.I.A., Lutherans in Action, gather the second Tuesday of each month to help with community and service projects. Bring the family down and lend a hand. If you are not familiar with the BAND App, contact Sarah Prylinski at 814-882-1695 as outings are also posted on the app. We're hoping you can 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 October 13 and October 27 for knitting and crocheting. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month 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.

OWLS will be dining out at the Waterford Hotel on Wednesday, October 21. Join us for great conversation and delicious food at 11:00am. You are invited to top off your meal with dessert at the home of Jeanne and Walt Gaber. Their home is on the way back to Erie. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes, 814-833-0476, or the church office by Friday, October 16.

Trunk-or-Treat with family and friends on Sunday, October 18. Dress in costume, decorate your car, load it up with some treats and let the fun begin. Set-up in the church parking lot will begin at 12:30pm. Treating will be held from 1:00-2:00pm. Music by DJ Bill Mason, prizes, a costume parade, and of course, treats will make this a super fun day. Please see Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or contact the church office to sign up and decorate your car.

Time to Shop at our Craft Show on Saturday, November 7 from 10:00am-3:00pm. Professional crafters with unique artistries and lots of variety will help you check off all those gifts for the holidays. Admission is \$2. Free admission for educators with ID badge. Proceeds benefit our youth group.

Music Ministry

Presque Isle ProMusica invites you to “Sing Democracy 250” on Saturday, October 17 at 7:00pm at Luther Memorial Church. As 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of our country, ProMusica will join with orchestras and organizations in each of the four corners of Pennsylvania in presenting two original compositions commissioned for Orchestra and Choir honoring our vast history. A reception will follow.

Contemporary Integrational Orchestra Project will present “October Spooktacular” on Saturday, October 24 at 7:00pm. Come in costume for a haunting harmonious night of your spooky favorites! Halloween music at its finest; directed by Sally “Switchblade” Santon and conducted by Todd “Sweeney” Maki. A reception will follow.

Julia Hospice House

Julia’s Cash Bash will be held Saturday, October 10 from 5:00-9:00pm at St. Francis Ushers Club, 9085 Main Street in McKean. Support the building of the Julia Hospice and Palliative facility and join us for a fun evening. Tickets are \$30 and include a full dinner, dessert, coffee, pop AND a chance to win cash prizes; 1st prize of \$1,000, 2nd prize of \$500 and 3rd prize of \$100.

Contact Linda Graffius at 814-440-5458 for tickets.

Items to Note

Homemade soup will be available following the 10:30 service on Sunday, October 18 for \$10.

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	Lois Smith
Diane Parsons	Les Fobes	Karen Zamperini	Kate Martin
Donna Sedelmyer	Mary Mumford	Paul Meucci	Brian Hubbard
Ella Graffius			

Friends and Family:

Hannah Jacob	Gail Lesuer	Sue Rinder	Erin N.
Brian Doersch	Jim Scobel	Ellie	Peggy S.
Kimberly Dunahue	Peter Maker	Shirley	Brynlee
Kevin Soles & family	Kathy Colvin	Anthony Benacci	Susan Sasala
Jessica Kinzig	Lynn	Kathy Nicewander	Connor
Lisa E.	Mary Phipps	Nichole Jones	Linda & Brian

Grief:

Mary Lou Breyley family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

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

Readings and Commemorations This Week.

5 October – Psalm 144; Ezekiel 19:10-14; I Peter 2:4-10

6 October – **William Tyndale, translator, martyr, 1536** – Psalm 144; Isaiah 27:1-6; II Corinthians 5:17-21 – *Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.*

7 October – **Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor of North America, 1787** – Psalm 144; Song of Solomon 8:5-14; John 11:45-57 -- *Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.*

8 October – Psalm 23; Isaiah 22:1-8a; I Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

9 October – Psalm 23; Isaiah 22:8b-14; James 4:4-10

10 October – **Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church** -- Psalm 23; Isaiah 24:17-23; Mark 2:18-22 -- *A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.*

CALENDAR

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

LMA Picture Day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

10:00am

Pericope

12:00pm

W/ELCA General Meeting

6:30pm

BAD

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

10:00pm

Diabetes Program

12:00pm

Brown Bag Bible

1:00pm

Grief Group

5:30pm

Handbells

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

LMA Closed

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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

FAITH5 Cross+Gen Eduworship is at 9:15am.

Choir rehearsal will begin at 9:20am.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant (<i>I needed</i>)	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector (<i>I needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Pastor Jay
	10:30am	Mary Daniels
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Patrick Cimino
Counters	10:30am	Emma Chaffee, Patrick Cimino
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	