



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

3 LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 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 Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit | Johann Sebastian Bach
Christe, aller Welt Trost
Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist

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.

#618 PROCESSIONAL HYMN Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, 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 ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



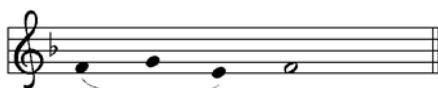
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, that we might lead lives of fruitful repentance, through 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 Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 63:1-8

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



O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there |
is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place,
that I might behold your power | and your glory.

**For your steadfast love is better than | life itself;
my lips shall | give you praise.**

**So will I bless you as long | as I live
and lift up my hands | in your name.**

My spirit is content, as with the rich- | est of foods,
and my mouth praises you with | joyful lips,
when I remember you up- | on my bed,
and meditate on you in | the night watches.

**For you have | been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.**

**My whole being | clings to you;
your right hand | holds me fast.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL

Choir: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.

GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#624 HYMN OF THE DAY Jesus, Still Lead On

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 Who Is at My Window, Who | Welford Russell

Who is at my window? Who? Who?
Go from my window! Go! Go!
Who calls there, like a stranger
Go from my window! Go!

"Lord, I am here, a wretched mortal
That for thy mercy does cry and call
Unto thee, my lord celestial
See who is at thy window, who?"

Remember thy sin, and also thy smart
And also for thee what was my part
Remember the spear that pierced my heart
And in at my door thou shall go

I ask no thing of thee therefore
But love for love, to lay in store
Give me thy heart, I ask no more
And in at my door thou shall go

Who is at my window? Who?
Go from my window! Go!
Cry no more there, like a stranger
But in at my door thou go!

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 a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The second staff also has a repeat sign after the first measure. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.

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 a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The second staff also has a repeat sign after the first measure. The third, fourth, and fifth staves end with a double bar line.

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

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. A - men.

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.*

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Toccata Nona | Girolamo Frescobaldi

COMMUNION HYMN I Lay My Sins on Jesus (*Lutheran Book of Worship* #305)

1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, the spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; all full - ness dwells in him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, this wea - ry soul of mine;
he bears them all and frees us from the ac - curs - ed load.
he heals all my dis - eas - es; my soul he does re - deem.
his right hand me em - brac - es; I on his breast re - cline.
I bring my guilt to Je - sus to wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, my bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;
clean in his blood most pre - cious till not a spot re - mains.
he from them all re - leas - es; he all my sor - rows shares.
like fra - grance on the breez - es his name a - broad is poured.

#609 COMMUNION HYMN Chief of Sinners Though I Be

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 Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist á 5 – Canto fermo in Basso cum Organo pleno | J.S. Bach

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 spiritual 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	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Berkeley Worzala Dumke, Luke Szczukutowicz
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Szczukutowicz
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Randy Raasch, Mary Powell, Rolf Wulfsberg
CRUCIFER	Tim Szczukutowicz
LECTOR	Brenda Ryther
SACRISTAN	Cynthia Vander Woude
AUDIO	David Heins
VIDEO	Lee Powell
USHERS	Eric Oelkers, Casey Oelkers, Dylan Oelkers, Kendall Oelkers

Today we remember the inurnment of Edel-Lore Simonson in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read her page in the memory books.

Today we will hear the first sounds from our new continuo organ built by C.B. Fisk, Inc. of Gloucester, Massachusetts. This instrument was given to the Glory of God by an anonymous member of Luther Memorial. A formal program to dedicate the instrument will take place in the fall.

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.

