



Luther Memorial Church

## Holy Communion

2 LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 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](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 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](http://www.luthermem.org) or Facebook

PRELUDE Abridge | Ashley Grotte

## GATHERING

*Please rise.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Cleanse me from sin, O Lord, wash me with hyssop branches; cleanse me from guilt, and I shall be clean as the new snow.

**Have mercy on me, O my God, according to your great compassion.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**

**I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

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

#831 PROCESSIONAL HYMN The God of Abraham

*Stanzas 1–3 sung by all; stanza 4 sung by choir; stanza 5 sung by low voices; stanza 6 sung by low voices; stanzas 7 & 8 sung by all*

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord God of all, in the cross and suffering of your Son you redeem the world. Gather all peoples into One, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*Please sit.*

### FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 27

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



The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,

they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.

**Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.**

**Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.**

**One thing I ask of the Lord; one | thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of  
the Lord and to seek God | in the temple.**

For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make  
music | to the Lord.

**Hear my voice, O Lord, | when I call;**

**have mercy on me and | answer me.**

**My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O Lord, | I will seek.**

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,

the Lord will | take me in.

**Teach me your | way, O Lord;**

**lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.**

**Subject me not to the will | of my foes,**

**for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.**

This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the Lord

in the land | of the living!

Wait for the Lord | and be strong.

Take heart and wait | for the Lord!

## **SECOND READING** Philippians 3:17—4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise.*

## **GOSPEL**

Choir: The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

## **GOSPEL** Luke 13:31-35

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ 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. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when 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 rise.*

#468 HYMN OF THE DAY Around You, O Lord Jesus

## 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** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross | Gilbert Martin  
*The text may be found at hymn #803.*

*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.

The musical notation for the Great Thanksgiving consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

## 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.

The musical notation for the Sanctus consists of five staves of music in G major. The melody is more complex than the Thanksgiving, featuring some eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father... both 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

*Sung by the choir. Setting by Giovanni Gabrieli.*

## 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 a second chalice.*

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

## COMMUNION HYMNS

- #727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth  
#613 Thy Holy Wings

*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.*

- #811 RECESSIONAL HYMN On My Heart Imprint Your Image

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Praeludium, Fuga & Postludium in g minor | Georg Böhm

## TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

*Of all Lenten hymns and prayers, one short prayer can be termed the Lenten prayer. Tradition ascribes it to one of the great teachers of spritual life, St. Ephraim the Syrian.*

O Lord and Master of my life!  
Take from me the spirit of sloth,  
faintheartedness, lust of power and  
idle talk. But give rather the spirit  
of chastity, humility, patience and  
love to your servant. Yea O Lord  
and King! Grant me to see my own  
errors and not to judge my brothers  
and sisters; for you are blessed unto  
ages of ages. Amen.

## SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PREACHER	Rev. Jon R. Nelson
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Caroline Schinke, Abrielle Shirek
ASSISTING MINISTER	Mary Jean Huston
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Judy Braham, Daniel David, Karole Leadholm, Randy Raasch
CRUCIFER	Brian Uphoff
LECTOR	Heidi Notbohm
SACRISTAN	Dan Ruge
AUDIO	Bill Braham
VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Bob Uphoff, Chris Uphoff

**Our thanks to the K-5 Sunday School students** for making the Communion bread today.

**Altar flowers are given by Gary Brown** in memory of his parents Bev & Phil Brown.

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

### Notes on our Lenten liturgies

During Lent, our Sunday liturgies will look different, reflecting the solemnity of the season.

The Gloria which we sing nearly every Sunday is omitted throughout Lent. In its place is the "Kyrie", an ancient Greek prayer for mercy. Furthermore, the word Alleluia is absent, only to appear once again at the Easter Vigil. The organ, which normally enjoys a prominent role in the leadership of our liturgies is used as sparsely as possible. You may also notice subtle changes to our worship space. The candelabras which normally flank the high altar, are absent, as are the usual altar hangings. Where beautiful flowers normally adorn the altar, you will see bare branches lying in wait for the splendor of new life at Easter.

These liturgical, musical, and aesthetic deviations help us to focus our worship life on our need for repentance and forgiveness while leading us to a more beautiful and profound "Alleluia" at Easter.

