



Luther Memorial Church

## Holy Communion

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN

SUNDAY, DEC. 26, 2021

## Welcome!

*Please silence your cell phone in the nave.*

### LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

The 10:30 service is livestreamed on our website at [www.luthermem.org](http://www.luthermem.org) and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

### PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is reserved in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

### RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

### CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. The nursery is open but unstaffed today.

### HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. Please ask a pastor for a gluten-free communion wafer, if needed.

### RECYCLE

Please recycle your bulletin in the basket in the narthex after the early service, or in the blue recycle bin after the 10:30 service.

### LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more:

- Please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate
- Visit us online at [www.luthermem.org](http://www.luthermem.org) or Facebook

**PRELUDE** What Is This Lovely Fragrance? | arr. James Biery

## GATHERING

*Please turn and face the baptismal font at the rear of the nave.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the altar.*

**#286 PROCESSIONAL HYMN** Your Little Ones, Dear Lord

### APOSTOLIC 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.**


## GLORIA

Assisting minister




Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.


All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;




you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of Stephen the first martyr, who looked to heaven and prayed for his persecutors. Grant that we also may pray for our enemies and seek forgiveness for those who hurt us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*Please sit.*

### FIRST READING *2 Chronicles 24:17-22*

Now after the death of Jehoiada the officials of Judah came and did obeisance to the king; then the king listened to them. They abandoned the house of the Lord, the God of their ancestors, and served the sacred poles and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the Lord; they testified against them, but they would not listen.

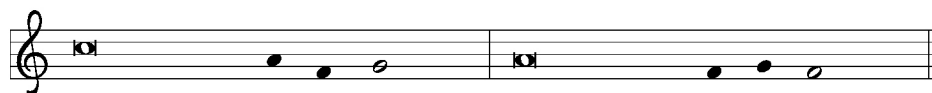
Then the spirit of God took possession of Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada; he stood above the people and said to them, "Thus says God: Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, he has also forsaken you." But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him to death in the court of the house of the Lord. King Joash did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. As he was dying, he said, "May the Lord see and avenge!"

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 17:1-9, 15

*The cantor and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the cantor.*



Hear a just cause, O Lord; give heed | to my cry;

listen to my prayer, which does not come from | lying lips.

**Let my vindication come forth | from your presence;**

**let your eyes be | fixed on justice.**

Examine my heart, visit | me by night,

melt me down; you will find no impuri- | ty in me.

**I have not regarded what | others do;**

**at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways | of the violent.**

My footsteps hold fast to your | well-worn path;

and my feet | do not slip.

**I call upon you, O God, for you will | answer me;**

**incline your ear to me and | hear my words.**

Show me your marvelous | lovingkindness,

O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who | rise against them.

**Keep me as the apple | of your eye;**

**hide me under the shadow | of your wings,**

from the wicked | who assault me,

from my deadly enemies | who surround me.

**But at my vindication I shall | see your face;**

**when I awake, I shall be satisfied, behold- | ing your likeness.**

### SECOND READING *Acts 6:8-7:2a, 51-60*

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men

to say, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, “This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us.” And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel:

Then the high priest asked him, “Are these things so?” And Stephen replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me. You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL** *Matthew 23:34-39*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: “Therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit.*

**SERMON**

*Please stand.*

#420 HYMN OF THE DAY By All Your Saints (*Stanzas 1, 4, last*)

**NICENE CREED**

**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

... Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**  
*Please greet your neighbor: Peace be with you.*

**MEAL**

*Please sit.*

**OFFERING**

*Please stand.*

**#296 OFFERTORY** What Child Is This (*Stanza 3*)

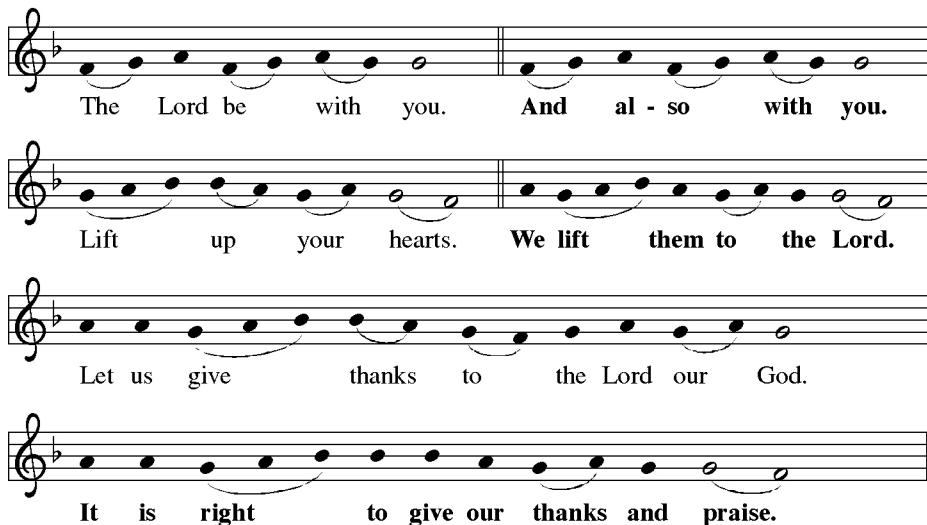
3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

### LORD'S PRAYER

8:00 | *Spoken by all*

10:30 | *Sung by all*

**Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be**

**thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our**

**dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,**



as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us; and lead us



not in- to temp-ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.



For thine is the king-dom, and the pow- er, and the



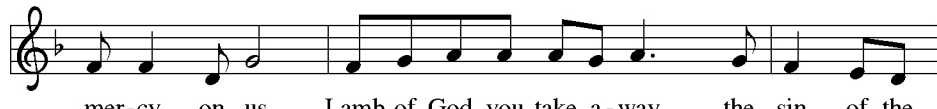
glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

*Please sit.*

### LAMB OF GOD



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



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



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

### THE COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread\*) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup; persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread.*

*\*Gluten-free bread is available on request.*



#298 COMMUNION HYMN The Bells of Christmas

*Please stand.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.*

#299 RECESSIONAL HYMN Cold December Flies Away

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Joy to the World! | Emma Lou Diemer





## SERVING TODAY

	8:00 am	10:30 am
<b>PRESIDER</b>	Pastor John Worzala Dumke	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
<b>PREACHER</b>	Amy Grunewald Mattison	Amy Grunewald Mattison
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Andrew Schaeffer	Andrew Schaeffer
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Peggy Baldwin	Carl Anderson
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS</b>		Lynn Washington, Mary Powell, Rolf Wulfsberg
<b>LECTOR</b>	Caroline Oldershaw	Kelly Olson
<b>CRUCIFER</b>		George Alexander
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Peggy Baldwin	Cynthia Vander Woude
<b>HEAD USHER</b>	Connie & Randy Burmeister	Eric Oelkers
<b>VIDEO DIRECTOR</b>		Lee Powell
<b>SOUND OPERATOR</b>		David Heins

Our thanks to **Rolf Wulfsberg**, violin, for playing this morning.

Today we remember the inurnment of **Lee Grugel** in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read his page in the memory books.

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