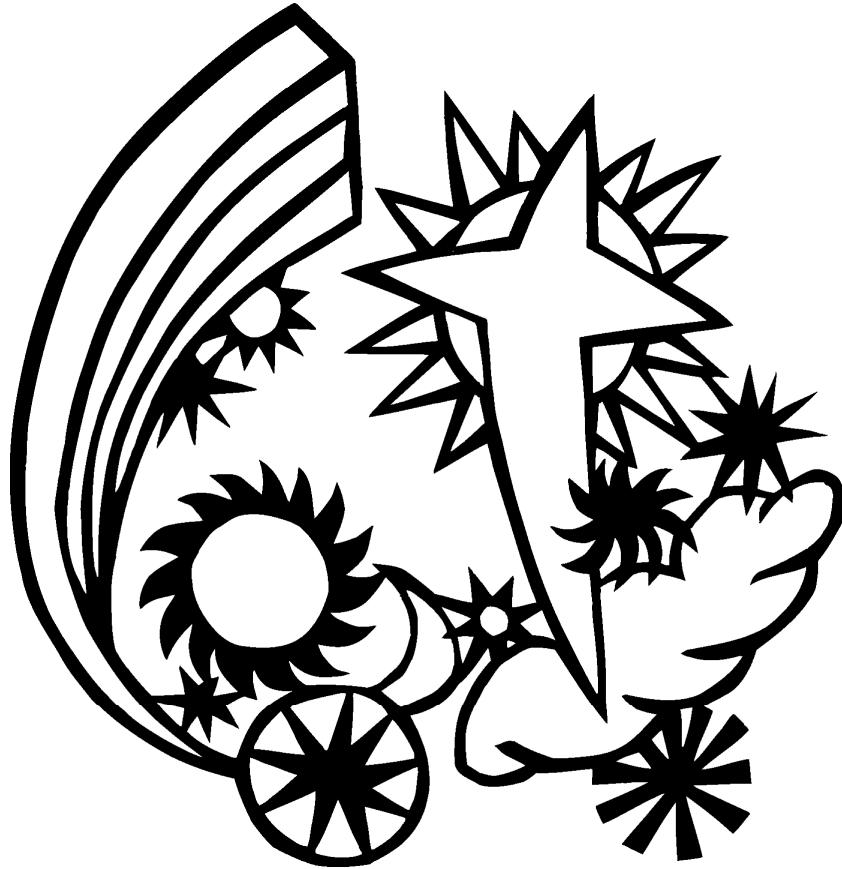


*Welcome to*  
**Luther Memorial Church**  
*of the Erie Lutheran Parish*



13 November 2022  
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
10:30 am

*The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."*

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

## LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

THE REV. J. DAVID MUMFORD

*Pastor Emeritus*

WALT GABER

RON KING

*Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity*

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL

THE REV. KAREN PARSH

*Pastors in Residence*

LINDA GRAFFIUS, RN

*Director of Care & Health Ministries*

JAN MACINNES

BETH KELLER

*Youth and Family Ministry*

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

BECKY CAREY

*Interim Academy Administrator*



**13 NOVEMBER 2022**

### THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Three • 10:30

#### LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Luther Memorial is Christ's church that brings its ministry to northwest Pennsylvania within the context of its Lutheran heritage.

As a church that ministers to the community, it seeks to be an inclusive congregation providing a welcoming environment for all to worship, learn, and enhance both personal spiritual growth and fellowship.

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

**PRELUDE – “How Firm a Foundation”**

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

“Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow”

arr. Craig Courtney, Cindy Berry

arr. Barbara Boertje, Mark Sedio

arr. Teresa Wilhelmi, Lee Dengler

#### PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

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

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – “How Firm a Foundation”**

arr. Douglas Mears

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*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 redeems us in Christ Jesus,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

☞ **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



**L** Most merciful God,  
**C** we confess that we have sinned against you  
 and our neighbors.  
 We have ignored voices  
 that call for your justice.  
 We have neglected actions  
 that witness to your righteousness.  
 We have spoken and acted  
 in ways that disrupt your beloved community.  
 We truly repent of things we have done  
 and left undone.  
 For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
 Restore our troubled spirits,  
 so that we may live in newness,  
 follow the way of the Spirit,  
 and build up the body of Christ.  
 Amen.

**L** Rejoice and be glad!  
 God hears the prayers of all who cry out,  
 and restores us to life through the death  
 and resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
 Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,  
 in the name of the Father,  
 and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son,  
 and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*This Danish hymn came into widespread use in the English-speaking church through the work of the translator. The original author achieved distinction as a poet in Denmark.  
 The melody is taken from an anthem by a well-respected Welsh composer.*

## ENTRANCE 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

## 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.

## KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.  
 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Let us pray.  
 ☑ O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.


*Please be seated.*

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

*Malachi, whose name means “my messenger,” warns that “the day is coming.” On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the “sun of righteousness” will shine on those who honor God.*

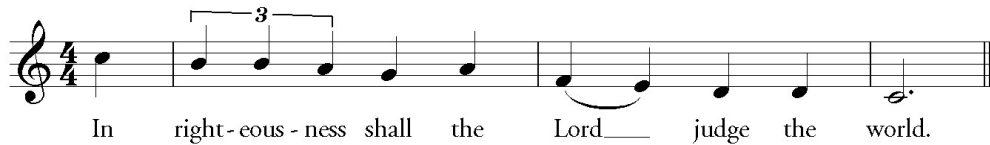
**FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a**

<sup>1</sup>See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup>But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

 The word of the Lord.

 Thanks be to God.

**PSALM: Psalm 98** *(Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated by R.)*



- <sup>1</sup>Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.
- <sup>2</sup>With his right hand and his holy arm  
has he won for himself the victory.
- <sup>3</sup>The Lord has made known his victory;  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- <sup>4</sup>He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. **R**
- <sup>5</sup>Shout with joy to the Lord all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.
- <sup>6</sup>Sing to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- <sup>7</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king the Lord.
- <sup>8</sup>Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell therein. **R**
- <sup>9</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- <sup>10</sup>In righteousness shall he judge the world  
and the peoples with equity. **R**



*Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community.*

*The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.*

## **SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup>This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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



*Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.*

*(Luke 21:28)*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

*As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events.*

*Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God  
and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.*

## **GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19**

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?”

<sup>8</sup>And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

Michael Snider

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Text and tune for this beautiful hymn were written by a 16<sup>th</sup> century German scholar, who wrote the hymn after emerging from a time of great adversity during the Thirty Years' War. The tune appears in eight of Bach's cantatas, as well as a choral setting and numerous organ works based on it.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### If You But Trust in God to Guide You

ELW 769



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite  
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark  
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.



**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**     *1 Timothy 2:1*

**A** United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Reviving God, keep your church active in its mission and ministry. Encourage bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders to risk boldly in their proclamation and fill them with wisdom and endurance for challenging times. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**A** Renewing God, as the northern hemisphere prepares for winter, make us mindful of the ordered beauty of your creation. Teach us to treasure cycles of rest and new life. Help us care for what you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**A** Loving God, accompany all who make sacrifices for the sake of others. Safeguard first responders and active duty military personnel. Grant peace to veterans and heal any wounds in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**A** Healing God, your people cry out to you. Sustain doctors, nurses, and hospital personnel in their tireless work. Uphold mental health professionals and those in their care. May the sun of righteousness rise on all who are sick. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**A** Uniting God, unite this assembly in its shared mission and ministry for the sake of the gospel. Highlight ways we can better work together and give us patience to work through struggles and difficult times in our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**A** You guide us in all times of our lives. In this time of pastoral transition at Luther Memorial Church, strengthen all congregational members, leaders, and the Call Committee to hold firmly onto the promises of the Gospel, and continually give this congregation your wisdom and guidance. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Consoling God, abide with all who grieve for loved ones who have died, especially Jax Stone and Lavanda Schaaf. Comfort us with the promise of resurrection and new life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C receive our prayer.**

**L** Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**L** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*You are invited to greet those around you in your pew with a word or a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Please be seated.*



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

**THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED**

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

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

*Luke 21: 3-4*

**ANTHEM – “On God, and Not on Human Trust”**

Johann Pachelbel

*On God, and not on human trust, my earthly stand I've taken.  
On Him who made me out of dust I build with faith unshaken.*

*I trust His hands Who understands,  
For all that He bestoweth is good, as He best knoweth.*

*I know that as in night and day, God's purposes are vested;  
My heart His wishes must obey, through pain and joy be tested;*

*My good is meant by each intent,  
By all my Father's doing my weal He is pursuing.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY**

**ELW 182**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** Blessed are you, Maker of all things.  
As you have entrusted us with all that you have created,  
now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament,  
and send us to those who hunger and thirst,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C** Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION PRAYER

- ☐ Peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ.

When our congregation gathered for the celebration of Holy Communion,  
we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and  
of the love shown us in the death and resurrection  
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With thanksgiving we remembered that  
"in the night in which he was betrayed,  
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 in 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 in remembrance of me.'"

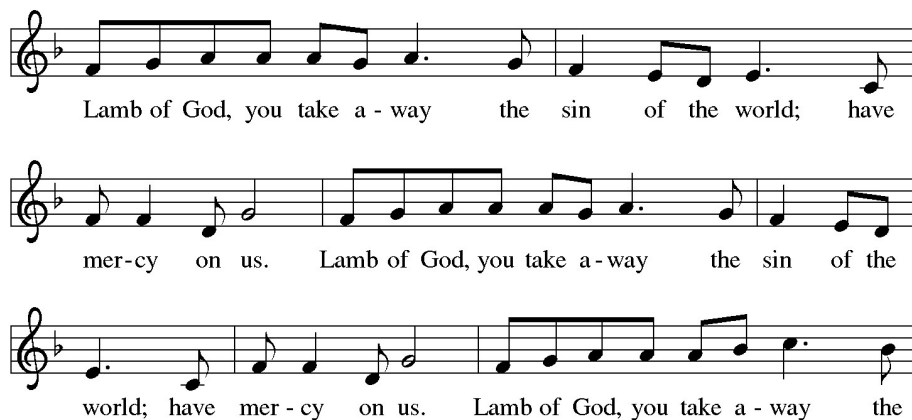
We were given assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of his Holy Spirit.  
Now we bring to you this same bread of life and this same cup of blessing,  
that you may be strengthened through your participation in the body of Christ.

- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☑ **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. *Matthew 6:9***

- ☐ As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## AGNUS DEI



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





long - ing for morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish,  
 Shall those who have light no light let us bor - row,  
 dawned has the day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling,  
 riv - ers of life through its des - erts are stream - ing,

plain - tive - ly sigh - ing with hearts full of an - guish.  
 giv - ing no heed to our bur - den of sor - row?  
 death's deep - est shad - ows for - ev - er dis - pel - ling.  
 bring - ing all peo - ples a Sav - ior re - deem - ing.

Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?  
 Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?  
 Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!  
 Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859–1943, alt.  
 Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune  
 Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*Please stand as you are able.*

## BLESSING

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

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- ☐ We give you thanks, most gracious God,  
 that you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
 and given us a foretaste of Paradise.  
 Enliven us to be your body in the world  
 and to serve those who are in need;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 ☐ **Amen.**

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

## BLESSING

- ☐ The God of peace,  
 who creates all things and calls them good,  
 who makes us alive in Jesus,  
 and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,  
 ☩ bless you now and forever.  
 ☐ **Amen.**

*It seems odd now to think of singing this text to the tune of "O Come, All Ye Faithful", but mainline churches did so well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century because of cultural bias against the shape-note music in which the original tune was written.*

## SENDING HYMN

ELW 796

### How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
Music: FOUNDATION, early American

## DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

**A** Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE – "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

"Trumpet Tune on 'How Firm a Foundation'"

J. S. Bach  
Janet Linker

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### — SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Michael Snider

GREETERS – Bill Lasher, Pat Young

ACOLYTE – Jack Bartlett

ASSISTING MINISTER – Stan Rose

LAY DISTRIBUTOR – Jan MacInnes

LECTOR – Noelle Partusch

USHERS – Natalie & John Bartlett, Bill Lasher, Betty Pletz

ALTAR GUILD – Loretta Deeds



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our son, Jax Stone, who passed away at the age of 9 on July 27, 2014. Jax would have been 18 on November 4, 2022. Flowers are given by his family; Tara, Steve, Colton and Cameron Durian and Jordan Stone.

**Front altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Lavanda by Joe Schaaf.

### **Welcome to our Visitors!**

**We extend** a warm welcome to those who are visiting with us today. Your presence with us is a blessing! If you have any questions about our congregation or its ministries, please call the church office at 814-454-0106. We are glad to help you in any way we can. Please worship with us again soon!

### **Today's Events**

**Children's Church** for PreK – grade 6 will meet this morning from 9:30 – 10:15am. Children's Church will meet again on Sunday, December 11 and will continue to gather the second Sunday of each month. Our youth in grades 7 - 12 will continue to gather on the third Sunday of the month.

**ReCharge contemporary service** will be held today beginning with a delicious Thanksgiving Feast at 4:00pm. And everyone looks forward to the fun games as well. Our worship service will begin at 5:00pm. Please come and join us for a wonderful evening.

### **Worship**

**At our service of worship** this morning, we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion through the distribution of the elements blessed at a previous celebration. Our Lay Distributors of Holy Communion were selected by the congregational council, received instruction, and were appointed by Bishop Michael Lozano. They serve this congregation during times of pastoral vacancy so that we may continue to receive communion as Christ's body here at Luther Memorial Church.

**The Prelude** brings us together for the beginning of our worship service each Sunday morning. Our worship time together concludes when the Postlude is complete. We ask that the chancel area remain unoccupied during these times of music as live video streaming continues through the entire worship service. Thank you.

### **Stewardship**

**Ushers** come down the center aisle and pass the offering plates through the pews. The offering is brought forward and, with a prayer of dedication, the offering is placed on the altar and the worship service proceeds. We wonder how many have given any thought to what this means. The worship offering is not a budget issue nor is it simply a fund raising effort. Rather, it is a service of love; an opportunity, as a part of our worship of God, to give thanks for the Grace of God that has been poured out to us. Next week, Christ the King Sunday, we will be asked to make a commitment of our intent to continue to respond with our offerings of thanksgiving. Please prayerfully consider what your response will be.

### **Music Ministry**

**After two years** of reduced musical activities at Luther Memorial, we hope to celebrate a more normal Advent and Christmas season this year. Certainly, music plays a central role in Advent and Christmas worship as well as the St. Lucia festivities. We are in need of more singers and handbell ringers to return to pre-COVID ensemble strength and programming.

We continue to use masks while ringing and singing together and everyone is very conscientious about testing and isolation upon any evidence of viral symptoms.

Please consider joining us for the next two months to enhance our worship at Luther Memorial. No auditions are required but a short conversation with our cantor (*Walt Gaber*, 814.602.2755, [WaltGaber@gmail.com](mailto:WaltGaber@gmail.com)) will help in our planning and provide an opportunity to ask questions and obtain more information. Ask any of our current participants about their reasons for participating and the benefits of making music together. Note that handbell rehearsal times are now Thursdays at 5:30pm and choir following immediately at 6:30pm.

### Christian Education

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

### Opportunities for Fellowship

**Holiday Bingo** fun is all set for Sunday, December 4. Doors will open at 12:00 noon; play will be held from 12:30 – 4:00pm in our fellowship hall. Eight games of Bingo will be played with cash prizes. Join us for excitement and mystery Chinese auction, tip boards and much more. Tickets are \$20 and available from Beth Keller, Sarah Prylinski or the church office. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

**Magic Fingers Grace Group** meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00-12:00pm. Join us November 22 to visit with friends, chat and enjoy our knitting and crocheting. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes and let us know if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**OWLS** will gather for a unique history lesson on Wednesday, November 16 as we welcome Sabina Freeman from the Fairview/Girard Historical Society. She will share the history about the B'nai B'rith Orphanage that was built in Fairview in the 1900's. Please join us at 11:30am and bring a bag lunch. Reservations are appreciated to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Sunday, November 13.

**OWLS** Christmas party will be held Wednesday, December 14 in the parlor. Our celebration will be held from 11:30am – 1:30pm with caroling, games and lots of fun enjoying the holiday season. The main dish for lunch will be provided; we are asking that everyone bring a dish to share. In lieu of a gift exchange, a collection will be taken towards Lutheran World Relief. Please RSVP to the church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 or Jan MacInnes by Friday, December 9.

**OWLS** are doing some long range planning for a very special event on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. A Valentine's Day luncheon will be held at the Convention Center from 12:00 noon – 2:00pm. There is no charge and parking is free. Only a certain number of reservations are accepted by the Convention Center and these fill up very quickly. Reservations are due by Thursday, December 15. Please contact Jan MacInnes at 833-0476 or Norma in our church office with your RSVP. Thank you.

### Outreach Opportunities

**LYO** is preparing Thanksgiving dinner bags which will be distributed to help families that need a little "lift". Items being collected are:

Cranberry sauce/gravy  
Boxed mashed potatoes  
Sweet potatoes (canned)

Stuffing mix  
Juice (in plastic bottles)

Donations may be dropped off in the church office or in the box near the welcome table. After the final collection this morning, the LYO will shop for the remainder of needed items. Thank you so much for your help with this project.

**ONP, Our Neighbor's Place**, supports the homeless community in the evenings of the coldest months from November 16, 2022 – April 4, 2023. The hours are from 7:00pm – 7:00am in three shifts of 4 hours each. This year it will take place at several different church locations. Please consider being a part of this needed outreach as it happens only through the efforts of very dedicated volunteers. Please contact Randy Dehn; [Randall.dehn@yahoo.com](mailto:Randall.dehn@yahoo.com) or 814-323-3723 or Diane Bestvina; [dl.bestvina@gmail.com](mailto:dl.bestvina@gmail.com) or 814-796-4047 with all your questions and we will be happy to answer them. There are information pages at the welcome table as well as a sign up sheet. We look forward to being a partner with you in this very rewarding ministry.

**Family Christmas Dinner** will be served to area neighbors on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:00pm at the Bethesda Center, 18<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Street. This is the 24<sup>th</sup> year that St. Matthew's began the tradition of serving a Christmas dinner to those in need, and we now continue to share that Christmas spirit. Monetary donations are needed to purchase hams, scalloped potatoes, green beans, beverages and paper products. Donations of cookies are also needed. A volunteer sign-up sheet is located at the welcome table as approximately 20 people are needed to assist beginning at 5:00pm that evening. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate marked "Family Christmas Dinner" or dropped off in the church office. Please feel free to contact our church office with any questions. Thank you.

**“Kids for Kids”** annual collection will take place through Sunday, December 4. All money collected will be used to help families at Luther Memorial and Luther Memorial Academy in need during the Christmas season. Monetary donations are appreciated and may be dropped off in the church office or placed in the offering plates marked “Kids for Kids”. Our youth, with the guidance of our youth leaders, Beth Keller and Sarah Prylinski, will shop for gifts at their Christmas Extravaganza. Thank you.

### **Christmas is A-comin’**

**St Lucia Festival** will be held Sunday, December 11 at 4:00pm in our main church. Our first rehearsal is Sunday, November 20 at 11:45am in the main church. All youth and young children are invited to participate in this traditional Swedish program which begins our holiday season. We are excited to offer this beautiful program again this year and look forward to our children taking part.

**Blue Christmas Service** will be offered Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00pm in our main church. For many the holidays are a difficult time, and we invite you to join us for this special holiday service to hear a message of hope and love. A reception will be held in the parlor following the service. The service will be live streamed on [www.YouTube/LutherMemorialChurch,Erie,PA](http://www.YouTube/LutherMemorialChurch,Erie,PA) and will also be available on our website at [www.luthermemorialonline.org](http://www.luthermemorialonline.org) the following day.

**Christmas Dinner** will be delicious and easy when you pop a Gahr’s Hamloaf in the oven. Orders will be accepted through Sunday, December 4, with pick-up following church services on Sunday, December 18. Order forms are located at the welcome table and in the church and school offices. Cost is \$5 for a 1 lb. hamloaf and \$8 for 2 lbs. Guaranteed to satisfy your tastebuds.

### **Youth News**

**Service Hours** are available for our youth on Saturday, November 19 by helping with the Turkey Dinner Distribution at Bethany Outreach Center, 254 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Distribution will be held from 8:00 – 11:30am. Please contact Sarah Prylinski at 882-1695 or the church office to volunteer.

**Christmas Extravaganza** will be a blast on Friday, December 2. Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join in the fun from 5:30 – 9:30pm. We’ll have a super Christmassy time wrapping gifts, watching a movie, munching on yummy snacks while helping to make Christmas extra-special for families in need. Food will be provided. RSVP to Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Prylinski or the church office by Wednesday, November 30.

### **Safety Preparedness**

**Safeguarding the Sacred**, The Pastoral Challenge of Protecting Faith Communities from External Violence, will be held Wednesday, November 16 from 7:00-8:30pm at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 1801 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street. **This event is open to everyone;** there is no cost. Participants from our community are Rev. Britney Knight, Church of the Covenant; Rev. Karen Kosture, Immanuel Lutheran Church; Rev. T. Shane Mathew, Gannon University; and Rabbi S. Robert Morais, Temple Anshe Hesed.

### **Luther Memorial Church Policy**

**Masking** at Luther Memorial Church is now optional.

### **In Case of Emergency**

**In case of an emergency** please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. During the weekend and evening you are welcome to contact Norma Buerk at 450-7162 or Linda Graffius at 440-5458. Thank you.



## C A L E N D A R

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**      6:00pm      LMA Legos

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16**    11:30pm      OWLS  
    6:00pm      LMA Legos

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17**      3:00pm      School Board  
    5:30pm      Handbell Rehearsal  
    6:30pm      Choir Rehearsal

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022**

**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**

**Pastor Brian Moran** will preach at the 8:15am service in Faith Chapel and the 10:30am service in the main church.

**LYO** will meet at 9:30am.

**Congregational Life** will gather at 11:30am in the conference room.

**St. Lucia rehearsal** will be held at 11:45am in the main church.

**VASA** will meet at 1:00pm.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022

#### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Pat Bellingham
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeters	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Sally & Phil McAfee

## — PRAYER LIST —

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

#### Our Members:

Jan & Skip MacInnes	C. Noelle Partusch	Jane Kinzig
Dave Parsh	Walt Gaber	Mark Howell
		Chickie Braine
		John Downey

#### Friends and Family:

Amy Daugherty	Marie Checkley	Tammy Fuller
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie	Mary Correll	Judy Skoog
Edie Jackman	Melissa Geiser	Bob Guenther
Jessica & Damian Ream	Brittani H.	Tom McGrail
Susan Brooks	Kevin	Tom Wilson
		Linda F.
		Sue O'Mahony
		Christine Norris
		Meghan Kessler
		Dawn Weborg

#### Grief:

Bob Sadowski Family	Marilyn Schultz family
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#### Our Military Service Men & Women:

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