

Sixth Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9, 2021

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

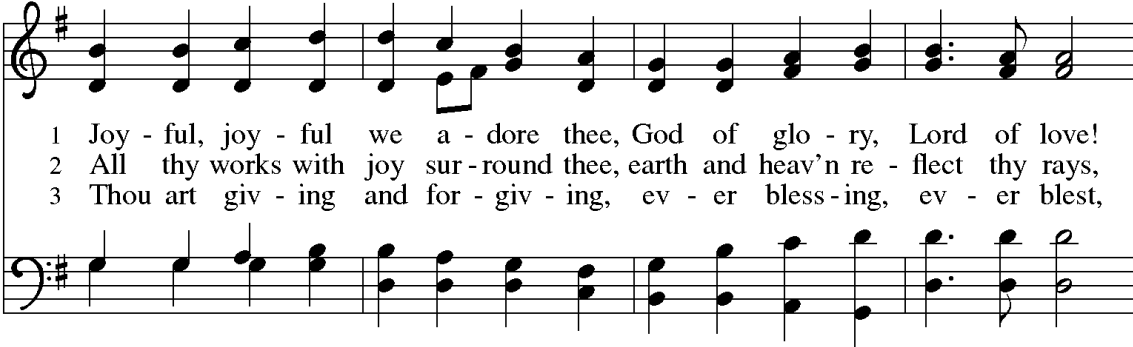
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

PEACE

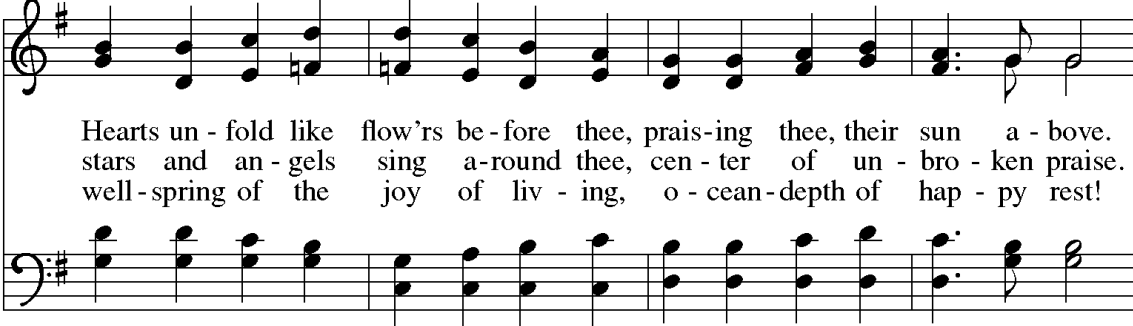
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN

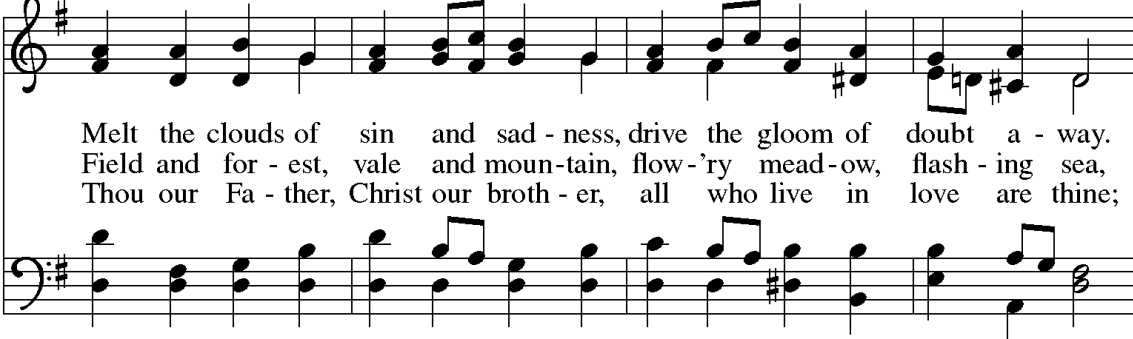
“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

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

“He Is Lord” (Sing twice.)

He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead and He is

4 Lord! Ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con - fess

That Je - sus Christ is Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

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. (Acts 10:44-48)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98 (Read responsively)

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

**With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**

The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

**In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.**

A Reading from 1 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.

(1 John 5:1-6)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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!

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

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.”

(John 15:9-17)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (Read 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the seas roar and the animals jump for joy. So, fill the earth with your love that you have made may loudly sing your praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world with undying love. Give the leaders of this world your Spirit, so that all people may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Caring Healer, be present with those who are sick or suffering (*especially all who suffer from COVID-19, and everyone on our prayer list.*). Help us to meet the need of those who need care and healing in our community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, bless mothers and all who you have called to provide “motherly” love to those in need. Comfort all who miss their mothers. Comfort all who grieve the loss of a child. Comfort all who are unable to bear a child. Comfort all who believe that they have never known a mother’s love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(The Pastor concludes): In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Read 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.

SENDING

BLESSING

May Almighty God open your heart and mind,
 so that you may know and love the ✝ risen Christ. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re-born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

THE DISMISSAL

Christ has risen. Death has no power over him.

He is risen indeed. Let us rejoice and sing his praise.

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Introduction to the day: This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (5/9/21)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Patrick McCoy; GREETER: Ron Rozansky

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Sarah Eger; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Deb Bolinsky;

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long;

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (5/16/21)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Ron Rozansky; GREETER: Ron Rozansky

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Ruth Ann Withers; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Sue Petresky;

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long;

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Pat Davis, and Gloria Dierwechter

Altar flowers are presented in honor of Alexandria Spitler by her parents, Tina and Scott Butler.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, May 9	8:00 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Worship
Monday, May 10	7:00 PM	Council
Tuesday, May 11	1:00 PM	WELCA
Thursday, May 13	7:00 PM	Adult Forum via Zoom
Friday, May 14	1:30 PM	STiC Sojourn in Tumbling Run, PA
Saturday, May 15	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 16	8:00 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Worship

WELCA

All St. Paul's women are welcome to attend the Tuesday, May 11th meeting at 1:00 PM in the Gathering Room. The program "Springing into Hope" will be presented by Gwen Wehr and Danielle Richards. The In-Gathering offering will be given to the Orwigsburg Fire Co. Social distancing & mask wearing will be observed.

**ESTIMATE OF GIVING FORM
2021**

_____ **Option one:** I/we/our family prayerfully estimate(s) our giving to be:

\$ _____ for St. Paul's Current Expenses.

\$ _____ for the greater church through Mission Support (Benevolence).

\$ _____ for special ministry or needs (list here) _____.

I/we/our family will contribute:

_____ weekly _____ monthly _____ quarterly _____ as we are able.

_____ **Option two:** I/we/our family will continue to give to St. Paul's as we are able, however we cannot estimate what our giving will be at this time.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please deposit this form in the offering plate or mail it to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Planned Giving Program, P.O. Box 156, Orwigsburg, PA. 17961 by Monday, May 31, 2021.

GERANIUM ORDER SHEET

Pentecost Sunday is May 23, 2021, and we plan to decorate the church with red geraniums. The deadline to order is **today** and the cost of each geranium is \$3.00.

Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Please detach lower portion and place your order in the basket on the table under the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. Envelopes are there for you to use.

Name: _____

If you wish to dedicate your flowers, please fill out the information below:

In honor of:

In memory of:

Total # of geraniums: _____ Total \$\$ amount enclosed: _____