

# Epiphany 7

February 23, 2025



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
Lancaster, PA

## The Holy Eucharist

*If you are visiting with us, a special welcome. We invite you to return and worship with us as often as you are able. Please sign the guest book in the narthex. Guest cards are also available. Please take one, fill it out and return it to an usher. The offering plates are in the back of the sanctuary. If you need a large print bulletin, please ask an usher. As you enter the nave, please conclude all conversations and silence all cell phones and other electronic devices, as to fully enter into this time of worship.*

*Please indicate to the Pastor if you require gluten free wafers, prior to worship, if possible.*

*The pass thru room at the top of the steps next to the office is now broadcasting our church service LIVE every Sunday. If you need to leave the sanctuary for any reason, you are welcome to continue worshiping by viewing the service in that room.*

## The Prelude

*Please stand.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Merciful God,

C **you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;**

**we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.  
Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.  
Show us your lovingkindness.  
Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.  
Amen.**

**P** God proclaims these words of assurance:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine.”  
In + Christ, you are forgiven.  
In the Spirit, you are made free.  
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.  
**C Amen.**

# The Gathering Hymn

*Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*

Hymn #707

*Verses 1&4- All*

*Verse 2- Mural Side*

*Verse 3- Organ Side*



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest  
4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -  
of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our  
char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have  
as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en  
thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,  
done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—  
men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - sings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful  
warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py  
in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your  
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.  
and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.  
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."  
all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

## The Apostolic Greeting

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

# The Kyrie

The Kyrie is sung in dialogue by the cantor and the assembly.

*Cantor* Lord, have mer - cy. *Assembly* Lord, have mer - cy.

*Cantor* Christ, have mer - cy. *Assembly* Christ, have mer - cy.

*Cantor* Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assembly* Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

# The Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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.’ ” <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40** (*Sing responsively with the choir.*)

<sup>1</sup> Do not be provoked by <sup>1</sup> evildoers;

do not be jealous of those <sup>1</sup> who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup> **For they shall soon wither <sup>1</sup> like the grass,  
and like the green grass <sup>1</sup> fade away.**

<sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the LORD <sup>1</sup> and do good;  
dwell in the land and <sup>1</sup> find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup> **Take delight <sup>1</sup> in the LORD,  
who shall give you your <sup>1</sup> heart’s desire.**

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust <sup>1</sup> in the LORD,  
and see what <sup>1</sup> God will do.

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD will make your vindication as clear <sup>1</sup> as the light  
and the justice of your case like the <sup>1</sup> noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

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

<sup>8</sup> **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**

<sup>9</sup> For evildoers shall | be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.

<sup>10</sup> **In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;  
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.**

<sup>11</sup> But the lowly shall pos- | sess the land;  
they will delight in abun- | dance of peace.

<sup>39</sup> **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from | you, O LORD;  
you are their stronghold in | time of trouble.**

<sup>40</sup> 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

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>35</sup> But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

<sup>36</sup> Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup> So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

<sup>50</sup> 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.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

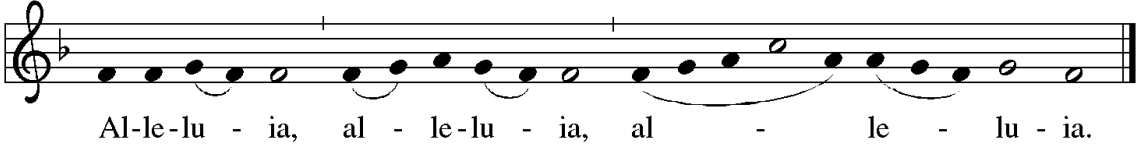


*Please stand.*

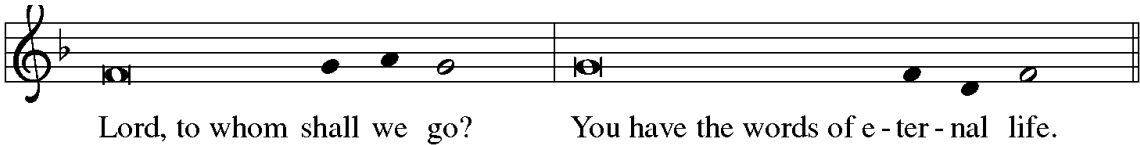
## Alleluia Verse

*Everyone sings the Alleluia. The choir then sings the verse. Everyone sings the Alleluia again.*

*All*



*Choir*



## The Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

### C Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup> “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> Instead, 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 himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> 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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

*Silence for reflection follows.*

*Please stand.*

## Hymn of the Day

*God, When Human Bonds Are Broken*

Hymn #603



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill  
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,  
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease  
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.  
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.  
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.  
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.  
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.  
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!



## The Apostles Creed

**C** 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 of the Church

**A** With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world,  
and all of creation.

*Please sit or kneel after the prayers have been announced.*

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**P** God of Grace,  
**C** hear our prayer.

*The prayers conclude:*

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

**C** Amen.

*Please stand.*

## The Sharing of the Peace

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*Without leaving your seat offer a wave to your neighbor, sharing God's peace, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.*

*Please be seated.*

## Anthem

*Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You*

Jay Althouse

## Offering

*During this time our offerings are represented through the gift of music, bread, and wine. Following the service you are invited to give your financial gifts in the offering plates located in the back of the sanctuary.*

*Please stand.*

## The Offertory Response

*What Feast of Love*



What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!

## Offertory Prayer

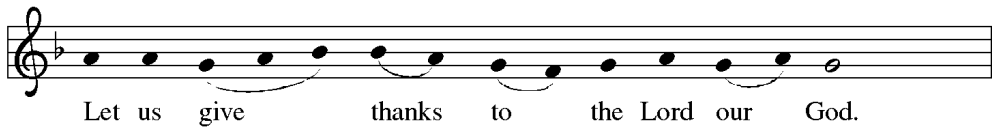
A Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:  
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
now and always.

C Amen.

## Great Thanksgiving



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**C 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.

## The Invitation to Communion

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

## The Lamb of God



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

## The Distribution of Holy Communion

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices open table hospitality. Baptized communicants of other Christian denominations, of all ages, are welcome to receive the sacrament. An usher will direct each seating area to come forward to receive the sacrament. Pick up a communion cup as you approach the altar. We return to the practice of continuous communion around the Table with safe distancing by household groups. Please **stand** at the communion rail and the pastor will place the*



bread into the hands of communicants and then receive the cup from the Assisting Ministers. The second chalice contains grape juice. Gluten free bread is available upon request. Those persons not receiving communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

## Hymns During Communion

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Hymn #656

*Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*

Hymn #605

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

Hymn #608

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn's lyrics. The second system contains the final two lines of the hymn. The music is written in a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

# Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say,  
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!  
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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# Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

## *Refrain*



watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909  
Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

*Please stand.*

## **Post-Communion Blessing**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

A Let us pray. Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

C **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

P The Spirit of the triune God  
+ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

C **Amen.**

# The Sending Hymn

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

Hymn #650



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.



Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

## The Dismissal

A Go in peace. Live in hope.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

+++

The flowers are sponsored by the Dandridge Family in memory of  
Airen and Loved Ones.

**The text for next week:**

Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2, Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

### **Acknowledgments**

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## Worship Assistants

<b>Feb. 23</b>	<b>Mar. 2</b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>
Danica Dandridge	Chris Ruggiero
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Tim Smith Patti LaPorte	Doug Dandridge Andrew Knaub
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Lector</b>
Suzann Schwenk	Marilyn Knaub
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
Sandy Stouffer	Marilyn Knaub
<b>Usher</b>	<b>Usher</b>
Jeff Reed	Georgeanne Burkholder
<b>Bread Provider</b>	<b>Bread Provider</b>
Donna Null	Janet Wiegand
<b>Altar Guild Set-up</b>	<b>Altar Guild Set-up</b>
Donna Null	Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge
<b>Altar Guild Clean-up</b>	<b>Altar Guild Clean-up</b>
Donna Null	Sayre Turney
<b>Council Person</b>	<b>Council Person</b>
Bonnie Giurlando	Charlie Schwenk
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Counters</b>
Suzann Schwenk	Bob Slade
Georgeanne Burkholder	Sandy Stouffer
<b>Technology</b>	<b>Technology</b>
Chip Froehlich	Tim Brixius
Mel Dandridge	Jeff Reed

## Coming up at Holy Spirit

- Feb 23 Prayer & Meditation: ZOOM , 7:30 p.m.  
Feb. 26 Prayer & Meditation: In Person, 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study, 11:00 a.m.
- March 3 Fasnacht Sale, 2:00—7:00 p.m.
- March 4 Fasnacht Sale, 6:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- March 4 Book Club, 7:00 p.m.  
*The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn
- March 5 Ash Wednesday
- March 6 Bible Study, 6:00 p.m. @ Centerville Diner



**HOLY SPIRIT**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor- The Rev. Gretchen Ierien  
Music Director- Allison Carlson