



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

7 EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 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 Prelude & Fugue in A Major (BWV 536) | J.S. Bach

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.

#707 PROCESSIONAL HYMN Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

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.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

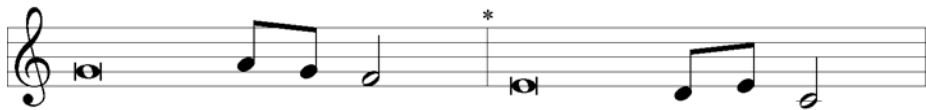
Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40

The choir sings the antiphon, “The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace,” before and after the psalm. The psalm is sung responsively, beginning with the choir.



Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**

Put your trust in the Lord | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

**Take delight | in the Lord,
who shall give you your | heart’s desire.**

Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what | God will do.

**The Lord will make your vindication as clear | as the light
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

Be still before the Lord and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**

For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall pos- | sess the land.

**In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.**

But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land;
they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.

**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from | you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.**

You, O Lord, will help them and | rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you | they seek refuge.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Choir: Love your enemies, and you will be children of the Most High; forgive and you will be forgiven.

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#605 HYMN OF THE DAY Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

P. 234 AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM Reception of new members

INSTALLATION OF 2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

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 Behold, How Good and Joyful | John Clarke-Whitfeld

Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity.

It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down unto the beard,

Ev'n unto Aaron's beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing.

It is like the dew of Hermon, which fell upon the hill of Sion.

For there the Lord promised his blessing, and life forevermore.

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 *(See inside back cover of hymnal)*

Please sit.

AGNUS DEI



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

COMMUNION HYMNS

- #716 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace
- #711 O Day of Peace
- #468 Around You, O Lord Jesus

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.

- #783 RECESSIONAL HYMN Praise and Thanks and Adoration

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Fanfare | John Cook

Sing aloud unto God our strength: Make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob... Blow up the trumpet... on our solemn feast day. (Psalm 81:1–3)

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

September 6. Today I am sixty-six years old and am entering upon my sixty-seventh year.

This summer I beheld a scene or portrait at my small dwelling place. A scrawny, unattractive hen, or pullet, laid eleven eggs in a hidden place amid a great cackling. For several weeks the hen sat on the eggs, suffering hunger and thirst and hardly taking a few minutes during the day to search for food in order to preserve life. Finally the little creature came out and brought eleven chicks to my door and asked for feed for her helpless offspring. She broke the bread for her young ones, warmed them at her breast, protected them against storms, warned them when she spied a bird of prey from afar, drew them after her when she wished to stray, fought men and strong beasts who approached too near to her young ones, cut a figure with her wings as if she were wearing a hoop skirt, and brought her young ones to my door or under my window five or six times a day and asked me to feed them.

When the young ones had grown enough to help themselves, there was not one among them which showed enough gratitude to bring the mother a kernel of corn or share a chance crumb. Moreover, the mother ceased calling them, became quiet, modest, shy, and timid, and withdrew into solitude. Let the application be made to poor, aged parents and preachers, children and congregations.

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg
(1711-1787)

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
PREACHER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
ORGANIST	Gary Lewis
ACOLYTES	Berkeley Worzala Dumke, Luke Szczykutowicz
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Szczykutowicz
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Daniel David, Derren Slinde, Corbin Slinde
CRUCIFER	Randy Raasch
LECTOR	Janelle Allen
SACRISTAN	Cynthia Vander Woude
AUDIO	David Heins
VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Eric Oelkers, Casey Oelkers, Dylan Oelkers, Kendall Oelkers

Our thanks to Gary Lewis for serving as our organist today. Andrew Schaeffer is away playing a hymn festival in Oklahoma City.

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.

Today we remember the inurnments of Barbara Luebs and Arthur Luebs in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read their pages in the memory books.

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