Sunday, May 5, 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion * stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (Sunday only)

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

P- Look, here is water! C- Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P- 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!
C- Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P- 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. **C- Amen.**

P- Look, here is water! C- Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

*GATHERING SONG (Sunday Only) Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

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*GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C- Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

*KYRIE (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P-Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: 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.

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.

PSALM: Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,

whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²O LORD, you have made known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;

lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,

with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,

the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,

and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

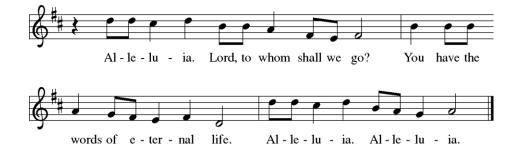
SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

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.

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.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)



GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

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 gospel is announced. P- The holy gospel according to John, the 15th chapter. **C- Glory to you, O Lord.**

P- [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 concludes: P- The gospel of the Lord. **C- Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated. **SERMON**

*HYMN OF THE DAY (Sunday Only) Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! (ELW 383)



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ALL-*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.

The assembly kneels or sits. **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P- Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

P- Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **C- hear our prayer.**

P- You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

P- Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

P- Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. (*We pray especially for*) God of grace, **C- hear our prayer.**

P- Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation (*ministries may be named*), that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P- Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us (*especially*). At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace,

C- hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes.

P- Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. C- Amen.

*PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ. P- The peace of Christ be with you always.

C- And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

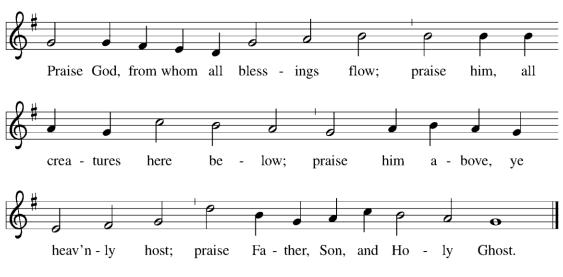
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. You are invited to use your cellphone to text the peace of Christ to someone you missed in church today while the offering is being collected.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. *PRESENTATION OF OFFERING (Sunday Only)



Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

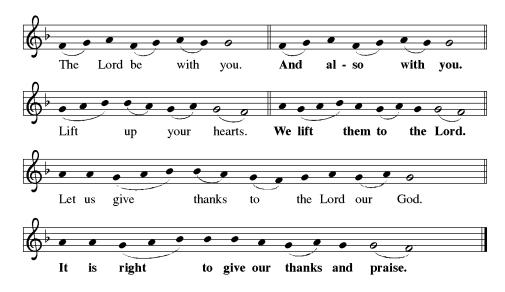
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

***OFFERING PRAYER**

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the following prayer. P- Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C- Amen.**

*DIALOGUE (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.



***PREFACE**

P- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

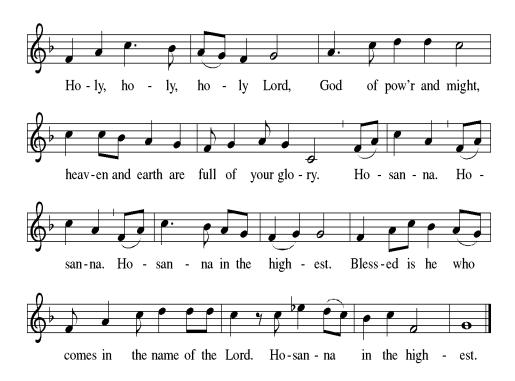
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

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:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)



***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The presiding minister continues.

P- Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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.

Remembering, therefore,

his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C- Amen

ALL- *LORD'S PRAYER

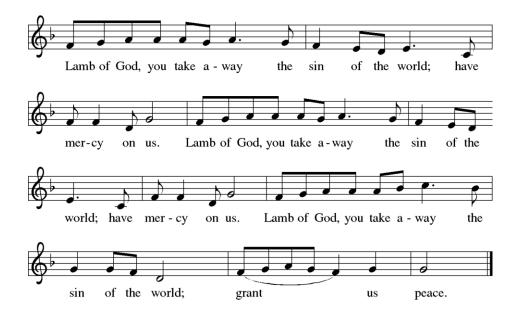
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P- The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

*COMMUNION SONG (SPOKEN SATURDAY, SUNG SUNDAY)



COMMUNION

All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction. Please receive the wafer from the pastor and proceed to the communion assistant holding the chalice to receive the wine

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say P- The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

***TABLE BLESSING**

The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C- Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

The assisting minister leads the following prayer after communion. P- 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 the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C- Amen.**

SENDING_

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

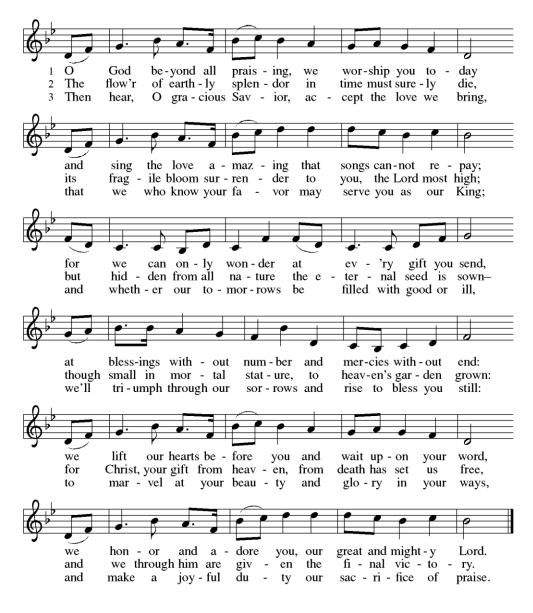
*BLESSING

P- Alleluia! Christ is risen!C- Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P- The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always. C- Amen.

*SENDING SONG (Sunday Only) O God beyond All Praising (ELW 880)

O God beyond All Praising



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*DISMISSAL

The minister may send the assembly into mission. P- Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C- Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Bulletins are dedicated in honor of the birthday of Elona Fromm by Wendy Welsh and Trevor Reber.

One vases of altar flowers has been placed in honor of Betty Heinbaugh's 85th birthday by great grand children, Carly and Tanner.

Important Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Members with a change of address or visitors should complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors should also include the name and address of their home church so your home church can be notified that you received communion.

Prayer Requests – Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may give names to the person leading service prior to start of service.

Pastoral Coverage –Please call Linda in the Church Office with your request.

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want a pastoral visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

Attendance for April 28, 2024 39 in person, 104 views online and 3 shares as of April 29, 2024.

Sponsoring bulletins and flowers is a great way to honor a special event in your loved ones' lives or to remember a loved one who has died. (Please only two vases of flowers per week.) Flowers are now \$15.00 a vase. Flower prices are increasing to \$17.50 a vase starting April 1st. If flowers are not sponsored, this is an added cost to the church.

The charts are on the bulletin board for 2024. There are many empty spaces on the charts.

Please contact the church office with names of all graduates by May 15th. Please include with your name where you are graduating from and your future plans.

VBS will be June 17-21 from 6:00 to 8:30 at St. Paul's UCC church. This year's theme is SCUBA diving into friendship with God. Registration forms are on table in the back of the church. Please complete form and place in Christian Ed mailbox or give to Sunday School teacher. Any adults or youth willing to help with VBS are asked to contact Reba Llewellyn.

A sub sale to benefit VBS will be held May 18 and 19. Subs are \$ 6.00 each and may be picked up either Saturday or Sunday at St Paul's UCC fellowship hall. Order forms are on the table in the back of the church. Orders are due by May 12 to 570-385-5638 or wareber@comcast.net.

Birthday cards: Arlene Moyer, our oldest member, will be 97 on May 9th. Please send cards to: Arlene Moyer, 842 Moyers Station Road, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

IMPORTANT DATES

May 4- 5 pm Spoken service May 5- 8 am and 10:30 am Worship service May 12- Deadline to order subs to sponsor VBS May 15- deadline for graduates names June 2- 9 am worship service June 15- Deadline for newsletter articles for July/August June 17-21- VBS at St.Paul's UCC Church

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FROM LAST WEEK:

Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$39.00
Local Benevolence	\$93.50
Current	\$1843.67
Plate Offering	\$6.00
Capital Building Fund	\$15.00
Total Received	<u>\$1997.17</u>

"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

<u>Today:</u> 8 and 10:30 am Worship Service <u>Monday:</u> 10 am Prayer Shawl <u>Thursday:</u> 6 pm Bell Choir <u>Friday:</u> Office Closed <u>Next Sunday:</u> 8 am and 10:30 am Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 7:1-11; 1 Timothy 6:11-12 Tues: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:1-17; 1 Timothy 6:13-16 Wed: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 11:18-21; Mark 16:19-20 Thu: Ascension of Our Lord; Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53 Fri: Psalm 47; Exodus 24:15-18; Revelation 1:9-18 Sat: Psalm 47; Deuteronomy 34:1-7; John 16:4-11

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: 8 am Eva Waldman 10:30 am Aiden Platt Acolyte 10:30 am Grayson Rollman Lector: 5 pm Holly Maldonado 8 am Charles Hawk, Sr.10:30 am Harry Schwenk Ushers: 8 am Brian Staller 10:30 am Holly Maldonado Counting Team: Debbie Hummel, Reba Llewellyn Council Greeter: 5 pm Holly Maldonado 8 am Marlene Troxell 10:30 am Brian Staller Communion Assistants: 5 pm Holly Maldonado 8 am Marlene Troxell 10:30 am Brian Staller

Church Office Hours: 9 am - 3pm Monday - Friday Office closed for lunch 12 pm until 12:30 pm Church Telephone 570-754-7350 www.SummerHillLutheran.org – Church's website Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill Student Loan Committee email: stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor	716-353-1610	
Email: stpaulsummerhill.pastor@gmail.com		
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music	484-794-7902	
Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com		
Linda Angstadt, Church Secretary	570-754-7350	
Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com		
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton	570-345-1279	
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton	570-754-7350	
Eva Waldman, Treasurer	570-754-7350	



Keep in your prayers: Charles Hawk, Sr., Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Adam Brink, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch,

Jr., Dianna Curry, Rosemary Meade, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Stacey Rao, John and Betty Strauch, Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, Kathy Robinson, Brian Hunsberger, Cathy Moran, Diane Werner, Donovan Baker, Kyle Cleary. Peggy Davis, Harry Russell, Carol Beenick, Brittany & Joshua Gallagher, Shawnette Keller, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Betty Fromm Yarnell, Kermit Snyder, Barry Webber, and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.