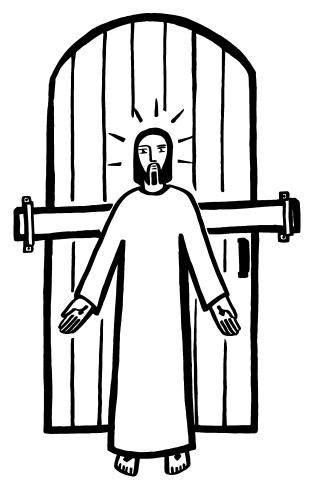
# St. Paul Lutheran Church "Let's Make a Difference Together"



158 Fish Hill Road PO Box 196 Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372 Telephone: (570) 629-1992 Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: <u>www.stpaultannersvillepa.org</u> Parish Administrator's Email: <u>parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org</u>

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M. Holy Communion: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month & Festivals Christian Education: Sunday's at 10:15 A.M. Air Conditioned & Handicapped Accessible

## Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Grounded in faith and growing in grace, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed in our local community and throughout the world.



Are you visiting St. Paul? Are you interested in membership or just looking to see if St. Paul is a good fit for you and/or your family?? Please call (570-629-1992) or stop by our office during regular business hours (Mon – Thurs 9:00am – 1:00pm) and speak to our Parish Administrator, Leanna Wickline, who will be happy to guide you through

the membership process and help you find information on all of the great programs at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

**SILENT MEDITATION...** Please note – the silent meditation is a part of the morning worship service. This is a time for individual reflection; a time for communicating with God, as well as a time of preparation for the service of worship. We encourage you to use it in a meaningful way.

Please respect the prayerful atmosphere of this holy place. We ask that you turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Thank you.

Pastor: Reverend Rashion "Woody" Santiago Parish Administrator: Mrs. Leanna D. Wickline Choir Director/Organist: Mr. Robert Jones

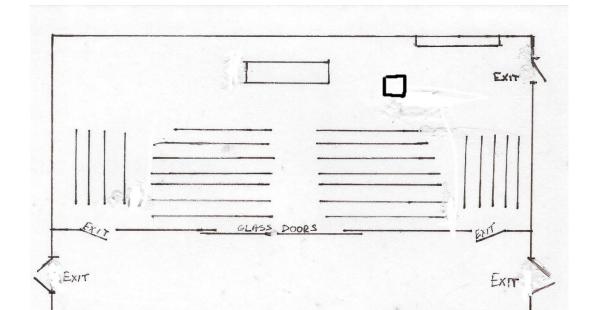
#### 2023 Council Members

Grant Allen, Dawn Bartron, Bill Below, Chris Kinsley Sr., Nicole Kresge, Carl Reindl, Deb Storman, Beth Werkheiser, Leanna Wickline

#### Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

## Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaultannersvillepa

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsvvR6Fl09zcaiDPY174k5A



## Worship Service Second Sunday of Easter Sunday, April 16, 2023

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

\*Please stand, if able. Words in bold print denote congregational response.

Chimes

#### Announcements

#### Prelude

## \*Confession

In the name of the Father, and of the 🕂 Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

## Amen.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## \*Absolution

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by

his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### \*Opening Hymn

#### "Above All"

Above all powers above all kings Above all nature and all created things.

Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, Above all wonders the world has ever known. Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, There's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified laid behind a stone, You lived to die rejected and alone. Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall and thought of me, Above all.

Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, Above all wonders the world has ever known. Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, There's no way to measure what You're worth.

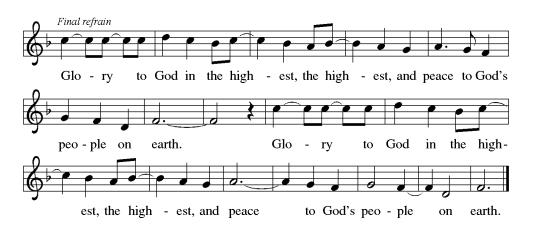
#### \*Greeting

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.







## \*Prayer of the Day (Lector)

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

A reading from Acts.

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

<sup>14</sup> Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to these words: This Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through him, just as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup> Though he was delivered up according to God's determined plan and foreknowledge, you used lawless people to nail him to a cross and kill him. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, ending the pains of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by death. <sup>25</sup> For David says of him: I saw the Lord ever before me; because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. <sup>26</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices. Moreover, my flesh will rest in hope, <sup>27</sup> because you will not abandon me in Hades or allow your holy one to see decay. <sup>28</sup> You have revealed the paths of life to me; you will fill me with gladness in your presence.

<sup>29</sup> "Brothers and sisters, I can confidently speak to you about the patriarch David: He is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn an oath to him to seat one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Seeing what was to come, he spoke concerning the resurrection of the Messiah: He was not abandoned in Hades, and his flesh did not experience decay.

<sup>32</sup> "God has raised this Jesus; we are all witnesses of this.

## The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, God, for I take refuge in you.

<sup>2</sup> I said to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have nothing good besides you."

<sup>3</sup> As for the holy people who are in the land, they are the noble ones. All my delight is in them.

<sup>4</sup> The sorrows of those who take another god for themselves will multiply; I will not pour out their drink offerings of blood, and I will not speak their names with my lips.

<sup>5</sup> Lord, you are my portion and my cup of blessing; you hold my future.

<sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

<sup>7</sup> I will bless the Lord who counsels me — even at night when my thoughts trouble me.

<sup>8</sup> I always let the Lord guide me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my whole being rejoices; my body also rests securely.

<sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon me to Sheol; you will not allow your faithful one to see decay.

<sup>11</sup> You reveal the path of life to me; in your presence is abundant joy; at your right hand are eternal pleasures.

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

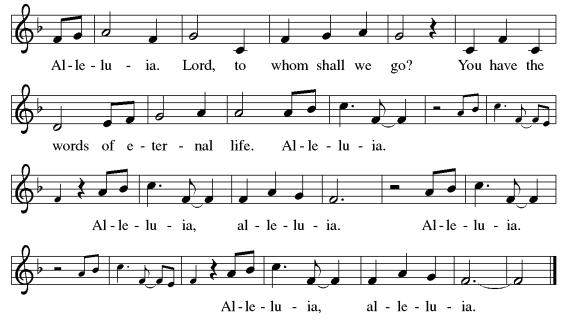
A reading from 1 Peter.

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. <sup>5</sup> You are being guarded by God's power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> You rejoice in this, even though now for a short time, if necessary, you suffer grief in various trials <sup>7</sup> so that the proven character of your faith — more valuable than gold which, though perishable, is refined by fire — may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him; though not seeing him now, you believe in him, and you rejoice with inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Please stand for the Gospel. (*Lector*)

#### \*Gospel Acclamation



#### Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together with the doors locked because they feared the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup> Having said this, he showed them his hands and his side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." <sup>22</sup> After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (called "Twin"), one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples were telling him, "We've seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in his hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe." <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Don't be faithless, but believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas responded to him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day

#### "Overcome"

Seated above, enthroned in the Father's love; destined to die, poured out for all mankind. God's only Son, perfect and spotless One; He never sinned, but suffered as if He did.

> All authority, every victory is Yours. All authority, every victory is Yours.

## <u>Chorus</u>

Savior, worthy of honor and glory, worthy of all our praise, You overcame. Jesus, awesome in power forever, awesome and great is Your name; You overcame.

Power in hand, speaking the Father's plan; sending us out, lighting this broken land.

All authority, every victory is Yours!

## <u>Chorus</u>

We will overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. Everyone overcome. *(repeat three times)* 

#### <u>Chorus</u>

You overcame! You overcame! You overcame! You overcame!

## <u>Chorus</u>

\*The 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.

## \*Prayers of the People (Lector)

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

## A brief silence.

God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

At this time, you are welcomed to offer your joys and concerns, either out loud or silently. *Pause.* Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.** 

## **Offering Prayer**

Generous God,

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Sharing of the Peace**

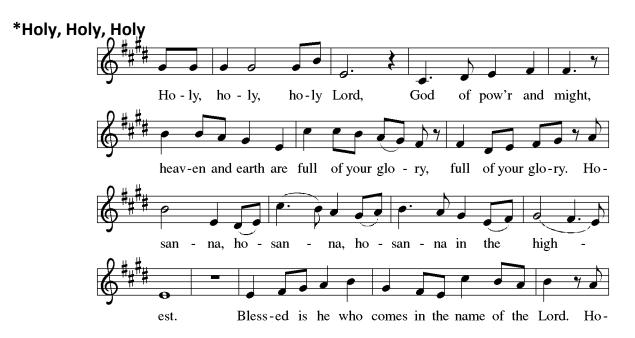
The peace of the Lord be with you always **And also with you.** (*Please share a sign of peace with one another from your seat.*)

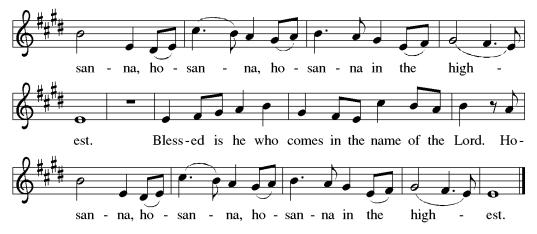
#### \*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 our thanks and praise.** 

#### \*Proper Preface

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:





## \*Words of Institution

All glory and blessings are yours, O holy God, for in your mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ. He took our human nature and suffered death on the cross for our redemption. There he made a perfect sacrifice for the sins for the whole world. We praise you that before he suffered and died, our Savior gave us this holy sacrament and commanded us to continue it until he comes again.

## Why do we eat bread at this table?

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

## Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

The same night Jesus took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

## What do we remember at this table?

We remember God's gracious love for us, Christ's death and resurrection for us, and the Spirit's tender care for us. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life.** Lord Jesus, come in glory. Merciful God, pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine that in eating and drinking we may be made one with Christ and one another. **Amen.** 

## \*The 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**

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

#### Communion

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen**.

## \*Table Blessing

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

## \*Prayer After Communion

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and his meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

#### Amen.

#### \*Blessing

The God of all, who raised + Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

## Amen.

#### \*Closing Hymn

#### "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light, my strength, my song This cornerstone, this solid ground Firm through the fiercest drought and storm What heights of love, what depths of peace When fears are stilled, when striving cease My Comforter, my All-in-All Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh Fullness of God in helpless babe This gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save 'Til on that cross as Jesus died The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me For I am His and He is mine Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death This is the power of Christ in me From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand 'Til He returns or calls me home Here in the power of Christ I'll stand



## \*Charge to the People Go in peace. Serve in love. Thanks be to God. Postlude

#### "The worship ends. . .the service begins."

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Prayers have been requested for the following brothers and sisters in Christ who have concerns needing God's help...

Sr. Msgt. William F. Allen; Specialist William "Blake" Allen; Sr. Master Sargent William F. Allen; Tom Altemose; Mark Anthony; Evelyn Arroyo; Daniel Bartron; Dillon Berenti; Major Matthew Blessing; Captain Katy Blessings; David Brong; Judi Carman; Elaine Cornelus; the family of Chris Finnerty at his passing; Jamie Fisher; Todd & Anna Geil; LilliAnna Daniels; Renee Depuy; Doris Drury; John Drury; Louis Genset; the family of Chris Haley Jr.; Charlie Hemple; T. J. Imhof; Carol Jones; Ian Juica; Robbie Kinsley; Nikolaos Kotretsos; Eleanor Kreuger; Esther Laurito; David Leith; James Meckes; Steven Moore; Ada Morales; Nelson Morales; Donna Myers; Dr. Kenny Pearson; Annabelle Peechatka; Anna Rivera; Jean Ross; Gina Santiago; Claudette Segear; Shirley Singer; Samuel Smith, Jr.; Greg Theadford; Jim Tomedi; Brenda Van Why; Scott Wickline; Jacob Wilson; John Woodling; for the people of Ukraine; for all who are traveling; for all of those struggling with addictions; the members of the Armed Forces of the United States; for the families and victims of the mass shootings, for all those around the world and here at home suffering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Have your prayers been answered? Or do you still need God's help? Please let us know. Thank you to everyone who prays with us for those in need.



Thank you to all who have helped to support St. Paul's Strunk Food Pantry! Your commitment to help is a true blessing to those who are struggling to feed their families. The pantry is always in need of basic food supplies, and we need your continued support to keep this program going strong. Items of particular need are peanut butter, cereal, pasta/spaghetti, pasta sauce, mac & cheese, soup, canned veggies

(potatoes, peas, green beans, corn, carrots, kidney beans), canned fruit, and tuna.

## **Grocery Tapes**

If you shop at Kinsley's Shoprite or Weis markets we get a percentage of your purchase. Just bring your receipts in and put them in the box on the table in the Narthex. In order for us to receive credit, the receipts must include the date and store number. Please don't tear off the bottom of the receipts.

## **Inside Out Church**

Inside Out Church is held at 6:30pm on Wednesday, in Spies Hall. We join together with a meal and a deep dive into the scriptures. This is an opportunity to grow your faith and increase your knowledge and understanding of God's Word and the Bible.

## **Pocono Mission District Assembly**

April 30<sup>th</sup> our Pocono district assembly will be held at Zion Lutheran Church in Brodheadsville, from 2:00-3:30pm. We are looking for two volunteers to attend this and the Synod Assembly. Please contact Pastor or Leanna Wickline to volunteer.

## Synod Assembly June 1-3, 2023

The Bishop requires two voting members from each congregation as well as the Pastor attend the Synod Assembly. It is local, so there is no need for overnight stays. This is the first in-person assembly since COVID struck in 2020. Small group information sessions and the wonderful worship opportunities make it worth attending!

## 2023 PATHwalk

Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. The Annual Karen Nickels Memorial PATHwalk is Pocono Area Transitional Housings largest fundraiser. All funds raised from the walk are used to support PATH operations. The Karen Nickels Memorial PATHwalk is an opportunity to demonstrate your support for PATH and to involve your neighbors, friends, and family. Organize a team of people to participate with you for more fun or hoof it on your own and meet some new friends.

## Vendor – Craft – Yard Sale July 15th

Spaces are available to sell items at our Vendor, Craft & Yard Sale, Saturday, July 15 from 8:00-2:00pm. Volunteers to help with set up and a bake sale table (as well as goodies to sell at the bake sale) are needed and welcomed.

		Worship	Assistant	Schedule		
	Acolyte	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistants	Counters	Altar Guild
4/16/2023	Linda Below	Deb Storman	Kris Kent	Dawn Bartron	Donna Warner	Deb Storman
		Linda Below		Dawn Weiss	Deb Storman	Donna Warner
4/23/2023	Eli Kresge	Donna Warner	Dawn Bartron		Beth Werkheiser	
		Linda Below			Donna Warner	
4/30/2023	Emily Kresge	Donna Warner	Leanna Wickline			
		Beth Werkheiser				

If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please contact the office.

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35