

# *Sixth Sunday after Easter*

## *Sunday, May 17, 2020*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**215 N. Warren St.**  
**Orwigsburg, PA**  
**570-366-2316**  
**[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)**

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### **GATHERING**

*As we gather together, let us refrain from talking and quiet ourselves.*

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Drawn by our joy in the Risen Lord, we gather as God's children in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

Let us confess our sins.

*Silence*

**Almighty God, we cannot free ourselves from our desire to sin. We cannot keep sin out of every part of our life. We suffer because we sin. Those around us suffer because of what we do and what we fail to do. For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, have mercy on us. Cleanse us from our sins. Give us new hearts and minds. And raise us to new and abundant life, so that we never tire of serving in your holy name.**

**Amen.**

By the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, know that your sins are forgiven and that you have the promise of eternal life.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

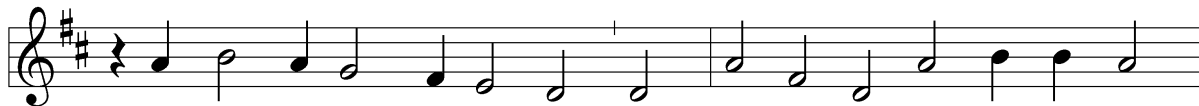
**And also with you.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*He Is Arisen, Glorious Word*



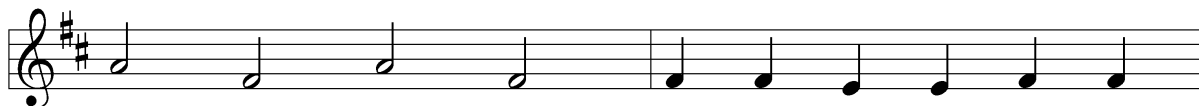
He is a - ris - en! Glo-rious Word! Now rec-on-ciled is God, my Lord;



the gates of heav'n are o - pen. My Je - sus rose tri - um-phantly,



and Sa-tan's ar-rows bro-ken lie, de-stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.



Oh, hear, what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing



glo-rious, life is giv - ing. He was dead, but now is liv - ing!

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy, receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

# WORD

## **A Reading from Acts**

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

(Acts 17:22-31)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 66:8-20 (Responsively)**

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, O peoples,  
let the sound of his praise be heard,

<sup>9</sup>**who has kept us among the living,  
and has not let our feet slip.**

<sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup>**You brought us into the net;  
you laid burdens on our backs;**

<sup>12</sup>you let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

<sup>13</sup>**I will come into your house with burnt offerings;  
I will pay you my vows,**

<sup>14</sup>those that my lips uttered  
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**<sup>15</sup>I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,  
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

<sup>16</sup>Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for me.

**<sup>17</sup>I cried aloud to him,  
and he was extolled with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup>If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the LORD would not have listened.

**<sup>19</sup>But truly God has listened;  
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup>Blessed be God,  
because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me.

### **A Reading from First Peter**

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

(1 Peter 3:13-22)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**Praise to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

(John 14:15-21)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## SERMON

### THE NICENE CREED (In Unison)

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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Renew the oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You call all people of the world your children. Frighten the wicked, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way (*especially...*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care, through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

# OFFERING

## ORGAN OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY HYMN

“At the Lamb’s High Feast”



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, our gifts so seem small for such a great celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our little lives. Feed us again at this table that we might go forth to serve in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

# MEAL

### 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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r 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.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.  
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

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.

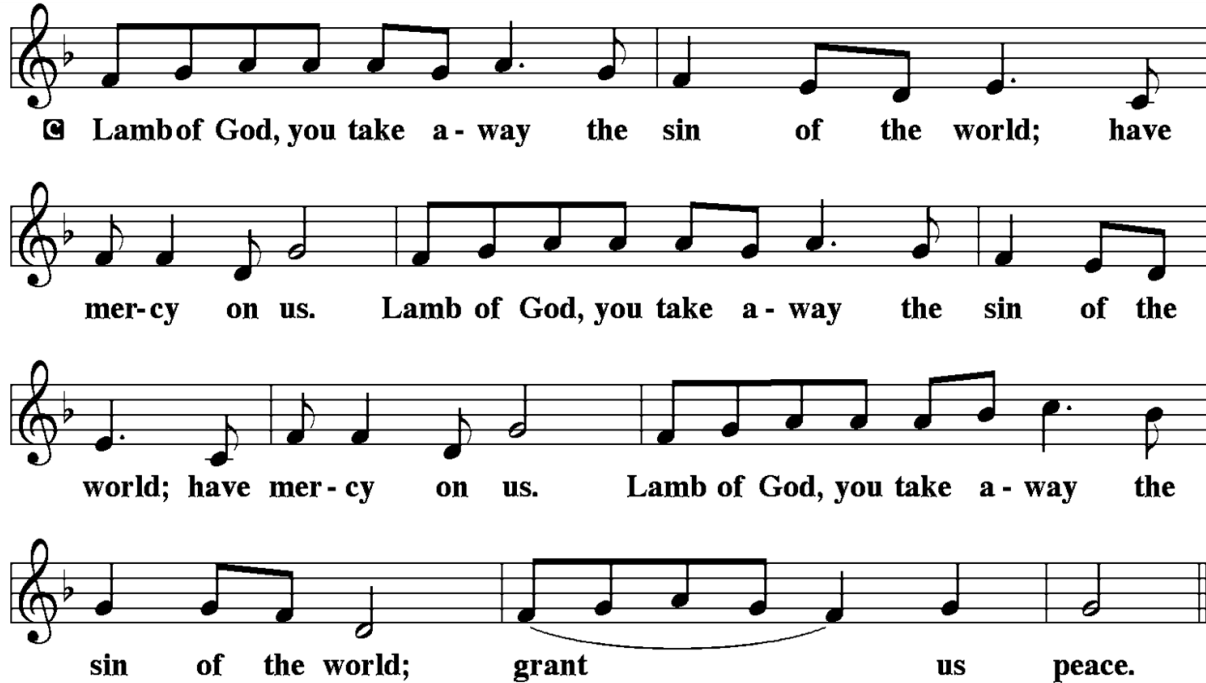
### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Behold the Risen Christ. Let us come to his banquet.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction, pulpit side first. Please move into the center aisle, proceed to the Pastor, and receive the bread in your open hand. Then turn to the assistant, where you may dip the host into the wine and partake, returning to your seat by the side aisle. The lectern side will follow, then the choir. Those unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament in their pews. Those who do not desire to receive the Sacrament may come forward to receive a blessing.*

## AGNUS DEI



♩ 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.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### TABLE BLESSING

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

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, you have fed us with your word, and opened us to your presence. Now send us forth to share the gifts of Easter with all in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### **BLESSING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said. Now go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### **POSTLUDE**

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## ONLINE GIVING

The mission and ministry of St. Paul's continues amid the coronavirus pandemic. You can still support St. Paul's by sending your offerings to the church by check through the US Mail -- OR give to St. Paul's securely online. Here's how:

- Go to our website: [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)
- From the home page, click the Online Giving tab at the top of the screen.
- A Give Now box will appear on your screen.
- Select General Fund from the menu.
- Keep One Time selected (or create a secure account to set up reoccurring payments)
- Enter the dollar amount you'd like to give with NO decimals.
- Click Add Donation.
- Click Next then enter your Name, Address, and Credit/Debit Card information.

*Optional items:*

*To receive an emailed receipt, check the box and enter your email address.*

*To help offset the online processing fees, check the box.*

- Click donate now to complete your transaction. You will receive a confirmation number.

Thank you for your continuing generosity!

## ONLINE WORSHIP VIDEOS

Although we are unable to gather for our regular worship, we can still watch pre-recorded worship videos in our home. These videos will be available by Saturday morning each week.

Before you watch, make sure the volume on your device (computer, smart phone, or tablet) is turned up for the best audio experience.

To access an online worship video:

- Go to our website: [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)
- From the Sermons, Bulletins & Newsletters tab, click on Sermons & Weekly Bulletins.
- The most current video available will be at the top of the list.
- Click View to watch the pre-recorded video.
- You can also go to YouTube directly and search for "St. Paul's Lutheran Church Orwigsburg, PA."