

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



19 FEBRUARY 2023
Transfiguration of Our Lord
10:30 am

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

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



19 FEBRUARY 2023

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Four • 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 – "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Christa Rakich, Kevin Sadowski,
Michael Burkhardt, Benjamin Culli

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

TEMPLE TALK

Stan Rose

HANDBELL VOLUNTARY – "Antiphonal Praise"

Michael Bedford

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

☞ **Amen.**

☞ Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



P Holy One, source of our renewal,
C we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
 and cannot free ourselves.
 We have not practiced your righteousness.
 Our hearts have turned away from you.
 For the sake of the world you so love,
 forgive us,
 that we may be reconciled to one another
 for the glory of your holy name.
 Amen.

P Thus says our God:
 “The former things have come to pass
 and new things I now declare.”
 God’s mercy makes us new.
 We are forgiven in the name of ✠ Christ our Savior.
C Amen.

*This vigorous text is the work of a 19th century Scottish minister of voluminous accomplishment.
 The tune is a traditional Welsh secular tune.*

ENTRANCE HYMN

ELW 834

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

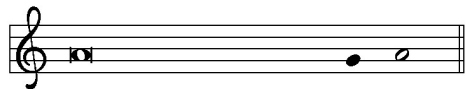
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love,
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



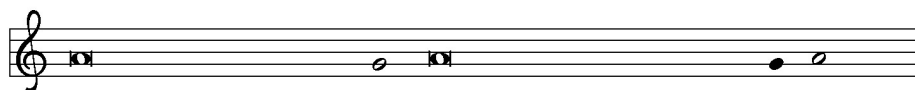
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



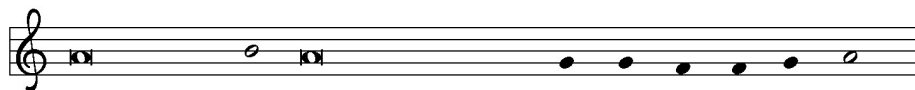
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray.

☞ **O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

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

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights.
The “glory of the LORD” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses.
On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

¹²The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders Moses had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day God called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 2

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



You are my Son; this day have I be - got - ten you.

¹Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,

and the princes plot together against the Lord, and against his anointed?

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say;

“let us cast off their bonds from us.”

⁴He whose throne is in heaven is laughing;

the Lord holds them in derision. **R**

⁵Then he speaks to them in his wrath, and his rage fills them with terror.

⁶“I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.”

⁷Let me announce the decree of the Lord,

He said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance

and the ends of the earth for your possession. **R**



- ⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”
¹⁰And now you kings, be wise; be warned you rulers of the earth.
¹¹Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow before him;
¹²lest he be angry and you perish, for his wrath is quickly kindled.
¹³Happy are they all who take refuge in him! **R**

*At the transfiguration, God’s voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son.
By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God’s voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For Jesus received honor and glory from God, the Father, when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with Jesus on the holy mountain. ¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

L The word of the Lord.

G 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.)*



*This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him!
(Luke 9:35)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

¹Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While Peter was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son-of-Man has been raised from the dead.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Moran

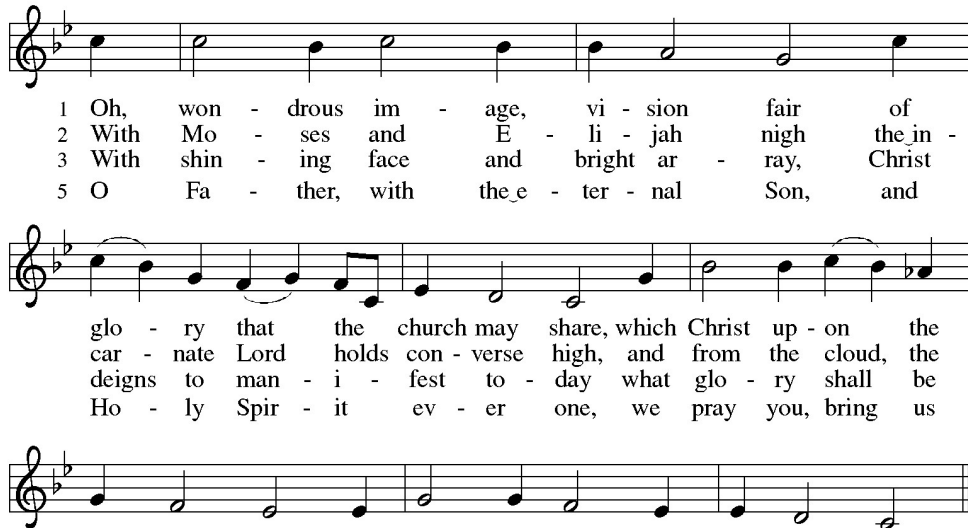
Please stand as you are able.

Born into an evangelical home, John Neale is praised for his contributions to the church and hymnody. He won the Seatonian prize for religious poetry eleven times while a student at Trinity College, Cambridge, England and was ordained in the Church of England in 1842. He was warden of Sackville College, a retirement home for poor men, from 1846-1866 and also founded the Sisterhood of St. Margaret, which became one of the finest English training orders for nurses.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 316

Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and

glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us

moun-tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!
Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.
by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

NICENE CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.



For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Please stand as you are able.

THE PRAYERS

A Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats. Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayor and local leaders, our governor and state legislators, our president and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Give shelter to those lacking safe homes. Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.



A We give you thanks for the leading of the Holy Spirit in the call process and for the hard work of our Call Committee and our Church Council. Guide Pastor Mitchell as he prepares to leave his congregation in Philadelphia and begin his ministry with us. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people, especially Matilda and Herman Kleiber, Betty Halttunen, and Bill Youngman. With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

C Amen.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

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

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

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

“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 – “Christ, Upon the Mountain Stands”

Robert Lehman

*Christ, upon the mountain stands, vision of the Father's blessing;
Blazing forth to all the lands, saints and angels now professing. Alleluia!*

*Law and prophets have their place, in the cloud of wondrous glory;
Chosen witnesses of grace, there to see and tell the story. Alleluia!*

*God, in majesty, descends, then proclaims to all before him:
This is my beloved Son! Nations, come now and adore him. Alleluia!*

*Faithful hearts we lift on high, joyful strains, our voices raising;
For this vision's mystery, songs of wonder, hymns of praising. Alleluia!*

Please stand as you are able.

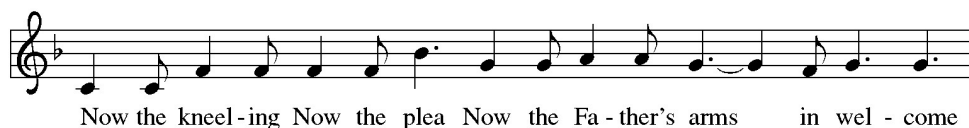
This hymn combines a text by one of the most eminent Lutheran hymn writers with music by one of the most eminent Lutheran composers. The text was written by the author as an entrance hymn or introit, as “a list of awesome and exciting things that one should expect in worship.”

The tune was written for the text in 1969.

OFFERTORY

Now the Silence

ELW 460



Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing

Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion

Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing

Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
 Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A** Liberating God,
 you break the bonds of injustice
 and let the oppressed go free.
 Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
 for all your works of merciful power,
 and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
 You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
- C** Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

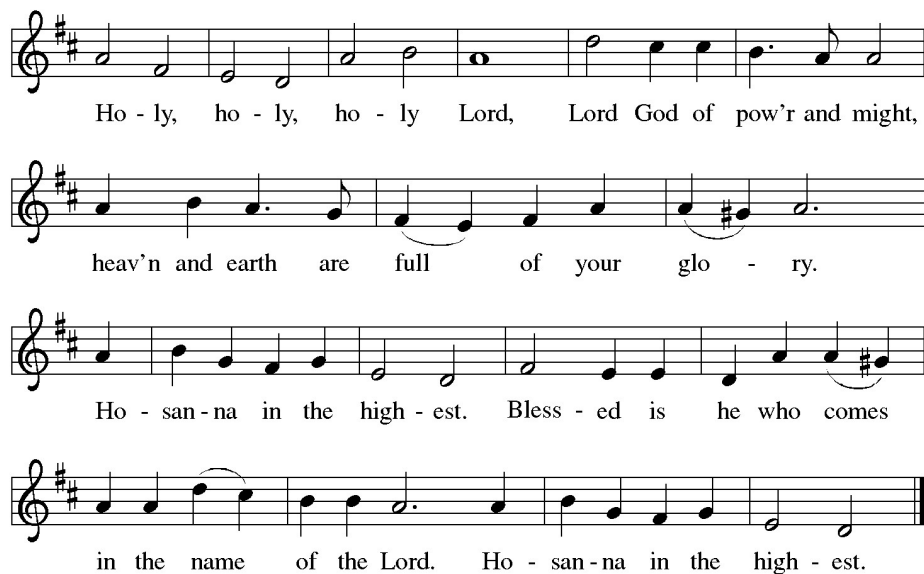
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- ¶ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ¶ Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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

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

- ¶ Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

☑ **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.



P With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

**C 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



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

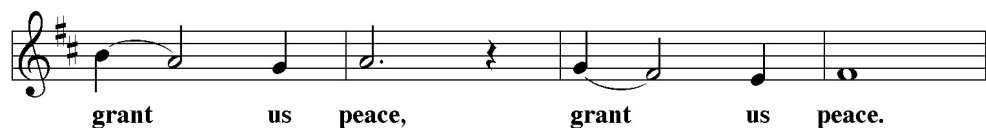


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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





INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come and taste the joy of God!

C Amen.

P Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

The congregation is seated.

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

O Jesus, our great high priest, be present with us as you were present with your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread. Lutheran Book of Worship

COMMUNION

Today's service is a celebration of Holy Communion. We believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the gifts of bread and wine, bringing forgiveness of sins and new life to all who receive this sacrament. All baptized Christians who come at our Lord's invitation are welcome at His table of grace.

Please come forward by the center aisle.

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

Prefilled cups with white grape juice for those who prefer it are in the center of the tray.

Gluten-free wafers are on the stand in front of the baptismal font.

Receive the bread and wine and return to your place by the side aisle.

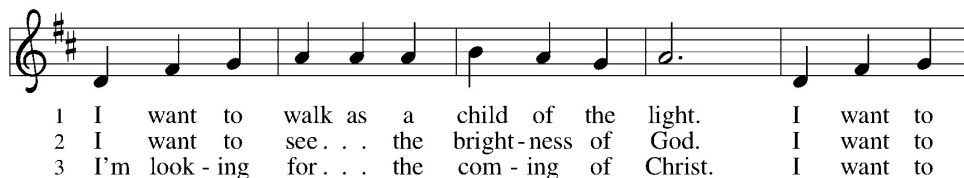
If you are not going to receive Holy Communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest.

The author/ composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1–2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.

HYMN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

ELW 815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Holy One,
we thank you for the healing
that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice,
love kindness,
and journey humbly with you.

C Amen.

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

BLESSING

P The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor’s rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

*Alleluia, song of sweetness, voice of joy that cannot die.
Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high.
In the house of God abiding, thus they sing eternally.
Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.
Therefore in our hymns we pray thee grant us blessed Trinity
At the last to keep thine Easter, in our home beyond the sky,
There to thee for ever singing, alleluia joyfully.*

Please stand as you are able.

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

A Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

G Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE – "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Michael Burkhardt, Gordon Young

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— SERVING TODAY —

PREACHING – Pastor Brian Moran

GREETERS – Jane & Dave Kinzig

ACOLYTE – Jack Bartlett

ASSISTING MINISTER – Linda Swanson

LECTOR – C. Noelle Partusch

USHERS – Elaine Kern, Jane & Dave Kinzig, Elvin Montero

ALTAR GUILD – Martha & Tom Klomp



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my parents, Matilda and Herman Kleiber, who were married 89 years ago on February 11, 1934, by Lois Smith.

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

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Bill Youngman, Dorothy Youngman's husband, who died Monday, February 13, 2023.

Today's Events

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

Homemade soup is available for \$8/quart this morning following the 10:30 service. Proceeds benefit our LYO.

Check out the Jigsaw Swap cart following services today. They're fun for one or for the entire family. Books for all ages are also available.

Offering envelopes for 2023 are located on the table by the ramp door. To save on postage we ask that you please pick up your envelopes. They are arranged alphabetically. Thank you.

ReCharge contemporary service will be held this afternoon. We look forward to seeing you for a delicious meal, games and fellowship at 4:00pm. Our worship service will be held from 5:00-6:00pm.

Worship

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.

Christian Education

Children's Church classes for PreK – grade 6 meet the second Sunday of each month from 9:30 – 10:15. Our next gathering will be Sunday, March 12. Our youth in grades 7 - 12 will continue meeting on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am.

First Holy Communion classes will be held on Sundays, February 26 – April 2 from 9:30-10:15am in the fellowship hall area. Our students will receive special instruction by Ann Flick and Beth Keller throughout Lent. All children in grades 3 and up are invited to take part in these classes. If your son or daughter has not had the opportunity to attend First Communion class, we invite them to attend. Children will receive First Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 6, at the 7:00pm service. Please contact Norma in the church office if your child(ren) will attend. Thank you.

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.

Lenten Opportunities

Ash Wednesday services will be held on February 22 with communion and imposition of ashes. Pastor Moran will preach at the 12:00 noon service. Pastor Lundwall will preach and Michael Snider will assist at the 7:00pm service.

Lenten luncheons will be offered in fellowship hall at 12:35pm, immediately following worship, each Wednesday in Lent; March 1 – March 26. All are invited to enjoy a home-cooked meal; cost for each lunch is \$8.

Walk to Emmaus will bring our families together each Wednesday evening throughout Lent. We will gather at 5:30pm in fellowship hall for our meal. The main dish will be provided; all are asked to bring a side dish to share. We will gather in the main church for a Bible lesson and family activity from 6:15 – 7:00pm.

Wednesday Lenten services will be held at 12:05pm March 1 – March 29. Scripture readings will be full of back-and-forth conversations with God. These conversations are filled with questions. People use questions to interrogate or to express their confusion or doubt. Questions express the longings of the heart and the puzzles of the mind. A question shows the distance between me and you. A question can also bring us closer. Let these questions—those others ask of God, and those you have carried yourself—draw you closer into conversation with God and with others this Lenten season.

March 1	Questions that Divide, Questions that Bind
March 8	Simple Questions
March 15	Questions for the Curious
March 22	Questions that Change, Questions that Change You
March 29	Questions that Kick

Opportunities for Fellowship

Spring Bingo will be held Sunday, March 26 in our fellowship hall. Doors will open at 12:00 noon and the fun begins at 12:30pm. The cost of \$25 includes 8 games of play and with cash and prizes, tip boards and raffles. Small snacks will be available for purchase. This event will benefit our youth programming.

Magic Fingers Grace Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00-12:00pm. Join friends for a wonderful morning of knitting, crocheting and laughter on February 28. 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.

Quilt meeting will be held Saturday, March 11 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. The February meeting is cancelled.

Luther Memorial Academy

LMA's Lego League team has been invited to a FIRST Lego League tournament at Worchester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts June 9-11, 2023. This is a huge opportunity for the LMA team and they are proud to represent LMA & Erie County. To make this happen for our team, it is necessary to raise \$845 per student, which means a total of \$5,915 for the team. If you are aware of an area business that would like to sponsor our Lego League, please share the information with the school office. Every little bit helps & all donations and sponsorships can be mailed or dropped off in the school office. Be sure to make checks payable to LMA & earmark them for Lego League. Thank you.

Items to Note

Parking in the lot across from 11th Street is not permitted. Please do not park in this area as your car will be towed. Thank you.

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.



— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Jan & Skip MacInnes
Dave Parsh
Torsten Carlson

C. Noelle Partusch
Mark Howell
Dave Birkner

Chickie Braine
Mike Daniels
Mary Laver

John Downey
Paul Meucci

Friends and Family:

Dennis & Lori Sander
Elizabeth, Craig & Winnie
Karen Dahlstrand
Jessica & Damian Ream
Austin Coverdale
Brian Nicewonger
Abbie (Treiber) Dixon

Elayne Morphy
Mary Correll
Nichole Jones
Brittani H.
Kevin
Curtis Krick
Debbie

Linda F.
Judy Skoog
Bob Guenther
Tom McGrail
Tom Wilson
Tom Braendel
Gary Flick

Edie Jackman
Branden Jones
Christine Norris
Meghan Kessler
Dawn Weborg
Susan Brooks
Elise VanDamia

Grief:

Bill Youngman family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Lt. Col. Matt Anderson
Ben Dixon

Michael Stickner

Andrew Watson

Alli Brown

CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

President's Day

Church Offices and LMA Closed

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

10:00am

Pastors' Study Group

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

12:00pm

Worship

Ash Wednesday

7:00pm

Worship

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

5:30pm

Handbell Rehearsal

6:30pm

Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Pastor Karen Lundwall will preach at the 8:15am service in Faith Chapel and the 10:30am service in the main church.

First Holy Communion classes at 9:30am.

Coffee Hour and fellowship offered following the 10:30am service.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Rob Benacci
	10:30am	Liz Stroup
Altar Guild	8:15am	Nancy Benacci
	10:30am	Loretta Deeds
Greeters	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	Gina Snider
Counters	10:30am	