

Worship Volunteers:

Greeter/Ushers: Doug Walter & Volunteers

Assisting Minister: Kathryn Perry

Reader: Jennifer Lentfer

Children's Sermon: Betsy Mountenay

Communion Assistants: John Means, Thomas Randall, & The Lord Family

Counters: Betsy Mountenay & Chelsey Christensen

Friends of the Feast: Julie Hamre

Live-Broadcasting: Patrick Callahan

Staff Lead: Bianca Vazquez

Luther Place Staff

Rev. Tony Carpenter, **Interim Sabbatical Pastor**

[RevTony@lutherplace.org]

Rev. Karen Brau, **Senior Pastor**

[on sabbatical through November]

Xavier Williamson, **Congregation Administrator**

[operations@lutherplace.org]

Kristen Kane, **New Connections Coach**

[kristen@lutherplace.org]

Bianca Vazquez, **Steinbruck Center Director**

[steinbruckcenterdirector@lutherplace.org]

Sarah Johnson, **Steinbruck Center Learning Coordinator**

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Justin Fitch, **Music Director**

[music@lutherplace.org]

Nancy White, **Office Volunteer**

HOSPITALITY + WORSHIP + SPIRITUAL GROWTH + JUSTICE + COMMUNITY CARE



Gathering Day

September 9, 2018

10:30 AM Service of Communion

Rev. Tony Carpenter, Interim Sabbatical Pastor

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.

N Street Village SHERO Walk, October 20

Join members and friends of Luther Place for the **SHERO Walk** in support of N Street Village, helping women find their inner SHERO! The Village Community will band together to support the nearly 2,000 women it serves each year for the SHERO Walk. Luther Place members may contact Gary Maring gary.e.maring@gmail.com or Dan Corbett dan@drdcorbett.net with any questions. If you haven't already, please consider supporting N Street Villages' 45th Anniversary—find the donation link online.

Adult Spiritual Formation, 9:15: This past spring, author and social justice activist Bryan Stevenson presided over the opening of the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, AL. The memorial, often called the Lynching Memorial, was opened in hopes of “creating a sober, meaningful site where people can gather and reflect on America's history of racial inequality.” Several members of Luther Place have made a pilgrimage to the memorial, and there are discussions on the possibility of planning a group visit sometime next year. Peggy Rainwater and Leo Surla will lead a discussion on the legacy of lynching and share reflections from their recent visit.

Luther Place Big Read - “The Cross and the Lynching Tree” by James Cone: Two powerful symbols -- the cross and the lynching tree -- are prevalent motifs interwoven in the lives of African Americans. In his book, theologian James Cone notes, “The crucifixion of Jesus by the Romans in Jerusalem and the lynching of blacks by whites in the United States are so amazingly similar that one wonders what blocks the American Christian imagination from seeing the connection.” For three weeks, beginning on **Sunday, September 16th**, Pastor Tony and Gary Maring will lead a series of Adult Spiritual Formation conversations on the book. Everyone is invited. If you have trouble securing a copy of the book, please contact Gary Maring at m.gmaring@verizon.net

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.

We'd love to stay connected with you this week. The easiest way to do that is by following us on social media. You're welcome to take out your phones right now and follow us on facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. We also love hearing from you and this is a great way to keep up the conversation.

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. There is a baby changing area in the nursery.

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.

Third Saturday Youth Service Corp Outreach Run, September 22, 9:30 am - Middle and High School Youth are invited to come to the Steinbruck Center for a faith-filled service learning opportunity on the 1st Thursday and 3rd Saturday of every month. Youth can also receive community service hours. This Saturday's service will be with the National Coalition for the Homeless. RSVP to the steinbruckcenter@lutherplae.org.

Embrace! Food & Friends Volunteer Opportunity, September 25, 6 pm - Members of Luther Place are invited to join the Embrace! Ministry as we prepare meals at Food & Friends. Contact Michael Sonnenberg michaelsonnenberg4647@gmail.com to volunteer.

Night Shelter Celebration and Looking Forward, September 30 - During worship we will celebrate the ministry of the Luther Place Night Shelter and its faith formation of this congregation. We will also share about the exciting ways the 4th floor will be used for ministry with the Steinbruck Center.

First Sunday Breakfast is NOW a BRUNCH, October 7, 12 pm
Starting in October, the Luther Place Youth will be making brunch for the congregation, offering an opportunity for engagement and fellowship after worship. Brunch will be hosted in the All Saints Room. Different ministries will host a conversation during brunch ranging from table questions to a short ministry talk. Get connected, meet new people, and enjoy a bite of food. Contact Kristen Kane Kristen@lutherplace.org.

You're Invited!! St. Francis Pet Blessing & Festival

Sunday, October 7th at 2pm Whether you have an animal companion or not, join us as we honor God's creatures! There will be a blessing of pets and a community celebration with music, food, and fun! Word says it we will also have Pet Portraits!! *If you are interested helping to plan or serve as a leader for this ministry event please contact Kristen Kane at Kriten@lutherplace.org

GATHERING

Prelude

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. We use social media here - Please check in and tag @LutherPlace and @LutherPlaceDC

Confession:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
full of compassion and mercy,
abounding in steadfast love.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness,
let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

**C: Eternal God our creator,
in you we live and move and have our being.
Look upon us, your children,
the work of your hands.
Forgive us all our offenses,
and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.
By your grace draw us near to you,
our refuge and our strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit given to us.
In the mercy of almighty God,
Christ died for us while we still were sinners;
and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins.

C: Amen.

Congregational Offering

<u>August 2018</u>	<u>YTD as of 07/31/18</u>
Budgeted: \$35,000	Budgeted: \$326,000
Actual: \$27,726	Actual: \$307,290

Pastor Karen Sabbatical, September-November 2018

Pastor Karen is on sabbatical. Please see website for a blog on Sabbath Care! Rev. Dr. Tony and Mrs. Joanne Carpenter will be with us until December 2, 2018, covering while Pastor Karen Brau is on sabbatical.

For emergency requiring pastoral care, we offer several options: Please reach out to Pastor Carpenter by email at RevTony@lutherplace.org; or call Margaret Maring at 301-469-7609. You may also call the church office and speak with Xavier at 202-667-1377.

September 16th, the Rev. Dr. Tony Carpenter and Gary Maring will lead a series of Adult Spiritual Formation conversations on the book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. Everyone is invited. If you have trouble securing a copy of *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, please contact Gary Maring at m.gmaring@verizon.net.

Interested in the music ministry?

Opportunities include:

Adult Choir – Weekly rehearsal Sundays 9:30-10:30

Handbell Choir – Monthly rehearsals TBD

Children's Music – Sunday School Hour

Instrumental/Vocal Solos

Contact Justin at music@lutherplace.org for more information.

The Protest and Movement committee is looking for volunteers to help engage the congregation in movements for justice. Please join the committee for its next meeting immediately after worship Today!

If you cannot attend the meeting today, please contact Einar Olsen at es.olsen8@gmail.com or Jay Forth at julian.n.forth@gmail.com for more information.

SENDING

***Sending Song: ELW 841 Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing**

Blessing

A: May God, whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, we pray for: The Kimball-Eayers family, For those in need of healing, Lolly Stuart, Rita Lewis, All elders, for those feeling alone, All facing healing from surgery, All coping with mental illness, Sound leadership in turbulent times, families traumatized at the border and children separated from their parents.

Today—Gathering Sunday

We celebrate all the ways you can engage with Luther Place. During worship we invite you to come up and be blessed for the Fall Season—if you have a backpack you are welcome to bring it up! After worship there will be information regarding ways to relate in ministry and also information highlighting what's going on as we build the beloved community together!

Word has it that there will be a reveal of new things and treats to accompany the post-worship fellowship.

***Gathering Song: ELW 513 Listen, God Is Calling**

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.

*Kyrie:



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*Prayer of the Day

P: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM

Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

**⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

**⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who

***Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion:

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

C: Amen.

Communion Song: ELW 493 Taste and See

***Table Blessing**

P: May we who have fed at Wisdom’s table take her welcome out to where
tables are reserved and doors are closed; may the Spirit drive us to break
our bread on the altar of the world.

C: Amen.

***Prayer after Communion**

A: May God, whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of
faith and hope.

C: Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

He took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to them, 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.

We remember that night Jesus spent with his friends, and we feel his presence with us now. We ask God, through the Holy Spirit to bless these gifts we offer and share, making them Christ for us, and making us into Christ's holy body. Together with all the church, we give you thanks: Creator, Redeemer, Spirit of love. Bind us together. Open our hearts. Grant us peace.

C: Amen.

*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.

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.

hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

**⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way
of the wicked.

**¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do

not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Acclamation: TFBF 25 Halle Halle Halle**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

***Sanctus**

^{1*}
Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Vål - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.
²
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

MEAL

***The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Lifegiving God. We thank you, divine Seamstress For you never stop creating. From the dawn of time, to our mother's womb, even in the age to come, Your creativity is as endless as eternity.
Today you are knitting us your people Into a garment of many colors.

Therefore, with Joseph and all of Israel's children, With the confused disciples and the Ethiopian eunuch, With all who have shown us your way, All who have gone before us, And all those we gather with this day, We praise your name.

***HOLY GOSPEL**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark

Mark 7:24-37

C: Glory to you, O Lord

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon: *Times of Transition*

Rev. Tony Carpenter

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

Gathering Day—Backpack Blessing & Ways to Engage!

***Hymn of the Day:** ELW 617 We Come to You For Healing, Lord

*Prayers of the People

A: Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

*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 185 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

*Offering Prayer

A: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing.

You have set this feast before us.

Open our hands to receive it.

Open our hearts to embrace it.

Open our lives to live it.

C: Amen.