

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church
Ardmore, Pennsylvania



The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

10:00 am

At St. Paul's, ALL are welcome:

As Lutherans we believe that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. It is not something we earn but is freely given through God's love. That love is for all of us - created in God's image - and we respond by welcoming and including everyone, regardless of age, background, race, ethnicity, creed, socioeconomic class, marital status, physical or mental ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join with us as we seek to promote racial equity, social and economic justice, and care for our environment. There is a place for you here.

| Serving on Sunday, May 5 | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pastor | The Rev. Laura M. Tancredi |
| Youth & Family Minister | The Rev. Timothy Ness |
| Music Director/Organist | Andrew K. Heller |
| Ushers | Libby Hoyer, Andrew Vickrey |
| Reader | Kevin Clouse |
| Acolyte | TBA |
| Communion Assistant | TBA |
| Coffee Hour | Social Ministry Committee |
| Camera Crew | Linda Bailey |
| Altar Care | |
| Set up | Belle and David Miller |
| Clean up | Boofie Younkin, Carolyn Ashburn |

| Serving on Sunday, May 12 | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pastor | The Rev. Laura M. Tancredi |
| Youth & Family Minister | The Rev. Timothy Ness |
| Music Director/Organist | Andrew K. Heller |
| Ushers | David Wilson, Jamie Koerner |
| Reader | Jim Van Horn |
| Acolyte | Noelle Streuber Eden |
| Communion Assistant | Claudia Muller |
| Coffee Hour | Christian Education Committee |
| Camera Crew | Jason Baxter |
| Altar Care | |
| Set up | Laura Bickert Ciarllo |
| Clean up | Belle and David Miller |

Gathering

Prelude

Slane

Healey Willan

Announcements

(Congregation speaks the words in bold print.)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed
through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

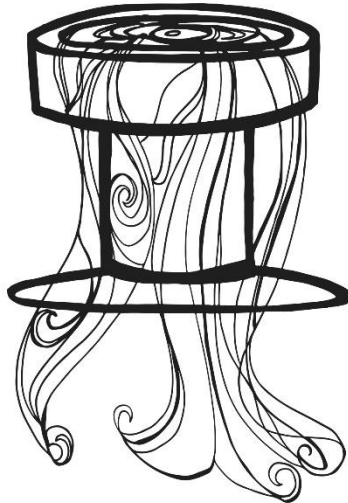
GATHERING HYMN #793

Be Thou My Vision

GREETING

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

And also with you.



HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

Children's Sermon

Pastor Ness

First Lesson

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Reader/ A reading from Acts:

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

Reader/ A reading from First John:

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Choir: Those who love me will keep my word,
and my Fa-ther will love them,
and we will come to them and make our /home with them.
(Repeat Alleluia.)*

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

The holy Gospel according to John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Tancredi

HYMN OF THE DAY #708 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes with the following:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of our risen Savior be with you always.
And also with you.

The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with one another.

Meal

Offering

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry. To give online, follow the QR code to stpaulsardmore.org/giving.



Offertory Anthem
Adult Choir

Love One Another
Anne Krentz Organ

OFFERTORY HYMN #380 (vs. 1)

*Hallelujah! Jesus lives!
He is now the Living One;
from the gloomy halls of death
Christ the conqueror, has gone,
bright forerunner to the skies
of his people, yet to rise.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and to bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses to the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

DIALOG

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

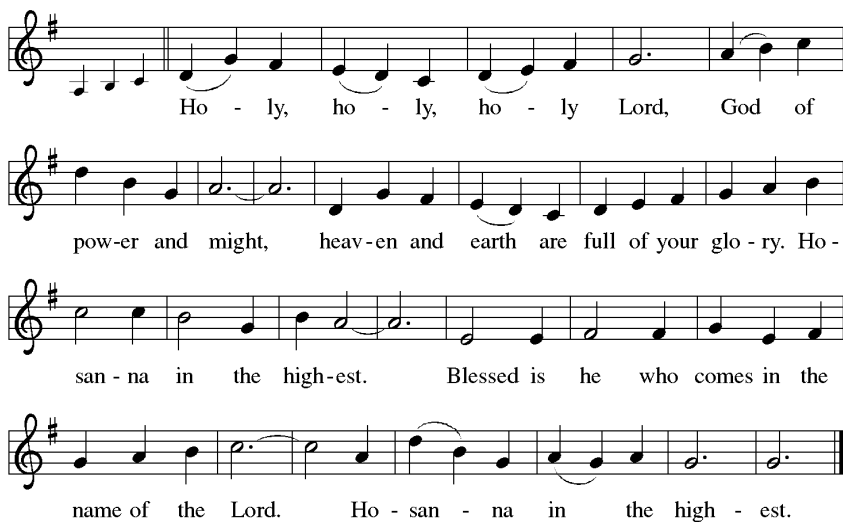
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...*(Here the celebrant continues with the preface for the season, concluding)*...And with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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 in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

During the Great Thanksgiving, the congregation responds as follows:

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

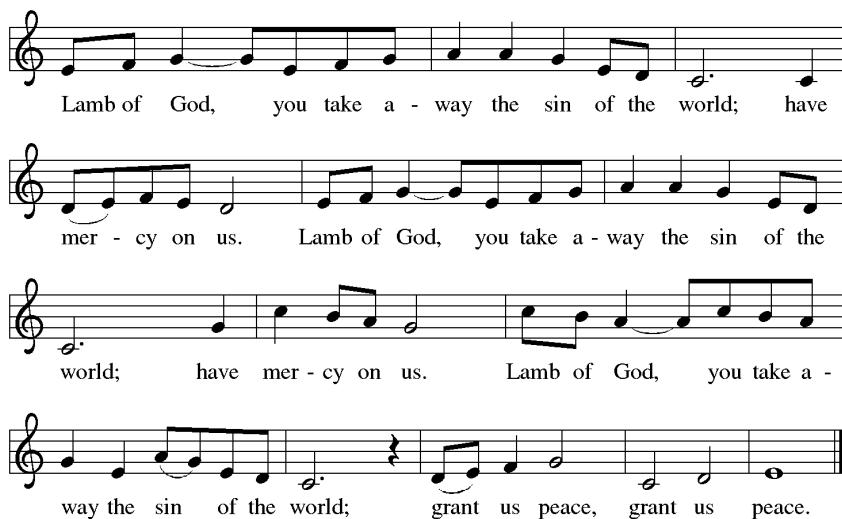
FRACTION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Communion

All the baptized are invited to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. After receiving the bread at the center aisle, you may dip the bread into the intinction cup. Those who prefer may come forward for a blessing.

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 Anthem
Adult Choir

Ubi Caritas
Maurice Durufle

*“Where there is charity and love, God is present.
We are gathered in Christ’s love.”*

TABLE BLESSING

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

COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share in the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Sending

BLESSING

Almighty God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #838

Beautiful Savior

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Postlude in D

Healey Willan

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St. Paul's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm