

Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion 5 lent sunday, april 6, 2025 | 10:30 am

PRELUDE Notturno, op. 54, no. 4 | Edvard Grieg

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.#339 PROCESSIONAL HYMN Christ, the Life of All the Living

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

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love; through 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 Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 126

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



When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion,

then were we like | those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great | things for them."

The Lord has done great | things for us,

and we are | glad indeed.

Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord,

like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

Those who | sowed with tears

will reap with | songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,

will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

SECOND READING Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know

Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise.

GOSPEL

Choir: Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL John 12:1-8

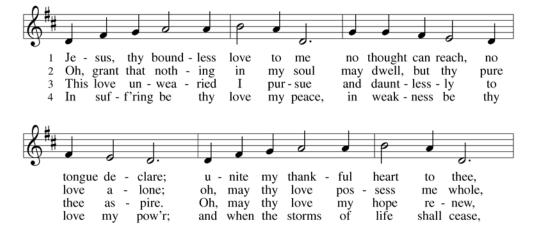
Glory to you, O Lord.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

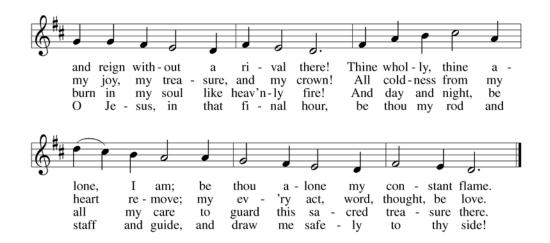
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit. SERMON

Please rise.



HYMN OF THE DAY Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me (*Lutheran Book of Worship #336*)



Please turn and face the baptismal font at the rear of the nave. **P. 227 SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

#781 HYMN Children of the Heavenly Father

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

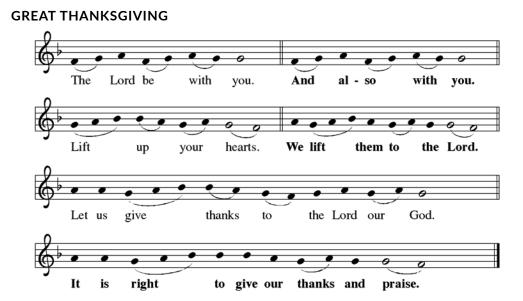
Please sit.

OFFERING We Adore You, O Christ | Richard Proulx We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross You have redeemed the world. We glory in your Cross, O Lord God; We praise and glorify your holy resurrection By virtue of your cross, joy has come. By your holy Cross, Save us and help us, O Lord. Amen.

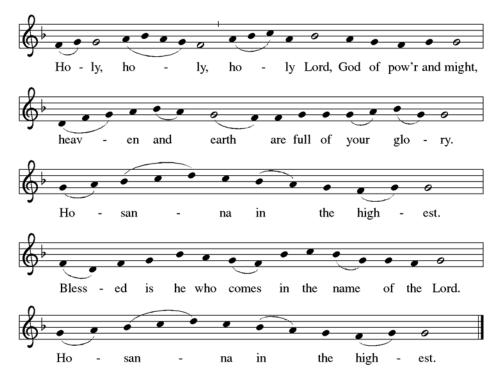
Please rise. OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.



SANCTUS



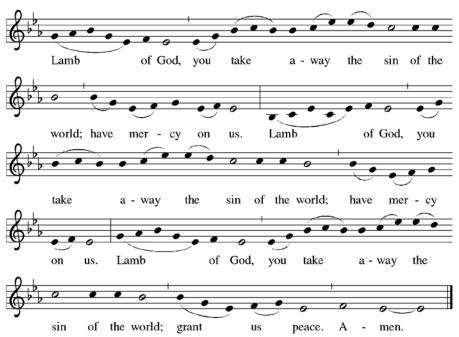
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father... both now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER



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 a second chalice. *Gluten-free bread is available on request.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Et Misericordia from Magnificat (BWV 243) | Johann Sebastian Bach Et misericordia a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.

And his mercy is on those who fear him, from generation to generations.

COMMUNION HYMNS

- **#338** Beneath the Cross of Jesus
- **#324** In the Cross of Christ I Glory

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 Toccata from Symphony No. 4 for Organ | Charles-Marie Widor

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	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Elise Shirek, Abrielle Shirek
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dean Gardner
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Janet Zentner, John Pleuss, Phyllis Pleuss
CRUCIFER	Bruce Curtis
LECTOR	Bonnie Gruber
SACRISTAN	Karen Harris
AUDIO & VIDEO	Alex Starr
HEAD USHER	Robert Steffen
USHER	Nicole Lane Starr, Kris Gruber-Twardy, Paul Twardy

Baptized today is Emma Dale Grzesiak, child of Meg & Brad Grzesiak. Emma's sponsors are Jon and Christina KenKnight, and Emily and Christopher Landry

Our thanks to Margaret Stansfield, John Millholland and Kole Consigny for sharing their musical gifts this morning.

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.

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