

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Sunday, February 19, 2023

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” M. Burkhardt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
who makes all things new, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection.

O Holy One,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin and cannot free ourselves.

Our feet have not followed in your path and

our hearts have turned away from you.

Forgive us that we may be reconciled to you and one another,

and teach us to walk in the light of your grace. Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus who says,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.”

Know that you are forgiven of your sins,

and that you are freed to love God and serve your neighbor.

May the Light of Christ guide you now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

[See back of bulletin]

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



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



♩ 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

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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 EXODUS

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. (Exodus 24:12-18)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 2 (Read responsively)

¹Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

**²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together,
against the LORD and against his anointed?**

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say;
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”

**⁴He whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the LORD has them in derision.**

⁵Then he speaks to them in his wrath,
and his rage fills them with terror.

⁶“I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.”

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD:

He said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

**⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

**¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear,
and with trembling bow before him;
¹²**lest he be angry, and you perish;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.**
¹³Happy are they all
who take refuge in him!

A READING FROM SECOND PETER

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

(2 Peter 1:16-21)

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. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said,

“This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.”⁸ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

(Matthew 17:1-9)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “How Good, Lord, to be Here!”
[See back of bulletin]

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

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Embolden your church as it witnesses the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors to share stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and disaster relief agencies around the world. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Guide and give wisdom to all our civil leaders, our mayor and borough council, our governor and state legislators, and our president and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Give shelter to those who are homeless and spur communities to work for fair housing. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings are too cold in the winter and too hot in the summer. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer in any way. We especially pray for those who face war and violence, and for everyone on our prayer list. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Make us eager to hear and receive your Word. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors and make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our thanksgiving for saints who have welcomed us and guided us in the ways of faith. Teach us to wait with perseverance and courage until you return with all power and might. Merciful Lord, **receive our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8 AM) “Fairest Lord Jesus” J. Linker

ANTHEM (10:30 AM) “Go Up to the Mountain of God”* M. Helman

OFFERTORY HYMN “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord”

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

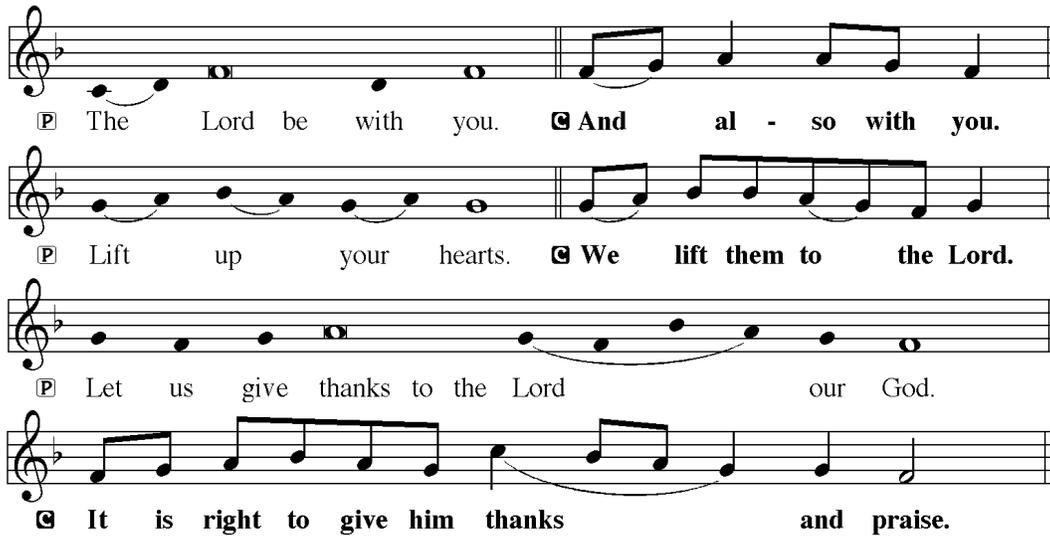
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them, we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

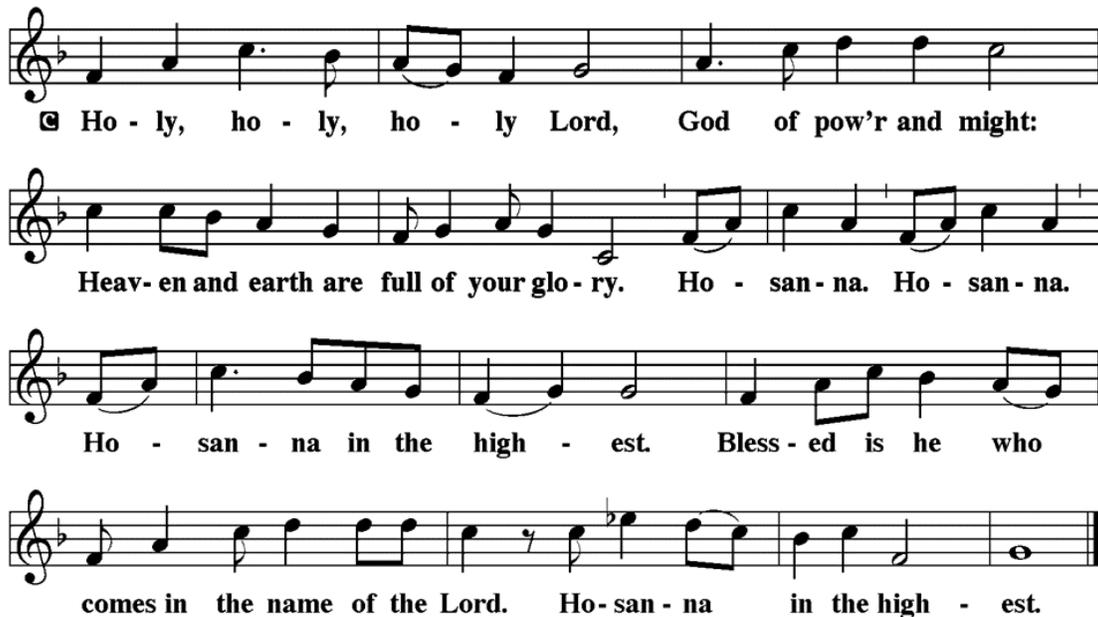
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ 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, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty and Holy One,

you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son, Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Blessed are you for your timeless story of salvation.

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 (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,

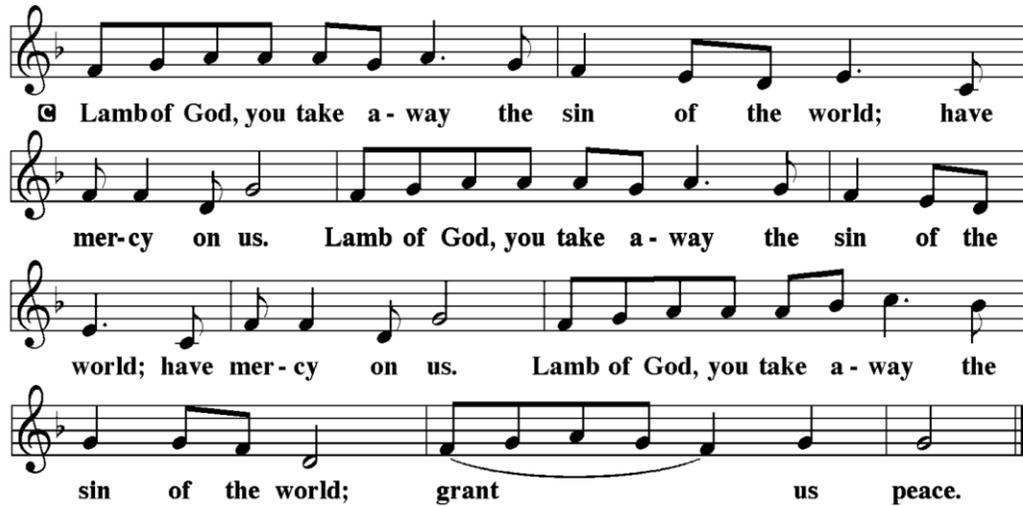
and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by *intinction*. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pew.

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 (10:30 AM) "Beautiful Savior"

[See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in F Major”

V. Lubeck

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

Introduction to the Day: Today’s festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle and the Lent-Easter cycle. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God’s beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains his disciples as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today’s liturgy. This word of joy may be omitted during the penitential season of Lent, but will be sung again at Easter.

Altar flowers are presented in memory of Rachel Zehner by Diane Brobst and family.

Bulletins are presented in loving memory of Rachel Zehner by Connie Teter and family.

***Go Up to the Mountain of God** is presented in loving memory of Duke Schenck by John and Nancy Hurley. (2010)

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

Sunday, February 19		TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	3:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #31129
Monday, February 20		PRESIDENT’S DAY HOLIDAY
Wednesday, February 22		ASH WEDNESDAY
	7:00 PM	Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
Saturday, February 25	3:00 PM	Crafter's Guild (at the Durkee Home)
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, February 26	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (2/19/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Evan Davis; USHER: Diane Brobst; LECTOR: Eric Eger
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Chris Long
ALTAR GUILD: Barb Lafko, Amy Dewald, and Beth Post
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

SERVING ASH WEDNESDAY (2/22/23)

7:00 PM

GREETER: TBA; USHER: Wayne Lutsey; LECTOR: Jason Swick
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Schenck
ALTAR GUILD: Barb Lafko, Amy Dewald, and Beth Post

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (2/26/23)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Amy Dewald

10:30 AM

GREETER: Evan Davis; USHER: Jim Spotts; LECTOR: Julianne Schenck
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Doug Travor
ALTAR GUILD: Hope Clarke and Madelyn Knecht
COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

LENT BEGINS!

Our Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, February 22, at 7: 00 PM. The imposition of ashes and the distribution of Holy Communion will be available to all who attend. Please come to this special worship service and invite a friend or neighbor to join you!

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Pastor Mike will begin a series of five (5) midweek Lenten services entitled, "Gathered Around the Cross" at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. This series will continue each Wednesday at 7 p.m. during the month of March.

Easter Flower Orders

Please detach lower portion of this form and place it along with your payment
in the offering basket located in the Gathering Room,
or return it to the church by U.S. Mail.

Deadline: Sunday, March 12, 2023

Please **“PRINT”** all necessary information!

Your name: _____

FLOWER TYPE	QUANTITY	PRICE	DEDICATION
Easter Lilies	_____ X	\$9.50	H/M_____
Regular-sized Daffodils	_____ X	\$8.00	H/M_____
6-bulb Tulips (Red)	_____ X	\$8.00	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinths (Purple)	_____ X	\$8.00	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinths (Pink)	_____ X	\$8.00	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinths (White)	_____ X	\$8.00	H/M_____
Hydrangeas (Pink)	_____ X	\$17.00	H/M_____

[NOTE: H = In Honor of *or* M = In Memory of]

TOTAL \$ _____ CASH CHECK # _____

If more space is needed for dedications, please attach another sheet.

GATHERING HYMN

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -
dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

COPIES OF REPORT AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of the 2022 Annual Report, please visit our office Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon or call us at 570-366-2316. If our office is closed and you leave a message, please state your name, your phone number, and your address. We will gladly send you a report by US Mail.

HYMN OF THE DAY “How Good, Lord, to be Here!”

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children ages 1 to 10 years old will continue every second Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. service. Please join us Sunday, March 12, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. You can also call, text, or email me with questions or to volunteer.

Sarah Eger: (570) 394-3522 (cell); swoodring86@hotmail.com.

CRAFTER’S GUILD

The Crafter's Guild of St. Paul's will gather on Saturday, February 25th from 3 to 5 p.m. at the home of Kristin Durkee, 1097 Grove Street, Orwigsburg, PA. All crafters or people interested in learning a craft are welcome! Please call Kristin Durkee (804-380-9066) or Amy Dewald (570-449-4816), if you are interested in this new group.

EARTH DAY EVENT PLANNED

Volunteers are needed for Stic’s up-coming Earth Day event scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. A description of events and sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. For more information, please contact Sue Reier at 570-617-3741.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

EVANGELISM

The Evangelism committee would like to continue sending cards, signed by our church family, to members who cannot worship with us in person (e.g., military personnel, and college students away from home.) Cards are located on the small table with the prayer list. Please remember to sign our card(s) upon entering or before leaving church.

SENDING HYMN

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,

al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;

in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.