

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



8 SEPTEMBER 2024
The Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time
God's Work Our Hands Sunday
10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

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

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

WALT GABER

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

+ 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 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).

8 SEPTEMBER 2024

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Three • 10:30

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

PRELUDE – “Toccata & Fugue in D Minor”

J. S. Bach

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P Trusting that Jesus dwells in our midst and loves us into life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or throughout the thanksgiving.

P We give you thanks, Holy One, for washing us and drawing us into your community.

P We give you thanks for the waters that have shaped and formed your community in every time and place: For water that washed the earth and brought about your promises; for water that parted so that your people could dance in freedom on the safe side of the sea; for water that quenched the thirst of your Promise People; for water that shaped a holy land; for water that washed a foreigner clean; for water that satisfied a woman who did not even know she was thirsty; for water that cleansed and made whole; for water that welcomed in an outsider on the road; for water that drenches us and makes us your own.

P We give you thanks that your love flows over and into and through us. Living wet, Holy One, may your Spirit live in us that we might live for others.

C Thanks be to God. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

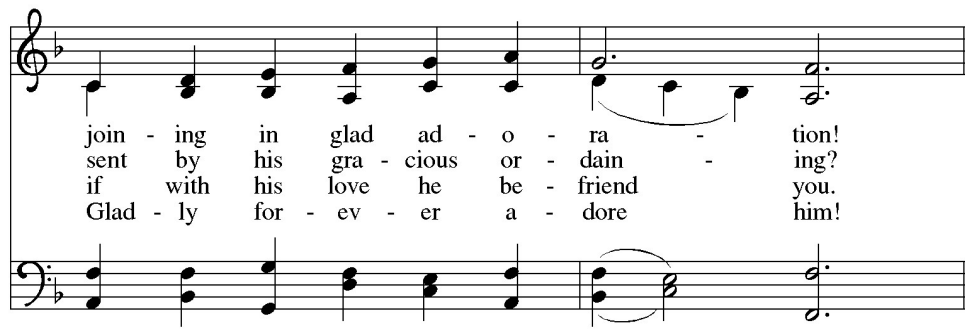
ELW 858

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros-per your work and de-fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a-dore him!

O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus-tain - ing.
sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy shall dai - ly at-tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais-es be-fore him!

Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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.
Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- ☑ Amen.

Please be seated.

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

READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. Your God will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. God will come and save you.” ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146 (tune: *ST ANNE*)

Hallelujah! Sing praise to God,
My soul, give God your praise;
Throughout my life will I praise God,
Sing praise through all my days.

Do not rely on human help,
In rulers place no trust,
For when they die, they and their plans
Return again to dust.

How happy those whose hope is in
The God whom Jacob knew,
Who made the heavens, earth, and sea,
Whose promises are true.

To those oppressed, the Lord our God
Gives justice constantly;
God feeds the hungry, and all those
In prison are set free.

The Lord lifts up all those bowed down
And gives the blind new sight;
The stranger, widow, orphan, all
Are strengthened by God's might.

God brings the wicked to their doom;
The Lord will reign always;
From age to age, O Zion sing
To God unending praise.

SECOND READING: James 2:1-17

¹My dear family, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved ones. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the dominion promised to those who love God? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. ¹⁴What good is it, my dear family, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? ¹⁵If one of your siblings is naked and lacks daily food ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

☞ The Word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able 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: Mark 7:24-37

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷Jesus said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then Jesus said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone. ³¹Then Jesus returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, Jesus sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 424

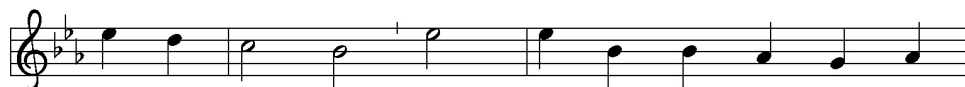
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -



ser - apts, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:
glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es:
pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia!
per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia!



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,
"Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal
Al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs
Al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the

pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:
 Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:
 strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song:
 Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:

"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" Al - le -

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

Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

You may kneel, sit, or stand as is your custom.

A Gathered into God's embrace, let us lift our voices on behalf of a weary and wounded world.

A God of Love, send us out filled with love, life, and you. Be in our daily living that your love may be known through our proclamation. God,

C **open our hands in love.**

A God of Creation, remind us in this season of your beautiful and diverse creation. Help us to be good stewards of all your good gifts. God,

C **open our hands to heal your creation.**

A God of Peace, fill the hearts of those who rule, govern, and lead. Give them and us compassion to guide the peoples of this world in the ways of truth, justice, equity, and peace. God,

C **open our hands in peace.**

- A** God of Healing, visit those who yearn for your wholeness, in particular those whose names and needs we lift up now: _____. Encourage all those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and perseverance to those who are in healthcare professions. God,
- C** **open our hands in healing.**
- A** God of Service, give us strength and humility. In our service to those near and far, whose needs are visible or invisible, may we find you in the faces of our neighbors. God,
- C** **open our hands to serve our neighbors.**
- A** God of Everlasting, support us in this life. As we remember those who have gone before as examples of faithful living, especially Bob Young, Clara Coburn and Betty Halttunen, and those whose faith was known only to you, inspire us to follow their example of baptismal life until we come with them to worship you. God,
- C** **open our hands to receive your promises.**
- A** Into your wounded hands of love, O God, we place all our prayers, trusting in your mercy through the Crucified-Risen One, Jesus.
- C** **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF MINISTRY: CANTOR WALT GABER

- P** Walt, in 2012, we of Luther Memorial Church welcomed you as our cantor...As you come to your well-deserved retirement, we bless you and Jeanne into your future and welcome the new ways you will serve God among us here.
- C** **For your time among us, thanks be to God!**
- P** The time has come...May you enter into your retirement with our gratitude and the blessing of God, Singer, + Song, and Breath.
- C** **Amen.**

We acclaim Walt and his ministry with applause.

THE PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord is with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

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



THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An 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. Additionally, you may visit <https://bit.ly/LMCDonate> or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Intermezzo Sinfonico"

(Susan Forsythe, violin soloist)

Pietro Mascagni, arr. Gustav Saenger

Please stand as you are able.

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

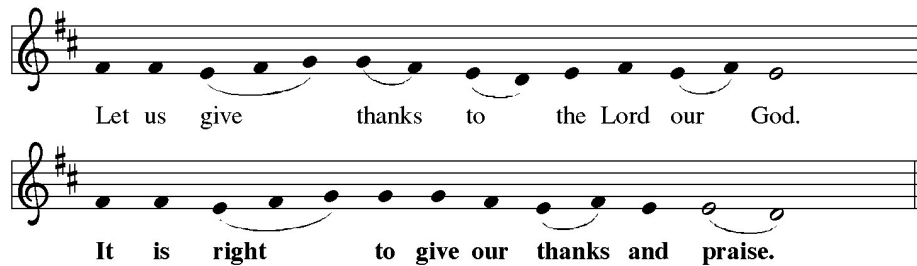
A Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOG

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

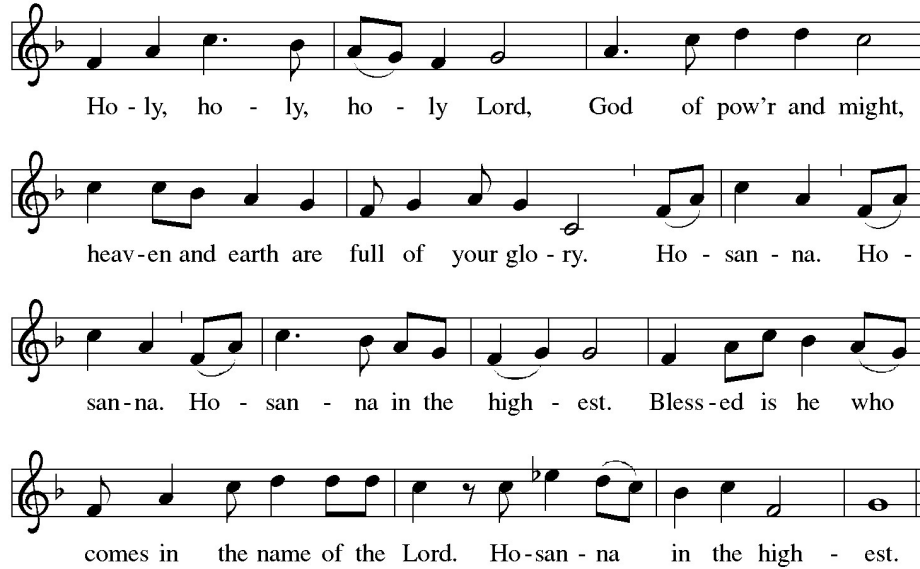
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



PROPER PREFACE

☐ *It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:*

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- ☐ Honor, praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, God our Loving Creator: In the beginning you reached your hands into the earth to form humanity in your own image. You breathed into us your own breath of love and gave us hearts and hands and voices to live your loving purpose in the world. Seeing the lonely creature of earth, you created a partner that we would know the joy of community. Throughout the history of your people, you never abandoned us, but brought us into community with one another and with you and guided us through your prophets. With endless patience and love, you called to us time and again to return to life with you.
- ☐ In the fulfillment of all things, you came to us in Jesus, born into a human family, raised in a hometown, who gathered around himself a community formed by your love, and yearned to gather all people under the loving wings of a mother hen.

*Sitting at dinner with friends
and knowing one among them
would break the bonds of love,
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 sins.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

☐ Trusting in his promise to be among us whenever we gather in his name, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

☑ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

☐ Gathered as your people, meeting in Jesus' name, and preparing ourselves to feast upon Jesus' very body and blood, we plead with all creation:

☑ **Come, Lord Jesus.**

☐ Send your Spirit upon this meal, the Body and Blood of Jesus, that we might overflow with your selfless love. Stand us up and turn us to face our neighbors that by us and through us your love may be known in the world. Again, we beg:

☑ **Come, Holy Spirit.**

☐ All honor and praise and glory to you, God of creative, dirty hands, God of holy, wounded hands, God who strengthens and guides our hands, now and forever.

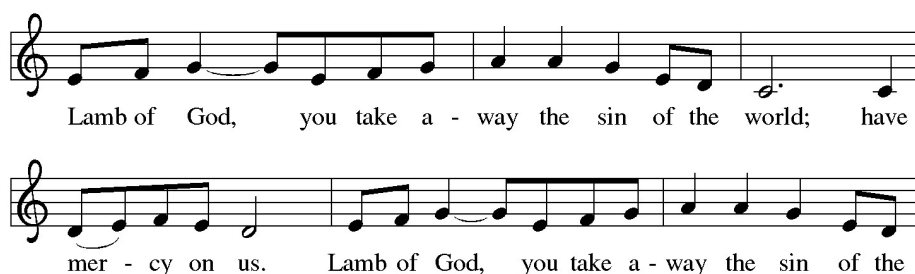


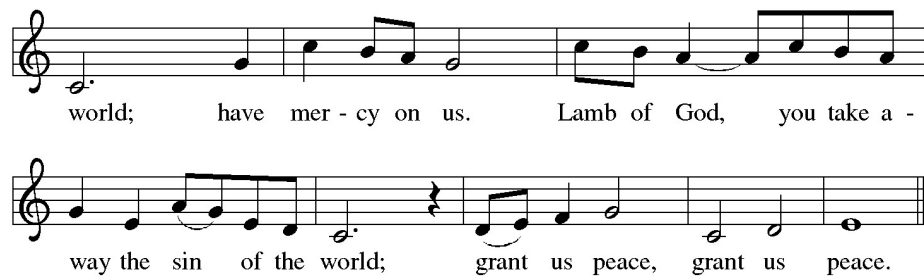
LORD'S PRAYER

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

☑ **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

AGNUS DEI





INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.
- ☐ Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

The congregation is seated.

THE COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast!

We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

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

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

*Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available;
please let the pastor know.*

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

*All are invited to the Meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine,
please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.*

HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION

ELW 462

Now We Join in Celebration

for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,

stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

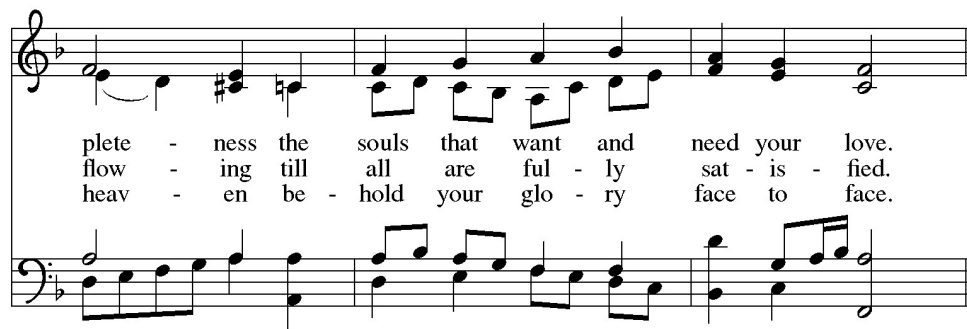
ELW 480

O Bread of Life from Heaven

1 O bread of life from heav - en, O food to pil - grims
2 O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er
3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den

giv - en, O man - na from a - bove: feed
stream - ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come
splen - dor with - in these means of grace. Oh,

with the bless - ed sweet - ness of your di - vine com -
now, your love be - stow - ing on thirst - ing souls, and
let the veil be riv - en, and our clear eye in



Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862–1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819–1893, st. 2
 Music: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN, Heinrich Isaac, 1450–1517; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

TABLE BLESSING

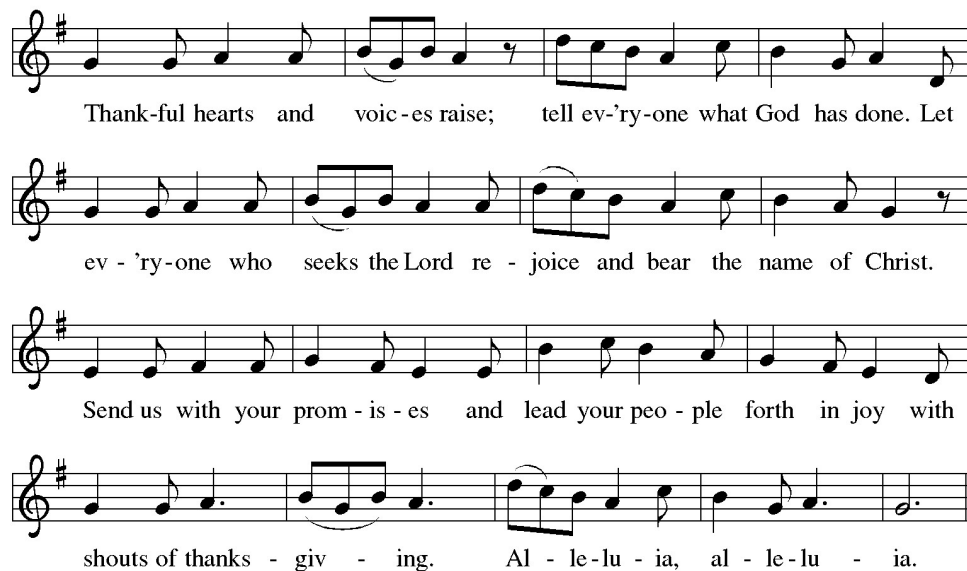
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...and bring you to everlasting life.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 207

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P ...now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 867

During the singing of the Sending Hymn, you may come forward to have your hands blessed for ministry.

In Thee Is Gladness



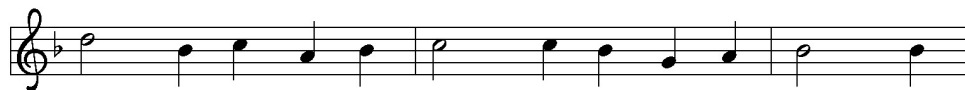
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Follow Jesus

C Thanks be to God.

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— **SERVING TODAY** —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer

ASSISTING MINISTER – Vance Meucci

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Chloe Meucci

LECTOR – Karen Braendel

INSTRUMENTALISTS – Bob Banks, Susan Forsythe

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Linda Graffius, Dave Griswold, Carl Moore

VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Young who passed away September 8, 2016, and my mother, Clara Coburn, who passed away November 10, 2007 by Pat, and family.

Front altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Betty Halttunen by her daughter, Janet Kent.

Altar flowers are available on Sunday, September 15 and Sunday, September 22. Please contact Norma in the church office if you would like to place flowers on the altar. Thank you.

Many youth have headed off to college. Please contact Norma in the church office and share their mailing and/or email address with us so we can keep in touch. Thank you.

Today's Events

Join us in the parlor following services this morning to wish Walt the best as he begins a new adventure; retirement. We thank him for the wonderful music leadership he has shared with us for many years.

Pastries With the Pastor will be offered in the library (across from the parlor) following each service this morning. Stop in and chat for a bit.

Sunday School for Pre-K-Grade 5 will gather this morning at 9:30am. Sunday School will be held the second Sunday of each month.

Confirmation orientation for youth in grades 6-12 and their families will be held this morning from 11:30am-12:30pm in the library. A light breakfast will be provided. Classes for 10th grade youth will begin September 15 and continue each Sunday through October 20.

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

Worship Matters

Today is God's Work Our Hands Sunday, and while that is not *technically* a liturgical holiday, it is a big celebration as part of our life together. As part of the ELCA—who's motto is "God's Work. Our Hands."—we celebrate all the ways that we do God's work in the world with our own selves. We celebrate that every day in myriad ways; we who are here fed and nourished by Word and Sacrament to go and **work** in the world as signs of God's love for a weary and wounded world. At the end of worship this morning, you may come forward to have your hands anointed for your own daily ministry.

Worship

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

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

Adult Faith Formation

The 2024-2025 Schedule of Adult Faith Formation options is available on the Welcome Table outside of both the chapel and sanctuary. Inside you will find the schedule of topics for: Adult Forum, Bible Study, Bible after Dark, and Book Group. Check it out! Any questions, contact Pastor Jay.

Christian Education

Book Group, Paging Through with Pastor Jay, will meet the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. Our first gathering will be tomorrow, Monday, September 9, beginning with the book, *The Other Side of the Wall*.

Adult Forum will meet Sunday, October 6 from 9:15-10:30am in the library. Class will be held October 6-October 20 and November 3-17. Our topic of discussion will be *Approaching the Bible*.

Brown Bag Bible will gather each Wednesday in the parlor beginning September 11 at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our first topic; *How Did THAT Get in My Bible?!*

B.A.D. (Bible After Dark) gathers at the Brewerie the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book *Context* by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; September 10 and 24 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Have fun with the OWLS at **Game Day** on Wednesday, September 18 in our parlor from 11:00am-1:30pm. A pizza lunch will be provided. Visit, laugh and enjoy the time playing some favorite games. If you have a favorite game, please bring it along to share. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Monday, September 9.

Dinner with Our Flock will gather on the third Wednesday of the month September-December beginning September 18. Join us at 5:30pm for dinner in fellowship hall. The main dish will be provided, please bring a dish to share. Get your mid-week boost with dinner, a short Bible lesson and craft.

Family scavenger hunt will be held Sunday, October 6 from 1:00-5:00pm. Have a super fun afternoon solving clues and arriving at your surprise destination. Contact the church office or see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski to sign up.

Join us for Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 6 at 11:30am in fellowship hall. A delicious main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be provided, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Let's raise a cold glass of beer and celebrate Oktoberfest. Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, September 29.

Great Deals

Indoor Yard Sale will be held Saturday, September 14 from 8:00am – 12:00pm in our fellowship hall. Items for the sale may be dropped off through September 13. Books, TV's or large electronic items and soft furniture will not be accepted. Pop in and catch the great deals! Proceeds will benefit Christian Education and LYO.

Outreach

Crop Walk will take place on Sunday, September 29. Luther Memorial (both Church **and** Academy) will have a shared Team this year as part of LMA Sunday celebrations. Everyone is encouraged to walk and make a difference in our community to help fight hunger. If you are unable to walk, consider making a donation to someone who is walking. A donation packet is available from Pastor Jay or the church office. Registration begins at 1:00pm with the Walk beginning at 2:00pm.

Harding School Alumni

Harding School 100th Birthday Party will be held Thursday, September 26 from 4:30-6:30pm. They are hoping to contact alumni to help celebrate this event. If you attended Harding School and would like more information on this celebration, please contact Shanna Potter, 814-490-6472.

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.

– PRAYER LIST –

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Marilyn Rositer	Cathy Beck & Jim
Diane & Bob Giannelli	Winnie Lyons	Ron King	Virginia Long
Matt, Jessica Kinzig & family	Pat Gilbert		
Friends and Family:			
Kate Collins & family	Lily	Marlo	Jenn Eddy
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Sherry Johnson	Heather Keaster	Curtis Krick
Nikki & Ayden Moyer & family	Stephanie Volland	Janice Carpenter	Jonah Allgeier
Jean Coburn	Tony B.	Betty M.	Betty Peters
Connie Haibach & family	Kevin D	Bernadette Mulder	Steve Sensor
Jamal Lemmons	Jim Roberts	Cherly Runstedler	Jerry
Andy Zimmerman	Norma Lynch		
Grief:			
Randy Hessinger family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins		

CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9	6:00pm	Book Group
	6:00pm	PTL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10	10:00am	Magic Fingers Grace Group
	10:00am	Pericope
	5:15pm	Safety Committee
	6:00pm	Church Council
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12	1:00pm	Grief Group
	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:30pm	Choir
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13		
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14	8:00am	Indoor Yard Sale
	10:00am	Julia Hospice House

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 HOLY CROSS DAY (TRANSFERRED)

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

Confirmation Class begins at 11:30am

VASA will meet at 1:00pm.

Virtual Health Event for dancers will be held at 1:00pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024		
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP		
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Kate Martin
Communion Assistant <i>(1 needed)</i>	10:30am	
Lector <i>(1 needed)</i>	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	<i>(1 needed)</i>
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	Pat Bellingham, Jeff Swanson
Ushers <i>(4 needed)</i>	10:30am	

Readings and Commemorations This Week

September 9 – Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, 1654 – Isaiah 58:6-11; Psalm 1; Matthew 25:31-46 -- *Born into Spanish nobility, Claver became a Jesuit missionary, and served in present-day Colombia. His ministry was focused on the enslaved people who arrived there. He gave them food and medicine, learned their dialects, and taught them Christianity.*

September 10 – Isaiah 38:10-20; Joshua 8:1-23; Hebrews 12:3-13

September 11 – Isaiah 38:10-20; Judges 15:9-20; Matthew 17:14-21

September 12 – Psalm 116:1-9; Joshua 2:1-14; Hebrews 11:17-22

September 13 – John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407 – Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 49:1-8; Romans 10:11-17; Luke 21:12-15 -- *John was a priest in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.*

September 14 – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS – Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17 -- *Helena, mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.*