

Worship Volunteers:

Greeter/Ushers: Dena Berglund, Donna Mank, & Tanay Tatum

Assisting Minister: Kathryn Perry

Reader 1st Lesson: Katy Argueta

Reader Psalm: Kate Wulff

Communion Assistants: Christina Eayrs, Faith Korbel, Gary Maring,
& Bianca Vazquez

Children's Sermon: Krista Sickert-Bush

Counters: Christina Davis & Tara Hogan

Crucifer: Ben Miller

Torchbearers: Aidan Gately & Trevour Jackson-Carpenter

Friends of the Feast:: Frank De Silva

Staff Lead: Bianca Vazquez

Luther Place Staff

Rev. Karen Brau, **Senior Pastor**

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Nancy White, **Office Volunteer**



HOSPITALITY + WORSHIP + SPIRITUAL GROWTH + JUSTICE + COMMUNITY CARE



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 18, 2018

Celebrating the Congregation's 145th Anniversary!

10:30 AM Service of Communion

Rev. Karen Brau, Senior Pastor

Luther Place Memorial Church

1226 Vermont Ave, NW Washington, DC 20005 ♦ (202) 667-1377 ♦ www.lutherplace.org

Our Purpose

God's purpose for our congregation is to grow a Christ-centered inclusive community, led by the Spirit, that proclaims the Gospel's transforming love and grace and challenges injustice.

Our Guiding Principles

1. All of God's creation is sacred.
2. We listen to the Holy Spirit through worship, Scripture, and prayerful reflection.
3. We seek continuous transformation to become radically hospitable.
4. We invite all into the journey with Christ through reconciliation with each other and God.
5. We respond to injustice through loving service and courageous action.
6. We walk together in our celebrations and our struggles.

Our Vision

Luther Place will be a community that looks and feels like God's kingdom in its beautiful expansiveness, where all are called into relationship with Jesus Christ and one another. In this place we will use our gifts to act in the world and build the beloved community.

Worship attracts and gathers a range of people with various services and styles, engaging the community in a depth of traditional practices and creative endeavors.

Spiritual Growth is how we are formed as disciples of Jesus Christ, embracing scripture and all opportunities to engage the divine, and nurturing us to contemplate, study, and question our faith.

Justice is a public witness to our faith; we will continue our history of openness to what arrives, standing in solidarity and acting with people who are struggling in our community, country, and world.

Hospitality is how we—each of us—extend God's kingdom to a dynamic and diverse city, growing our community and engaging all of God's children, from the powerless to the powerful.

Community Care is how we sustain a vibrant community, our intentional practice of supporting and nurturing one another in all stages of life, in celebration and sorrow.

Good Friday Service—20s/30s Lead

It has become a tradition that the 20s/30s organize and lead the evening service on Good Friday. We are looking for people to write and share reflections on various readings. Contact: cmlundholm@yahoo.com, michaelsonnenberg4647@gmail.com, or collinbradley45@gmail.com We'd love to have join us! (7:00 PM on Friday, March 30th)

Friends and Family Retreat, April 6-8, 2018

Our 2018 retreat at Mar-Lu Ridge Lutheran Camp is slated for Friday, April 6 through Sunday, April 8. Our theme is: Koinonia, based on a Greek word often used to describe Christian fellowship and the body of believers.

Rally to End Racism, April 3-5

On April 3-5, 2018 the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) and its partners will gather in DC for a historic event to launch its Truth and Racial Justice. **Wednesday, April 4:** ACT to End Racism Rally—4 pm Luther Place will be open for refreshments and a place for people to rest. At 6pm there will be a Sing Along with Ambassadors of Praise and Eric Maring's Musical Group (Civil Rights era Spiritual Music) at Luther Place. We are looking for a team to help host this effort; please be in contact with Gary Maring gary.e.maring@gmail.com

20s/30s Bible Study Series, April 9 - May 30

This Easter season, the 20s/30s group will be hosting a four-part Bible study on mourning and dancing (check out the description below). Join us for dinner at Vanesa's apartment in Capitol Hill as we delve into scripture to explore life's different seasons. We'll be gathering at 7 pm on April 9, 23, & May 14 (Mondays) and May 30 (Wednesday). Please RSVP to Vanesa: vanesa.her@gmail.com or Pastor Karen senorpastor@lutherplace.org.

Easter Flowers

\$20.00 Lilies and Tulips. Please let us know who to honor with your flower and gift! Contact operations@lutherplace.org

PRAYERS

All traveling., All in transition.

Dale McDaniel, Iris Hermsmeier, & Matthew Austin

The family of Ken Utter, The family of Richard Vogel, Partner of Meredith Miller, (daughter of Ed Miller) who died recently and the Family of Cora Lynn Kane Jordan the Aunt of Kristen Kane who died last week.

United Lutheran Seminary community

Congregational Offering

February 2018

Congregational Offering

Budgeted: \$70,000.00

Actual: \$63,807.90

Fifth Sunday in Lent, 10:30 am & 5pm

Join us for Sunday Worship with Holy Communion at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary, and 5 pm in the Chapel. The morning service is broadcast live at lutherplace.org/facebook. Sermon videos are available at lutherplace.org/sermons, and normally posted by end of day Sunday.

Adult Spiritual Formation, 9:15 am

Our winter and spring studies are entitled, "Windows into the Beloved Community." Please join us in the Library. Today we invite you to get breakfast in the basement first!

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Sunday school for all ages begins in the Chapel.

Lent Wednesday Soup Suppers*

We invite you to share soup and worship on Wednesdays (through-Mar. 21) during Lent, 6:15 pm soup supper in the All Saints Room, followed by worship with Contemplative Prayer at 7 pm in the Chapel.

Welcome to worship at Luther Place!

Are you a guest? If so, here are some things you might like to know...

Please fill out a card to let us know who you are—we'd love to be in touch with you! The cards can be placed in the offering plate when completed. We are blessed by your presence and hope you will join us again.

Parking is available **across the street in the Washington Plaza Hotel**. The garage has **two** floors available. Please ask an usher for a parking voucher. Your reimbursement of the cost of \$5 per use will be greatly appreciated. Additionally, we reserve the parking spots in the circle driveway on Vermont Ave. for use by those with mobility issues and their drivers. We encourage the use of public transportation; free bike parking is available inside the Vermont entrance to Luther Place.

A children's nursery is available before, during, and after worship. The nursery is located within the chapel by the entrance on N Street.

Children's church bags are located in the back of the Sanctuary. The activity bags are for kids of all ages; they include crayons, a coloring book, books to read, etc. Please help children use these materials for doodling rather than the gift envelopes and prayer cards.

Video Recordings of Worship Services are available on the Luther Place website: www.lutherplace.org/sermons.

In prayers and songs, the bold print is congregational response.

P= pastor; A= assisting minister; C= congregation.

Here at Luther Place, we love to sing!



We like to explore a diversity of music, though much of it comes from the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal (ELW)**. This hymnal holds service music in the first half and hymns in the second half. The service music can be found with the small page numbers at the bottom of each page. The hymns can be found using the large numbers at the top of each page. We also use hymns from This Far by Faith Hymnal (TFF), the Lutheran African American hymnal.

References to God in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender specific. As we pray and sing together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of the spirit of God. You are also invited to sing hymns or speak parts of the services, such as The Lord's Prayer, in your native tongue.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

We welcome you to worship today! If you are a visitor, please fill out a welcome card at the ends of the pews, and put in offering plate or give to an usher.

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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.

C: Amen.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us, We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Using the title of a book written by Dorothy Day, that follows her journal entries during the year 1948, we as a congregation will also contemplate being



On Pilgrimage—A pilgrimage refers to a religious journey or a religious expedition that is usually made to a sacred place.

Dorothy Day's sacred place was her home, her family, her faith practices along with people she met throughout the year. Her companions were flesh and blood as well as a cadre of saints like St Francis and St. Teresa of Avila.

We invite you to be on pilgrimage this LENT over the next 40 days. Consider taking on the practices of curiosity, wonder and expectation, and perhaps keeping a journal. Note where you meet God or experience God's grace, on the daily. Also, considering taking the time to notice the things that are getting in the way of your receiving God during Lent. What are the challenges that you face, whether they are as an individual, as part of our congregation or part of our public life in the DC Metro area. And, where are you bearing witness to God in a violent and suffering world?

In our Sunday worships and on Wednesday evening gatherings, we will dig in together on what On Pilgrimage means for us in 2018. In an entry in March 8, 1948, Dorothy writes from her daughter Tamar's home in West Virginia, where Dorothy is helping with her grandchildren, including an infant grandson. Dorothy writes: *Meditations for women, these notes should be called, jumping as I do from the profane to the sacred over and over. But then, living the country, with little children, with growing things, one has the sacramental view of life. All things are God's, and all are holy.* (p. 110)

May we discover in 2018, in the metro DC area, during a difficult time in public life, that there is holy all around us. May we, even in our rush, pause to gaze at graces that God longs to give us while on pilgrimage — including the courage to bear witness to the beloved community in 2018.

Communion:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Song: ELW 493 Taste & See***Table Blessing**

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you +peace.

C: Amen.

***Prayer after Communion**

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Sending Song: ELW 654 The Church's One Foundation*Dismissal**

A: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude***Gathering Song: ELW 759 My Faith Looks Up to Thee****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.

***Litany for the 145th Year Anniversary of the Congregation**

A. Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!

C. Praise the Lord! Give thanks to God!

A. God has blessed us and brought us to this time.

C. God has blessed us and brought us to this place.

A. God has dwelt in our midst.

C. God has stirred our hearts and made us glad.

A. God has shown us glory.

C. God has shown us the way of truth and life.

A. Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!

C. Praise the Lord! Give God thanks!

A. For 145 years, God has nurtured and fed us.

C. For 145 years, God has shown us grace.

A. For 145 years, God has given us love in Word and Sacrament.

C. For 145 years, God has empowered us with the Holy Spirit.

A. For 145 years, God has made us witnesses in the world.

C. For 145 years, God has placed us in loving fellowship with one another.

A. Praise the Lord for 145 years! Praise God for 145 more!

C. Praise the Lord for evermore! Oh, praise the name of the Lord!

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 51:1-12 (Read Responsively)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

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.

*Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



1 Now be-hold the Lamb, the pre-cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho-ly is the Lamb, the pre-cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre-cious Lamb of God. Be-



bore all my sin, that I may live a-gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev-er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin-ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

Distribution

Communion (Eucharist) celebrated at Luther Place is open to all. Ushers will direct you to the correct station. We use two cups; one with wine and the other with juice. You may either dip the bread into the cup (intinction) or eat the bread first and drink from the cup. Gluten-free wafers are available on the altar. Return to your seat using the exterior aisles.

***Sanctus**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na. Ho - san - na. 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: O God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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:

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear of joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

***Processional Gospel Acclamation: I Want Jesus to Walk with Me**

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 12:20-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Children’s Sermon

Sermon: On Pilgrimage: Seeds

Rev. Karen Brau

Live-tweeting and posting on social media is encouraged! Please use #FollowingJesus #RealChurch #onpilgrimage and don’t forget to tag @LutherPlace and @KarenBrau.

***Offering Prayer**

A: Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

MEAL

***The 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.

P: It is indeed right...

A. Grant that we may continually grow in the Spirit and in the ministry that you give us as members of your royal priesthood, the priesthood of all believers, so that we may carry out our mission of service and love.

C. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

A. Continue to comfort, heal, and lift up the broken and afflicted among us. By the promise of your presence, bring us your healing love.

C. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

A. Bring us at last to the joy of your eternal kingdom, where, with the faithful of this church who have gone before us and with all your saints, we may evermore praise your name.

C. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

P. Blessed Lord, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, engage us and make us whole by your grace. Lead us and guide us to be mindful of the welfare of all your people; make this true through the power of your Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

***Exchange of Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Announcements

All events & announcements may be found in the back of the bulletin.

Offering

Please feel free to put cash or check in the offering plate. You can also donate through a text donation by texting the dollar amount to +12028166673.

Offering Song: ELW 712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

In memory of Oscar Romero (1917–1980)

A Future Not Our Own

It helps now and then to step back and take a long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection, no pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives include everything.

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects

far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing this.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning,

a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

From Xavarian Missionaries:

Oscar A. Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, in El Salvador, was assassinated on March 24, 1980, while celebrating Mass in a small chapel in a cancer hospital where he lived. He had always been close to his people, preached a prophetic gospel, denouncing the injustice in his country and supporting the development of popular and mass organizations. He became the voice of the Salvadoran people when all other channels of expression had been crushed by the repression. This prayer was composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, drafted for a homily by Card. John Dearden in Nov. 1979 for a celebration of departed priests. As a reflection on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Bishop Romero, Bishop Untener included it in a reflection titled "The mystery of the Romero Prayer." The mystery is that the words of the prayer are attributed to Oscar Romero, but they were never spoken by him.

***Hymn of the Day: ELW (Red Book) 768 Lead Me, Guide Me**

Prayers of the People

P. The Lord God in goodness has blessed us with 145 years of mission and ministry as Luther Place Memorial Church. We are a remembering people, and it is good that we remember that God has chosen us, baptized us, and brought us together as the Church of Christ in this place. As remembering people, we look back at all the saving acts of God: the Creation, the Flood, the Covenant, the Exodus, the Incarnation, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, the Church.

We are a remembering people, but we are also a people of this day, brought together by God to be a holy fellowship of believers: the Body of Christ, sharing, caring, working for God's love in the world, and living in the hope of the world to come.

Our eyes look back with thanksgiving. Our eyes look forward in hope. Therefore, with thanksgiving for the past and hope for the future, let us dedicate ourselves and our lives to the mission which God gives us as the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.

C. Almighty God, we give you thanks for the work you have done in this place. We give you thanks for your love and faithfulness. When we called on your name, you made your presence known to us. When we prayed, you heard us. When we preached your Word and administered your Sacraments, you were in our midst. You have accepted our humble sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. You have listened to our confessions and forgiven our sins. And you have sent your Holy Spirit to heal and comfort our hurts, our sorrows, our infirmities, and our losses.

A. Continue to empower us with your Spirit, O Lord, that we might proclaim your Gospel to all people.

C. We dedicate our lives to your service and witness.

A. Help us to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in all that we do and say.

C. We dedicate our lives to your service and witness.

A. Show us how we might give care and support to the needy, love and mercy to the broken and forlorn.

C. We dedicate our lives to your service and witness.

A. Show us new ways of loving one another and those around us.

C. We dedicate our lives to your service and witness.

A. Break down those prejudices and barriers which divide us, be with us as we challenge injustice, and make us all one in Christ.

C. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

A. Renew us by the Spirit, given at our baptisms, so that we might be challenged to move beyond our ruts, our apathy, and our anxieties of inadequacy.

C. Hear our prayer, O Lord.