

Order of Service

Bells – Opening Prayer

PRELUDE

(The Rev. Paul Krause, Organist a son of the congregation)

Opening Hymn 39 **Praise to the LORD, the Almighty**

All Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is Thy Health and Salvation!
Join the full throng: Wake, harp and psalter and song;
Sound forth in glad adoration!

All Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen How thy desires all have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Women Praise to the Lord, who hath fearfully, wondrously, made thee;
Health hath vouchsafed and, when heedlessly falling, hath stayed thee.
What need or grief Ever hath failed of relief?--
Wings of His mercy did shade thee.

Men Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do,
Who with His love doth befriend thee.

All Standing Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him. Amen!

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost,
Amen. O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C:(sing) **And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: (sing) **Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the**

Council of nine members was elected.

February 28 After the Sunday services the assembled congregation
chose "Luther Memorial Church" as its name.

March 20 The formal organization of the congregation was effected in
a special meeting held in the Civic Building at the Fair Grounds.
The Constitution was adopted and signed by 85 men.

April 3 The Congregation observed a special rededication service, in
which also the two pastors, Waldemar Schuetze and Gerhard
Pieper, and two teachers, Gerhardt Mueller and Miss Dorothy
Schmolesky were installed.

April 12 A tract of land comprising seven acres, at the south end of
the city and along 21st Street, was chosen as our Church and
school site. The greater portion of this site was donated by a
member of the congregation.

May 1 Our Building program was launched with a special offering. A
congregation-wide canvass was undertaken for receiving the
donations.

May 17 Building plans, providing for a church auditorium with a seating
capacity of at least 450 and including three to five classrooms,
were approved.

September 14 Ground-breaking ceremonies for our new building were
held. A long summer search for a suitable place where Christian
Day School classes could temporarily be conducted, ended in
the renting of the Boulay Building on Western Avenue. Our
school opened in September with an enrollment of 64 children,
Mr. Gerhardt Mueller serving as principal and teaching grades 4
to 8, and Miss Dorothy Schmolesky teaching grades 1 to 3.

December 11 Following the morning service, the congregation gathered
at the church grounds for the corner-stone laying of our new
building.

1961

January 8 In its annual meeting the congregation resolved to affiliate
with the Church of the Lutheran Confession.

April 16 The congregation resolved to establish a Kindergarten and call
a third teacher for our school.

*"And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, And establish the work of
our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands." Psalms 90:17*

Schuetze and Gerhard Pieper, and to the two teachers, Gerhardt Mueller and Miss Dorothy Schmolesky.

With a donation of 5 acres and the purchase of an additional 2 acres on the south edge of Fond du Lac, plans were made and implemented to break ground for a new church and school that would seat 450 and have 5 spacious classrooms. While the building was under construction, the rented office and showroom of the Boulay Feed Mill at 138 Western Avenue served as the school for the first year. Principal Gerhardt Mueller and teacher Dorothy Schmolesky began the first year on September 7th with 64 students enrolled.

In January of 1961 Luther Memorial Congregation found itself to be one in confession and teaching with the newly organized Lutheran synod called “The Church of the Lutheran Confession” (CLC). They applied for membership and still remain members of this orthodox Lutheran church body.

Since that time, the Triune God - Father Son and Holy Spirit - has blessed Luther Memorial Church and School by keeping them faithful to His Word through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Bible’s main message of “justification” – that God declares us not guilty of our sins through the shed blood of Jesus Christ our Savior on the cross. Pastor John Johannes served from 1978 – 1999. Pastor Dave Naumann has served since then. The LORD has also blessed the congregation with many faithful men and women in the teaching ministry. Building projects on the church grounds through the years include the principal’s house built in 1967, the pastor’s house built in 1995, and a duplex built in 2000 to house two additional teachers.

Luther Memorial Church and School has been privileged to complete 50 years under the Lord’s bountiful blessing. God is so good! May His blessings continue to rest upon us.

Brief Historical Notes - 1960

February 14 Our first service was conducted at Roosevelt Junior High School Auditorium.

February 18 An important meeting of the men of the congregation was held in the Civic Room at the Retlaw Hotel for the purpose of planning and charting our future course. An Interim Church

Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Hallelujah!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

ALL: Lord God, heavenly Father, we stand before You today as recipients of Your grace. For fifty years we have enjoyed the proclamation of Your Gospel from our pulpit and in our classrooms. Throughout our history You have been faithful to us, providing for all our needs. Yet we must confess to our shame that at times our zeal to hear and to share Your Gospel message has faltered. We do not always receive Your Word with joy. We fail to keep Your commandments to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We indeed deserve Your judgment for our many sins. For this, O Lord, we humbly ask for Your forgiveness. We do not trust in our own merits, for we have none. Rather we trust in the merits of Your dear Son, Jesus, our Lord and Savior!

P: The Gospel message of our Savior-God proclaims that Jesus was delivered up for our offenses and raised again for our justification. Our Lord assures us that when we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Having confessed your sins, it is my privilege as a called servant of the Word to announce unto you the forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

RESPONSIVE ANNIVERSARY READING

P: O Lord, our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
C: **On this day of anniversary we gratefully remember the blessings of past and present. On this day we pledge ourselves to faithfulness to the God of our salvation in the future.**

P: O Lord, our God, how glorious is Your Name in all the earth! You have made us, and You still preserve us with everything we need to nourish our body and bring you to our life.

C: **You have done this as our gracious Father in Heaven by Your goodness and love.**

P: O Lord, our God, how glorious is Your Name in all the earth! You have freed us lost and condemned creatures from the curse of sin, from the sting of death, and from the slavery to satan.

C: **You made us Your own that we may serve You with a joyful heart.**

P: O Lord, our God, how glorious is Your Name in all the earth! You have united us into one family with our Lord Jesus Christ and kept us in the true faith.

C: **You fill our lives with rich gifts of the Holy Spirit: An unwavering trust, the love that knows no limit and no end, and the courage that never fails in time of trial and in time of death.**

P: Holy and righteous God, on this anniversary of our congregation, we thank You with all our heart that You have so bountifully blessed us for so many years and given us opportunity to glorify Your name and proclaim Your wonderful works from one generation to another.

C: **We thank You for upholding Your little flock through fortune and misfortune, through times of war and peace, of depression and prosperity; and we thank You especially for those now fallen asleep who served Your Church in the past, who remained faithful to the end, and now have received the crown of life through Christ Jesus.**

P: Holy and mighty God, on this anniversary of our congregation we praise You for the wonderful work You give Your Church to do, that Your saving Name may be known in all the earth.

C: **We praise You for the people of the Church whom You prepare for the work of the preaching and teaching ministry. We praise You, O Savior, for the Gospel of salvation which by Your Spirit You have imprinted upon our heart and soul.**

P: Eternal and most merciful God, on the day of anniversary we pray that You would continue to be with us in the future as You have in the past, and that You keep us in Your saving grace.

C: **We ask You, O Lord, to keep Your little flock firm in the faith and steadfast in our calling so that generations yet unborn may share with us Your gift of eternal life.**

P: Hear us, O God, and look upon us in Your grace. We bring our petitions to You, not because of any good in us, but on account of Your great mercy. Lord, protect us from the wicked one and keep us in Your care.

C: (Singing)

**God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure.
Throughout all generations.**

A HISTORY OF LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH Fond du Lac, WI

In the 1950's when the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) had marked the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LC-MS) as false teachers, but would not break fellowship with them as God's "mark and avoid" command of Romans 16:17 teaches, conscientious Lutherans left both synods.

After much study and many meetings in the Fond du Lac area, the pastors and teachers of St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church and School could not with a good conscience remain in the WELS. At a meeting on February 7, 1960, a vote of the congregation indicated that the majority decided to remain with the Synod. The congregation was divided. It was on that February afternoon that Luther Memorial congregation was conceived. Led by Pastors Waldemar Schuetze and Gerhard Pieper, Luther Memorial Church and school was started by people who wanted to remain faithful to the Bible.

The following Sunday, February 14th, 469 worshipers attended the first services held in the auditorium of the Roosevelt Junior High School. On February 18th, a voter's meeting, attended by 89 men was held in the Civic Room of the Retlaw Hotel. At this meeting, an interim council was elected, and the group went on record as favoring the establishment of a Christian Day School. They asked the two pastors and the two teachers to continue to serve the new congregation. "There was a general awareness of the common joy of true Christian fellowship uniting us all, together with the purposeful determination to go ahead under God's guidance and with His help, and do what was necessary for the orderly and successful establishment of a congregation dedicated to the full truth of God's Word." (Taken from a report of that February 18th meeting.)

On February 28th the name of the congregation was chosen – LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH. Formal organization was completed on March 20, 1960, when 85 voting members adopted a constitution and elected a permanent church council, together with other necessary committees. Formal calls of vocation were extended to Pastors Waldemar

Baptism our babies saved. Teachers and pastors taught
Our young to love and trust in You Confirmed 'till heaven brought.

Saved by Your Word in these; The water, bread and wine;
Though oft we sinned and wandered far By grace we're found in time.

Now blessed for fifty years, We see Thy Kingdom come.
Though trials, woe and death appear Your love dispels all fear.

Help us e'er faithful be, Not weak but strong and sure;
Your life and death for us have won Our home with saints secure.

It's good Lord to be here Our future let none fear;
The years You deign that yet remain Hold mercies great and dear.
Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR HOMECOMING 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! It is wonderful to have former members of Luther Memorial Church and other visitors come and share in our thanksgiving to God for His marvelous blessings of grace upon our congregation. Please come back and visit us in the future! Following today's service everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall downstairs for a celebration meal. Following that a 50th Anniversary Program is planned upstairs in the church sanctuary. Please come and share in remembrances and in expressing our Christian fellowship.

Thanks: We thank all those who have been involved in the planning and preparation of today's celebration. We thank the former pastor and sons of the congregation for coming and sharing the Word with us. Pastor John Johannes is retired living in Fargo, ND. Pastor Daniel Fleischer is retired living in Minneapolis/St. Paul MN. Pastor Thomas Schuetze serves Faith Lutheran in Coloma, MI. Pastor Paul Krause serves Faith Lutheran in Markesan, WI.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

(The Rev. Daniel Fleischer – a son of the congregation)

THE FIRST BIBLE READING

Ephesians 1:3-14 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him. 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. 13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Anthem by the Choir and the Congregation

Let Us Give Our Thanks Together

Let us give our thanks together as we celebrate this day
Giving God the praise and glory for the wisdom He displays
The gift of each new sunrise, our homes and families;
Let us give our thanks together and give glory to the King.
Let us give our praise together as we lift our songs above,
Giving God the praise and glory for the wonders of His love.
The gift of His salvation, the grace and peace He brings,
Let us give our praise together and give glory to the King.
Let us give our thanks together, let us give our praise together
Let us sing His praise

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

Let us give our thanks together, let us give our thanks together,
Thanks be to God!

THE SECOND BIBLE READING

Luke 9:18-27 And it happened, as He was alone praying, that His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” 19 So they answered and said, “John the Baptist, but some say Elijah; and others say that one of the old prophets has risen again.” 20 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered and said, “The Christ of God.” 21 And He strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.” 23 Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 “For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. 25 “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? 26 “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father’s, and of the holy angels. 27 “But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the kingdom of God.”

CONFESSION OF FAITH

“We unanimously believe, teach, and confess the following about the righteousness of faith before God. A poor sinful person is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and is adopted into sonship and inheritance of eternal life, without any merit or worth of his own. This happens without any preceding, present, or subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone. His obedience is credited to us for righteousness. These treasures

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shinning
Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia without end!

Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end.

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee Light of Light begotten, Praise be song eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity! Amen!

THE BENEDICTION

(The Rev. John H. Johannes – former pastor of the congregation)
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!
C: (sings) **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Closing Anniversary Hymn **It’s Good Lord to be Here**
(Written by charter member Paul Kottke)

It’s good Lord to be here These ten and two score years.
Your grace and mercy ever near Drowns sorrows and dries tears.

Now led for fifty years By Law and Gospel pure
You guided us with loving hands Our course was ever sure.

C: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

P: Let this be the time, O Lord, when we recommit and re-consecrate ourselves to the ministry of the Gospel of Your Son. Let us find joy in our unity, zeal for our work, and, if it is Your will, success in our labor. And give us faith, O Lord, to truly be, in our thoughts, words, and actions, what You have called us to be -- witnesses of Your grace!

C: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us, that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

P: Keep in Your care, O Lord, all those we love, those who are close by and those far from home. Protect them from temptation and every spiritual evil. Watch over those among us who are lonely or distressed, those who are afraid and facing danger, those who have pain of body or mind, and those who are at the hour of death. Hear the prayers Your people bring You this day, O Lord, and answer them according to Your wisdom and grace, for Jesus' sake.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung by the Luther Memorial Children's Choir)

Hymn 775 **Thy Strong Word**

Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life giving breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia without end!

are brought to us by the Holy Spirit in the promise of the holy Gospel. Faith alone is the only means through which we lay hold on, accept, apply, and take them for ourselves. This faith is God's gift, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel and trust in Him. We trust that for the sake of His obedience alone we have the forgiveness of sins by grace, are regarded as godly and righteous by God the Father, and are eternally saved."

Hymn 262 **A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

A mighty Fortress is our God, A trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil Foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
On Earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is.
Of Sabaoth Lord, And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us.
We tremble not, we fear no ill, They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none, He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child and wife,
Let these all be gone, They yet have nothing won;
The Kingdom our remaineth. Amen.

THE SERMON

(The Rev. Thomas Schuetze – a son of the congregation)

Leviticus 25:8-11, "Count off seven sabbaths of years—seven times seven years—so that the seven sabbaths of years amount to a period of

forty-nine years. Then have the trumpet sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each one of you is to return to his family property and each to his own clan. The fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you.”

Theme:

“2010 - A YEAR OF JUBILEE FOR THE PEOPLE OF
LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH”

THE OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

Jubilee Trumpet and Piano instrumental by Mark and Beth Kranz
(Former Principal and church organist)

THE OFFERING HYMN

As Thy prospering hand hath blest,
May we give Thee of our best
And by deeds of kindly love
For Thy mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days
Praise to God, immortal praise

THE ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

P: Almighty and eternal God, when the time had fully come, You sent Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to take our place under the demands of the law and to endure the just punishment for our sins. You accepted His sacrifice on the cross. You raised Him from death in glorious splendor. For His sake, You richly and daily forgive the sins of all who put their trust in You.

C: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

P: When the time had fully come, You bestowed Your Holy Spirit on Your people as a testimony that You had called them to proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Equipped and encouraged, they carried the story of salvation into all the world.

C: The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.

P: When the time had fully come, You raised up Your servant Martin Luther to destroy the idols of the medieval age and to restore the pure and right teaching of the Scriptures. You renewed Your people with the light of Your love, You granted power and success to the proclamation of the Gospel, and Your holy Church grew and prospered throughout the world.

C: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

P: When the time had fully come, You brought together the founders and builders of this congregation. Guided by Your Spirit, they took hold of the truth and abandoned an apathetic allegiance to Your Word. They joined hands with other believers and worked together in ministry as members of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. You have blessed their sons and daughters during the 50 years past and enabled us to preserve and proclaim the saving Gospel of Your Son.

C: Sing to the Lord, for He has done marvelous things; let this be known to all the world.

P: Let this be the time, O Lord, when You renew us again by Word and Sacrament, when You reform our hearts and minds, and when You restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this age and in this place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of the leaders of our congregation's past.

C: May the Lord our God be with us as He was with our fathers.

May He never leave us or forsake us.

P: Let this be a time, O Lord, for confession and repentance. For Jesus' sake forgive us whenever we love ourselves more than You and whenever we serve ourselves instead of Your people. Forgive us for the apathy that harms our faith and hinders our work. Forgive us for boasting of our past achievements and for blaming others for our present problems. Rid us of indifference for public worship and continued growth in Your Word, destroy all distrust that may plague us, and shatter every thought and word which harms the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.