



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

3 EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, JAN. 26, 2025 | 10:30 AM

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

This service is livestreamed on our website at 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 available 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. A staffed nursery is available Sundays 9–noon.

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 or Facebook

PRELUDE How Brightly Shines the Morning Star | Otto Olsson

GATHERING

Please rise.

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.

#308 PROCESSIONAL HYMN O Morning Star How Fair and Bright

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

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.

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with

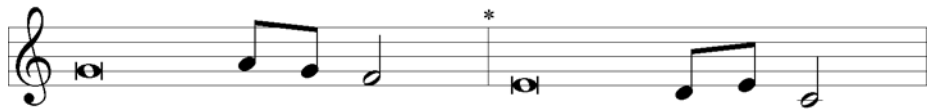
understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19

The choir sings the antiphon, "The teaching of the Lord revives the soul," before and after the psalm. The psalm is sung responsively, beginning with the choir.



The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

**One day tells its tale | to another,
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**

Although they have no | words or language,
and their voices | are not heard,

**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**

It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**

The teaching of the Lord is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom | to the simple.

**The statutes of the Lord are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous | altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**

By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

**Who can detect one's | own offenses?
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and | my redeemer.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL



Choir: The spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives.

GOSPEL Luke 4:14–21

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#668 HYMN OF THE DAY O Zion, Haste

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... 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 Light of the World | Edward Elgar; arr. John Scott

Light of the world, we know thy praise,
The angels and arch-angels raise,
And all the host of Heav'n;
More worthily than our faint hymns,
Whose jarring sound that glory dims,
Which God to Thee hast given.
But Thou didst not disdain to take our low estate,
Or e'en to make the tomb Thy resting place;
So Thou might bring into our night
the dawn of Thine eternal Light
to shine upon our face.

Nor death, nor hell, nor sin is Lord,
 But Thou, O Son of God.
 Thy word is now our sovereign law.
 Therefore we thank Thee and we pray
 Thy light may shine unto the perfect day;
 Thy light may shine on us for evermore.

Please rise.

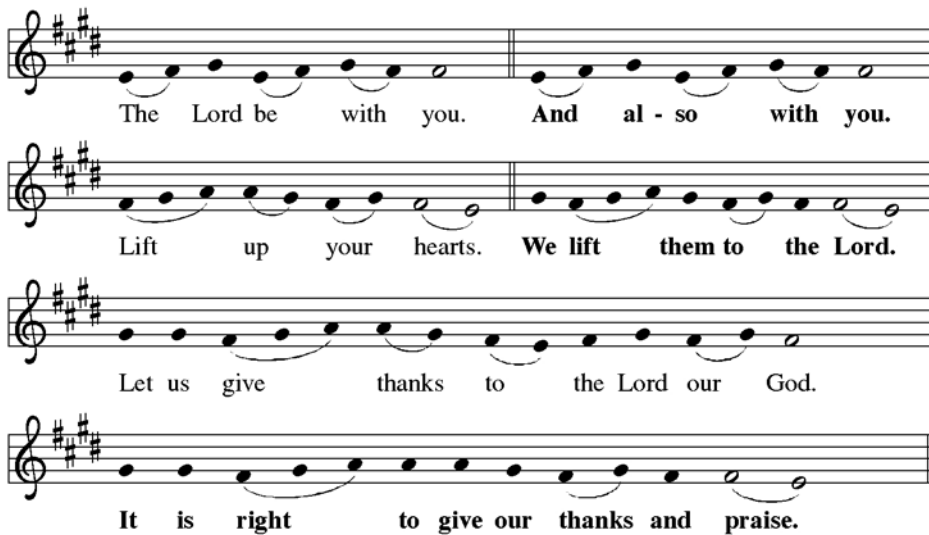
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, 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.

SANCTUS



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 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 risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER



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.

AGNUS DEI



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. 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 the second chalice. Gluten-free bread is available on request.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Adagio from Concerto in d minor, opus 9 | Tomaso Albinoni

COMMUNION HYMNS

- #485 I Am the Bread of Life
- #476 Thee We Adore, O Savior

Please rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through 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.

- #551 **RECESSIONAL HYMN** The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Psalm 19 | Benedetto Marcello

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Some of us are inclined to think that the gospel is all very lovely and idyllic. We have a notion that it was intended primarily to comfort us in this wretched world. The rude offense of the cross is hidden away under flowers. A gallows turned into a floral tribute!—for use at funerals! Jesus is represented as amazingly gentle, a good deal gentler than he ever was, and becomes the mild friend of man. God himself is little more than the superlative of human kindness and couldn't possibly be hard on anyone! We sing, "Come Hither, Ye Faithful," but leave out that phrase about "the angels' dread king." It isn't good for children. One of our books takes the old Russian hymn which used to read, "God the All-terrible King who ordaineth," and makes it start, "God the all-Merciful."

If we don't quit that kind of milk-and-water nonsense now, we shall soon be much worse off than we have ever been. Our sensitive, tender little delicacies won't get us very far.

Paul Scherer
(1892-1969)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PREACHER	Pastor Preston Fields
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTE	Abrielle Shirek, Roman Worzala Dumke
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Szczukutowicz
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Panka McGuire, Janet Zentner, Daniel David
CRUCIFER	Brandon Metzler
LECTOR	Rolf Wulfsberg
SACRISTAN	Mary Powell
AUDIO	David Heins
VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Eric Oelkers, Casey Oelkers, Dylan Oelkers, Kendall Oelkers

During the season of Epiphany we will be utilizing the "Centennial Mass" composed by our former Director of Music, Roger Petrich, in commemoration of our building centennial in 2023.

Altar flowers are given by Ann M. Combs and Bob Combs in loving memory of Esenbahar Gairdner Atis, their niece.

Today we remember the inurnments of Philip Harris and Kathy Seifert in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read their pages in the memory books.

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