Welcome to

Luther Memorial Church

of the Erie Lutheran Parish



9 FEBRUARY 2025
The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Season after the Epiphany
10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106 REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

Cantor

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN
THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM
Academy Administrator
BETH KELLER
SARAH PRYLINSKI
Youth and Family Ministry
JAN MACINNES
Care Ministry

WELCOME!

WE HAVE SEEN CHRIST'S STAR AT ITS RISING COME! LET US WORSHIP HIM!

- + Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.
- + If you have a need to **children**'s bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.
 - Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.
- + An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for "Handicap Bathroom." Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.
- + You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.
- + We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

9 FEBRUARY 2025 THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Holy Communion • Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting IV • 10:30

GATHERING - "The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God."

PRELUDE - "Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne"

D. Buxtehude

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENES

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- G Amen.

Collect for Purity

- P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Amen.

Confession

- P 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.

Absolution

- P 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.
- C Amen.



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

OPENING SENTENCE

- **P** Blessed be the one, holy, + and living God.
- **G** Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Most holy God, the fullness of earth is your crowning glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

WORD - "God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song."

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-13

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of the Lord's robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above the Lord; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of the glory of the Lord." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me,

holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" ⁹And the Lord said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.' ¹⁰Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes and listen with their ears and comprehend with their minds and turn and be healed." ¹¹Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And the Lord said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; ¹²until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. ¹³Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled." (The holy seed is its stump.)

L The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 138

Antiphon: (Sung once by the choir, then repeated by the congregation and sung where indicated. The congregation joins in the verses of the Psalm printed in **bold typeface**.)



Tone:



¹I will give thanks to you O Lord ... with [my] whole heart; before the gods I will [sing] your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple ... and praise your name, ... because of your steadfast [love] and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name ...

and your word a-[bove] all things. Antiphon

³When I [called] you answered me; you increased my [strength] within me.

> ⁴All the rulers of the earth will [praise you] O Lord, when they have heard the [words of] your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the [ways of] the Lord, that great is the glory [of] the Lord.

> ⁶The Lord is high, ... yet [cares for] the lowly, perceiving the haughty [from] afar. Antiphon

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, ... you [keep] me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; ... your right [hand] shall save me.

⁸You will make good your [purpose] for me; O Lord ... your steadfast love endures forever; ... do not abandon the [works of] your hands. Antiphon

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I want you to understand, my dear family, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you— unless you have come to believe in vain. ³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred believers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, Christ appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and God's grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

L The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Jesus says, Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; those who were fishing had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. ³Jesus got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4When Jesus had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. ⁷So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For Simon and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Jesus.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON Pastor Jay

After a brief silence, you may stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 1090

Heaven Opened to Isaiah





Text: Anonymous, Rwanda; para. Greg Scheer, b. 1966 Music: URI UWER' UWER' UWERA, Rwandan melody; arr. Greg Scheer English text and arr. © 2008 Greg Scheer, admin. Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

- A Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith into which we are baptized:
- **Q** 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.

THE PRAYERS

You may sit, kneel, or stand as is your custom..

- (A) With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence*.
- A God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace,

G hear our prayer.

A God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace,

G hear our prayer.

⚠ Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace,

G hear our prayer.

A Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind. Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace,

G hear our prayer.

A Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace,

@ hear our prayer.

⚠ We thank you for those who have courageously gone before us in the faith, especially Jean Kratzke. May we too show a deep trust in you throughout our lives. God of grace,

© hear our prayer.

Me entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

G Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We share signs and gestures of peace with one another. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. After, please be seated.

MEAL - "God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ."

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED



An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Additionally, you may visit https://bit.ly/LMCDonate or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.

VOLUNTARY – "Voluntary"

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY ELW 310



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- **A** Let us pray. Gracious Creator,
- we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

 Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **And also with you.**
- **We lift them to the Lord.**
- **G** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P Holy, Holy are you, Lord God of hosts, for the fullness of creation is your crowning glory. From your heavenly throne you touched the lips of your prophet Isaiah to remove his guilt; and you sent him to awaken your people. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, proclaiming through his lips your promise of life and through his death and resurrection your forgiveness of sins. At his ascension he sent forth his apostles in your name, entrusting your good news to the lips of the redeemed. And so we give our thanks and praise in the great company of sinners become saints, joining together in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Plenteous God, as you transformed fishermen into followers and filled empty nets with more than their boat could hold, show us your abundance in the joy of this feast. Sanctify us by your Holy Spirit that we might be faithful followers, sent into the world in strength. By your same Spirit, make this bread and cup be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who:

In the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

- **P** Great is the mystery of faith.
- Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.
- P God of holy presence, in your temple what is ordinary is made holy. Before your throne of grace, make your children into prophets of peace and heralds of mercy. Bless every person with courage to follow where you call, trusting the depth of your purpose. Meet with your grace every soul rendered an outcast by the judgment of others, and restore the fallen as your faithful followers. Renew your church to seek you in your dwelling places, among the poor and forgotten, the sick and the imprisoned, the hungry and the homeless. Gather all your children into your holy presence as you draw angels around your throne; until we enter your eteneral temple in fullness of joy and dwell with you forever, Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, ever one God.
- Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

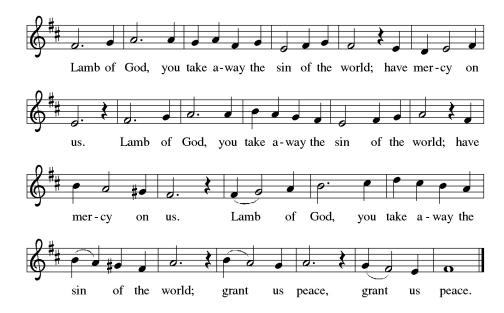
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.
- **G** Amen. We Come.
- P Those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the body and blood of Christ for you.

The congregation is seated.

AGNUS DEI



THE COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast! We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available; please let the pastor know.

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

All are invited to the Meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, 1906–2003 Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Arr. © 1967 Gooi en Sticht, BV, Baarn, The Netherlands, admin. OCP, 5536 N. Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

Here I Am, Lord



 $\label{eq:continuous_continuous_continuous} Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946 \\ Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte \\ Text and music @ 1981 OCP Publications, Inc., 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission. \\ \\$

TABLE BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...and bring you to everlasting life.
- C Amen.

SENDING OF HOLY COMMUNION as needed

P Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

- P We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that the Meal we have shared here may be extended for our siblings who are not here.
- **W**e who are many are one body in Christ, sharing one bread, one cup. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- **A** Let us pray.
- We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING - "God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world."

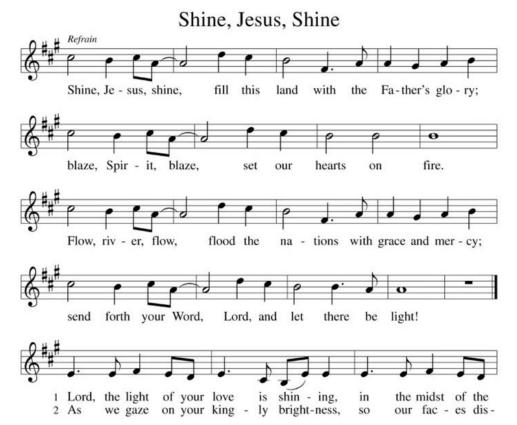
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

- **P** ... now and forever.
- C Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 671





Text: Graham Kendrick Music: SHINE, JESUS, SHINE, Graham Kendrick

DISMISSAL INTO THE WORLD FOR SERVICE

- **A** Go in peace. Live in hope.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "Menuet Gothique"

L. Boellmann

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell
GREETERS – Emma Chaffee, Jonathan Gaber
ACOLYTE – Jessica Copfer
ASSISTING MINISTER – Stan Rose
COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Elaine Kern
LECTOR – Eric Hedlund
ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels
USHERS – Sue Cappelletty, Linda Graffius, Eric Hedlund, Mary Mumford
VIDEO STREAMING – Gina Snider

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jean Kratzke from Erik, Ted and Danielle Reid.

Our love and sympathy is with the family and friends of Ray Polasky, Rose-Marie Rose's brother-in-law, who died Wednesday, February 5.

Altar flowers are available for Sunday, March 30. If you would like to place flowers at the altar in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Today's Events

Please join us for Sunday classes and fellowship this morning:

The Adult Forum is held in the library at 9:15; Enjoy conversation at the Second Sunday Sorée in the parlor at 9:15; Sunday School for grades 5-12 will gather at 9:30. **Greeting cards** can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Worship Matters!

The Sanctus is one of the many songs from scripture that we incorporate regularly into our worship. As we gather around the Table whereupon Jesus will become manifest for us, we sing with the great company of heaven the same hymn that Isaiah heard, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of heaven and earth!" But we add to that hymn the song that was sung in the streets of Jerusalem when Jesus appeared riding a donkey, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" This is known as the *Benedictus*. We sing two hymns that we find in scripture as one hymn. The first, acclaiming the holiness of our thrice-holy God. We join with the mysterious seraphim. We sing this because in this moment we are drawn into heaven with all who worship around the Throne of Mercy day and night. However, we recognize that we cannot stay in that moment, but rather than Jesus comes to us—in very tangible ways—as he did for those who were expecting him in Jersualem. So we acclaim the "one who comes in the name of the Lord!" You may notice Pastor Jay and others make the sign of the cross as this moment. This sign recognizing that in this moment, in the Eucharist, in the Sacrament of the Altar, Jesus comes among us very really in body and blood and we revere, yes, but we sing and feast and celebrate as well.

The version of the Sanctus we sing this morning was written by Luther based on ancient plainsong chant. It places the Sanctus in its original context in Isaiah. Luther does this for many pieces of the liturgy in order to teach. Remember, Luther was one of the first people to incorporate the vernacular (locally spoken language) in the liturgy. For members of his congregation, they would never have understood before what they were singing (if they were invited to sing in Mass) because it was in Latin. So, Luther not only translates the Mass into German, but includes contexts and stories and teaching moments so that folks both learn and worship together.

Copies of the Annual Report are available at the welcome tables.

Where Is Pastor Jay?

Pastor Jay would love to get together to chat! Feel free to schedule some time with him in the office, at home, or out for a bite. However, if you would like to "drop in" on him, you can find him this Thursday (2/6) at Brew Ha Ha (in the Colony Plaza) from 8:00-9:30am.

Experience Choir Sunday

On March 2 we will celebrate Transfiguration and the end of the Epiphany season. With the changing of the season I would like to extend an open invitation to everyone to "Experience Choir". Regardless of background, experience, age or ability, we will be joined by community members and past choir members to learn and refine the Anthem, Psalm, and Gospel Acclamation for Transfiguration.

With emphasis on our communal song, the choir is tasked with preparing not only an anthem, but to review all liturgical music to provide the necessary leadership on more challenging pieces enhancing the familiar and forging the way for new favorite traditions.

Rehearsals will February 20 and 27 (Thursdays) at 6:30pm on the fifth floor to prepare for worship on March 2. Sunday March 2, we gather in the Sanctuary at 9:30am for warm up and final run through. Because this will be an expanded choir with guests we will NOT be wearing robes, come as you are!

I truly hope to see many of you challenge yourselves and join us for this event. For further information, contact Cantor Bryan and he will provide you with the packet of music for Transfiguration along with links to recordings of the anthem for self-review.

Faith Formation

Brown Bag Bible gathers on Wednesdays in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our topic through February is *O Word of God Incarnate*. We will share stories about the ways that God has appeared to humanity in human ways throughout the stories of God's people. Our final gathering will be February 26.

Book Group, Paging Through with Pastor Jay, meets the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. At our next gathering on March 10 we will begin the book *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott. The book may be purchased at local bookstores and on Amazon.

B.A.D. (*Bible After Dark*) will gather again on March 5 at Calamari's at 6:30pm and continue to meet the first Wednesday of each month. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book <u>Context</u> by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

Youth Night

LIA, Lutherans in Action, will meet Tuesday, February 11 from 5:30-7:00pm for dinner and planning of our upcoming service projects. We're looking forward to seeing youth in grades 5-12 join us.

Lent Preparations!

Luther Memorial will offer a Congregational Devotional for Lent with reflections by our members. We ask that your reflection be no more than 200 words followed by a short two (2) sentence prayer. The scripture is provided on the sign-up sheet; please see Pastor Jay for further text that will correspond to the date you select. A sign-up sheet is located at the welcome table. The completed Devotional will be available beginning on Ash Wednesday. All reflections are asked to be submitted by Monday, February 24. Thank you for your help in what will be meaningful devotionals throughout Lent.

It's Time to plan our Lenten Luncheons. Those interested in helping are asked to please attend the meeting on Wednesday, February 19 at 11:30am on the 5th floor. Help is needed with cooking, set up and clean up. Please contact Betty Pletz, 814-898-1053 (home), or 814-881-3706 (cell) with any questions.

Palms from previous Palm Sundays are burned to create the ashes we use to mark ourselves at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Over the coming weeks, you are invited to bring in your palms from home for the baskets on the Welcome Table near the ramp door. As always, there will be palms to replace them distributed on Palm Sunday. Thank you.

A Matter of Balance

A Matter of Balance can help reduce a fear of falling and increase the activity levels of adults with this concern. Take advantage of a free 8-week balance class held at Luther Memorial and presented by The YMCA of Erie in partnership with UPMC. The class is completely free and will be held on Mondays, February 24-April 14 from 11:00am-1:00pm on the fifth floor of Luther Memorial. The maximum class size is 18 so be sure to register early. You may register by contacting Ellen Hill at 814-899-9622 or ehill@ymcaerie.org or Norma in our church office. Be strong, steady & safe – it's a Matter of Balance.

Opportunities for Fellowship

BINGO! The action is set for Sunday, March 2. Doors will open at 12:00 noon; play is from 12:30-3:30pm. All games are cash prizes of \$50. Tickets are \$25 each and are available on Sunday mornings or from the church office.

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00am—12:00 noon; February 11 and 25. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Camp Lutherlyn

Visit Lutherlyn for Saturday Safari on Saturday, March 1. Have fun identifying trees, tapping maple trees collecting sap, and observing the evaporation process. Dress to be outside. There will be a morning session from 9:30am-12:00 noon and an afternoon session from 1:00-3:30pm. Registration Deadline: February 24.

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

PRAYER LIST -

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Our Members:

Marilyn Bohn & family Ed Hokaj Rose-Marie Rose Ron King
Ann Flick Nancy Downey Pat Gilbert Lois Fobes

Friends and Family:

Grant, Alina, Charlie Jane McGrail Jenn Mary Lou Norbert Ericson Racheal Thompson Phil F. Bev Dale Dannhaus Carol Steffey & Marissa Janine Frank Casey Smith Cheryl Atkinson

Branden Jones Teddy & Rebecca Jessica Reams Amy S.

Karen Chilcote Joey & family Steve Sensor Andrew Wachter

Grief:

Bob Giannelli family Ray Polasky family Eleanor Jass family

Our Military Service Men & Women:

Lt. Col. Matt Anderson Michael Stickner Andrew Watson Alli Brown

Ben Dixon Lt. Col. Mark Collins Christopher Rose

READINGS AND COMMEMORATIONS

February 10 – Psalm 115; Judges 5:1-11; I Corinthians 14:26-40

February 11 – Psalm 115; I Samuel 9:15-10:1b; I Timothy 3:1-9

February 12 – Psalm 115; Isaiah 8:1-15; Luke 5:27-32

February 13 – Psalm 1; Jeremiah 13:12-19; Acts 13:26-34

February 14 – Cyril, monk, 869; Methodius, bishop, 885; missionaries to the Slavs – Psalm 96:1-7; Ephesiain 3:1-7; Mark 16:15-20 -- These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

February 15 – Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:1-14; Luke 11:24-28

CALENDAR

Monday, February 10	6:00pm	PTL Meeting
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11	10:00am 10:00am 2:30pm 5:30pm 6:00pm	Magic Fingers Grace Group Pericope LMA Play Practice Youth & Family Dinner (LIA) Council
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12	12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13	1:00pm 2:30pm 5:30pm 6:30pm	Grief Group LMA Play Practice Handbell Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14	11:30am 12:00pm	LMA Closed OWLS Valentine Luncheon (Ambassador)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15	10:00am	Quilting

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025 THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Worship with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel or 10:30am in the main church.

Adult Forum will meet at 9:15am.

VASA will meet at 1:00pm in fellowship hall.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025 ASSISTING IN WORSHIP				
Assisting Minister	8:15am	Mark Howell		
	10:30am	Chloe Meucci		
Communion Assistant (1 needed)	10:30am	Linda Graffius		
Lector (1 needed)	10:30am	Cathy Meyn		
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer		
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp		
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco		
	10:30am	-		
Video Streaming	10:30am	John Bartlett		
Counters	10:30am			
Ushers (4 needed)	10:30am			