

# *The Holy Trinity*

## *Sunday, May 30, 2021*

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

#### PRELUDE

(8:00)

"Prayer"

D. Wagner

(10:30)

"An American Medley"

A. L. Page

Bell Choir

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the † holy Trinity, one God, who is the Father, who is the Son, and who is the Holy Spirit, whose steadfast love is everlasting, and whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust in you. We do not believe that you have provided enough for everyone. We abuse your good creation for our own gain. We see enemies where no enemies exist. We ignore injustice and accept violence as a fact of life. We embrace our brokenness, our ignorance, and our foolishness. We take comfort in sinfulness and our wickedness.**

**By your grace, O God, forgive us; through your love, O God, renew us; and by your Spirit, O God, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in abundant newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, know that we have peace with God, the forgiveness of sins, and the promise of new resurrection life through Jesus Christ. Let us now live in hope, for hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

# PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

## GATHERING HYMN

### “Holy, Holy, Holy”

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## 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



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time, you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**ANTHEM** (10:30) "Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones" arr. K. Christopher

## **WORD**

### **A Reading from Isaiah**

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

(Isaiah 6:1-8)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 29 (Read Responsively)**

Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over mighty waters.

**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the LORD spits the flames of fire.

**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe,  
and strips the forest bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

The LORD shall give strength to his people;

The LORD shall give his people the blessings of peace!

### **A Reading from Romans**

<sup>12</sup>Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Romans 8:12-17)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

(John 3:1-17)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY “Come, Join the Dance of Trinity”



1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—  
2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;  
3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame  
4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter-weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.  
then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem.  
set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.  
we sing the prais - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.



The u - ni - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,  
The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;  
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;  
Let voic - es rise and in - ter-weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.  
when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.  
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!  
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

## SERMON

### THE ATHANASIAN CREED

Whoever wants to be saved should above all cling to the catholic faith.

Whoever does not guard it whole and inviolable will doubtless perish eternally.

Now this is the catholic faith: We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being.

For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Spirit is still another.

But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

What the Father is, the Son is, and so is the Holy Spirit.

Uncreated is the Father; uncreated is the Son; uncreated is the Spirit.

The Father is infinite; the Son is infinite; the Holy Spirit is infinite.

Eternal is the Father; eternal is the Son; eternal is the Spirit:

And yet there are not three eternal beings, but one who is eternal;

as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings, but one who is uncreated and unlimited.

Almighty is the Father; almighty is the Son; almighty is the Spirit:

And yet there are not three almighty beings, but one who is almighty.

Thus the Father is God; the Son is God; the Holy Spirit is God:

And yet there are not three gods, but one God.

Thus the Father is Lord; the Son is Lord; the Holy Spirit is Lord:

And yet there are not three lords, but one Lord.

As Christian truth compels us to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.

The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten;

the Son was neither made nor created, but was alone begotten of the Father;

the Spirit was neither made nor created, but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.

Thus there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other;

but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal; and so we must worship the Trinity in unity and the one God in three persons.

Whoever wants to be saved should think thus about the Trinity.

It is necessary for eternal salvation that one also faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus became flesh.

For this is the true faith that we believe and confess: That our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man.

He is God, begotten before all worlds from the being of the Father,

and he is man, born in the world from the being of his mother—

existing fully as God, and fully as man with a rational soul and a human body; equal to the Father in divinity, subordinate to the Father in humanity.



Although he is God and man, he is not divided, but is one Christ.

He is united because God has taken humanity into himself; he does not transform deity into humanity.

He is completely one in the unity of his person, without confusing his natures.

For as the rational soul and body are one person, so the one Christ is God and man.

He suffered death for our salvation.

He descended into hell and rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

At his coming all people shall rise bodily to give an account of their own deeds.

Those who have done good will enter eternal life, those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.

This is the catholic faith.

One cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

We pray, O God, for your holy church around the world. Revitalize and renew us, through the waters of baptism and by the power of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for your love revealed to us in creation; for cedar and oak trees, for rushing waters, for the echoes of thunder. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations and our leaders, that led by your Spirit, they work toward a world where all your children enjoy peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for healing for all who suffer; for victims and survivors of trauma or violence, for those who are sick, ill, or injured, and for everyone on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community of faith, that the splendor of your majesty and the holiness of your mystery may be glorified through our worship and our relationships with one another. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks, O God, for those who have died in the faith. We especially remember the men and women of our armed forces whose lives have tragically been cut short by war. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*(The Pastor concludes):* We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

**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**

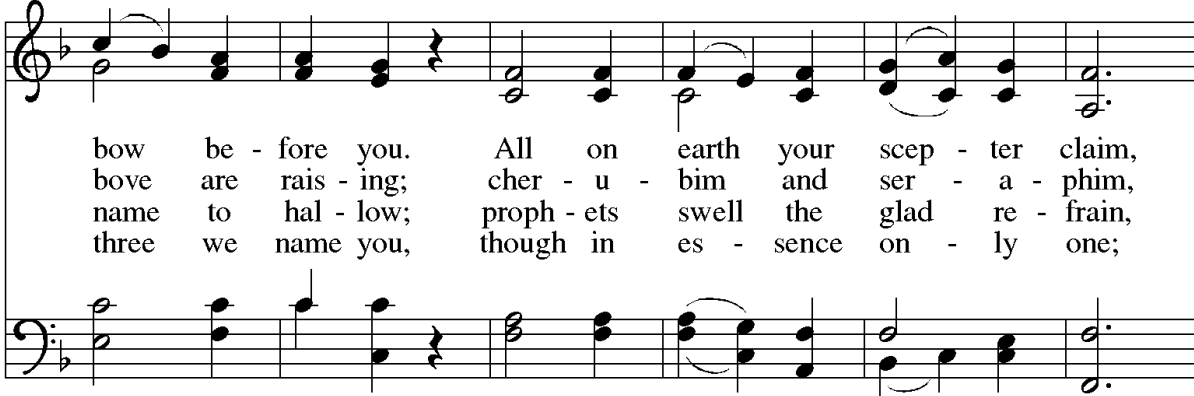
May our triune † God,  
who is the Father, who is the Son, and who is the Holy Spirit,  
three persons, yet one God, undivided and eternal,  
strengthen you in faith and open your heart and mind to his will and ways  
that you may love and serve him – now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

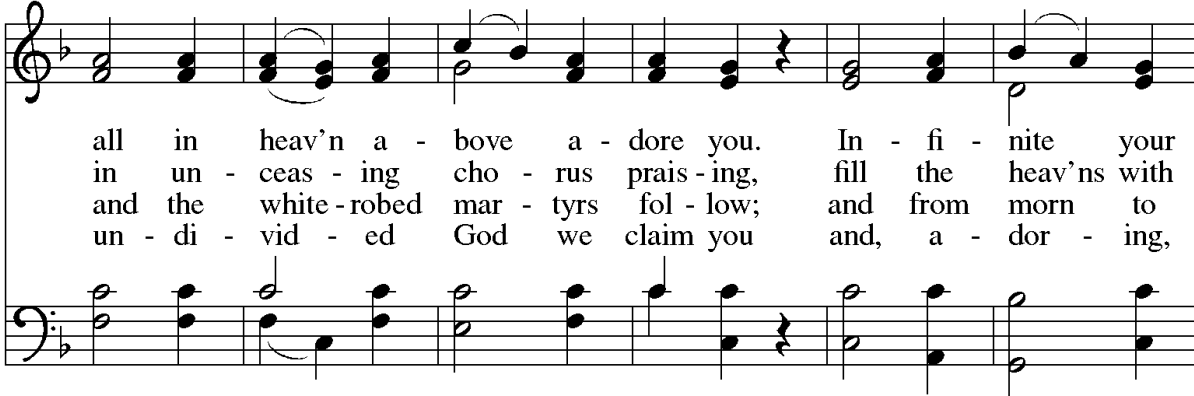
## "Holy God We Praise Your Name"



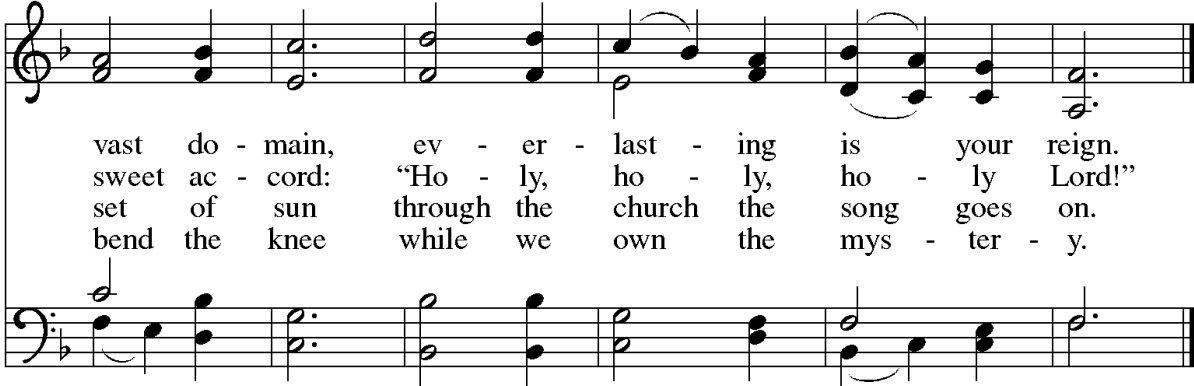
1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -  
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred  
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,  
 above are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with  
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to  
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"  
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.  
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

**THE DISMISSAL**

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

"The Rejoicing"

C. Callahan

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**Introduction to the day:** When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

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**Bulletins** are presented in honor of the 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Steve and Robin Zimmerman.

**Altar flowers** are presented in honor of our grandchildren's graduations: Kristen Aubrey O'Donnell from the University of Pittsburgh and Thomas John Wagner from Nativity BVM High School.

**Chancel flowers** are presented in memory of Wm. R. and Lottie Lengel, my grandparents, by James Lengel and family.

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**SERVING THIS SUNDAY (5/30/21)**

**8:00 AM**

LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul; GREETER: Ron Rozansky

**10:30 AM**

LECTOR: Wayne Lutsey; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHERS: Madelyn Knecht and Joanne Emerich; ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Jean Premich; COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Barb Sterner, and Glenda Bright

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (6/6/21)**

**9:30 AM**

LECTOR: Julianne Schenck; GREETER: Sarah Eger; USHER: Karen Shoener; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Greg Sklar; ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter; COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr, Tom Wehr, and Glenda Bright

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<b>THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S</b>
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Sunday, May 30	8:00 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Worship
Monday, May 31		Memorial Day observed
Tuesday, June 1	6:00 PM	Evangelism
Wednesday, June 2	5:00 PM	STiC
Thursday, June 3	7:00 PM	Adult Forum via ZOOM
Friday, June 4	1:30 PM	STiC Sojourn in Tumbling Run, PA
Saturday, June 5	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, June 6	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

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### WHY DO WE GIVE?

As Christians, we give because we have received (and continue to receive) good gifts in abundance -- from a loving God! The Estimate of Giving Form shown below appeared in our May newsletter. If you have not done so before, please prayerfully consider what you give to the ministry of our congregation and the greater church. Help us to grow in our ability to serve others -- with the love of Christ.

### 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.