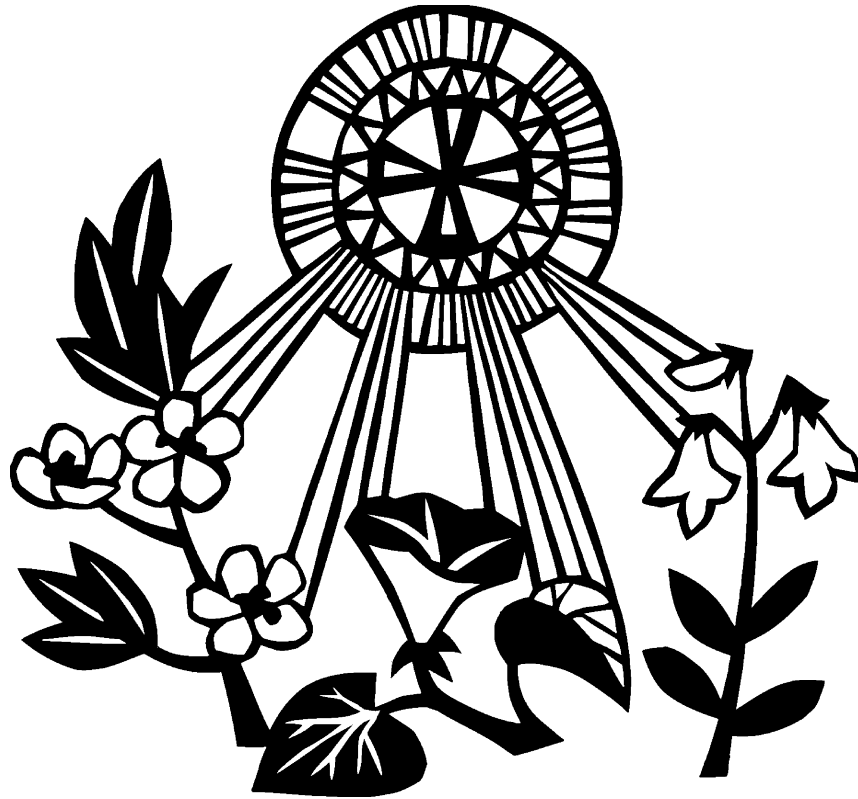


St. Paul Lutheran Church
“Let’s Make a Difference Together”



158 Fish Hill Road

PO Box 196

Tannersville, Pennsylvania 18372

Telephone: (570) 629-1992

Fax: (570) 629-2038

Website: www.stpaultannersvillepa.org

Parish Administrator’s Email: parishadmin@stpaultannersvillepa.org

Worship Services: Sunday at 9:00 A.M.

Holy Communion: 1st & 3rd 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

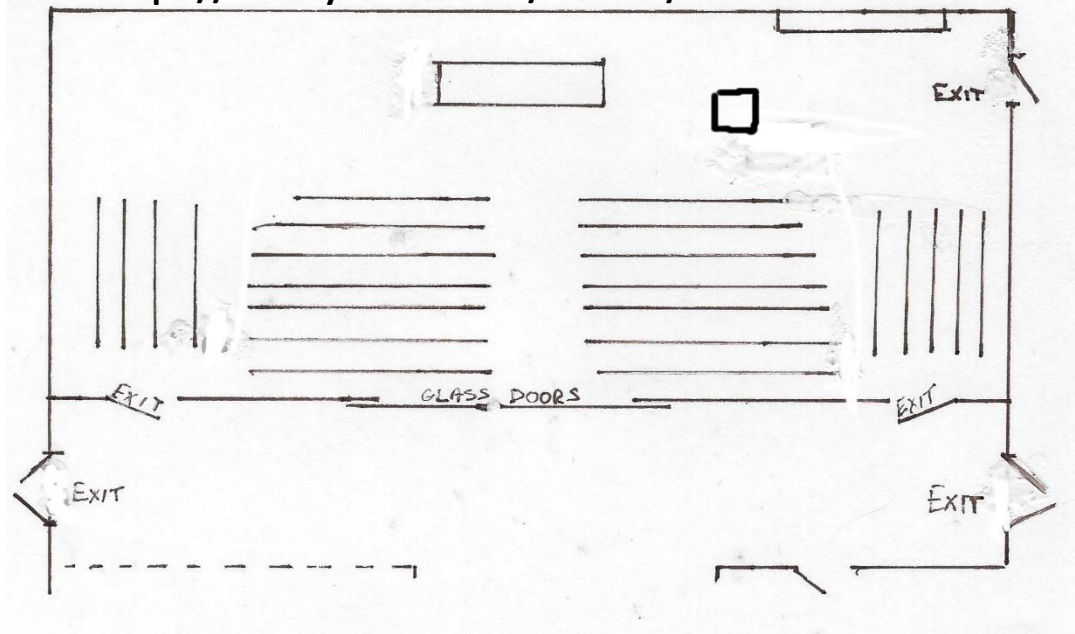
2023 Council Members

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/UCsvvR6FI09zcaiDPY174k5A>



Worship Service

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 14, 2023

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

**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**

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

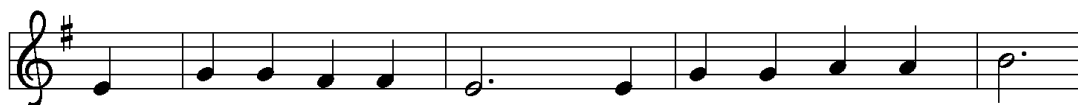
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***Greeting**

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.

*Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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.*)

***Prayer of the Day (Lector)**

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

² As usual, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and rise from the dead: “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah.” ⁴ Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, including a large number of God-fearing Greeks, as well as a number of the leading women.

⁵ But the Jews became jealous, and they brought together some wicked men from the marketplace, formed a mob, and started a riot in the city. Attacking Jason’s house, they searched for them to bring them out to the public assembly. ⁶ When they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city officials, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here too, ⁷ and Jason has welcomed them. They are all acting contrary to Caesar’s decrees, saying that there is another king — Jesus.” ⁸ The crowd and city officials who heard these things were upset. ⁹ After taking a security bond from Jason and the others, they released them.

¹⁰ As soon as it was night, the brothers and sisters sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. Upon arrival, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹ The people here were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, since they received the word with eagerness and examined the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. ¹² Consequently, many of them believed, including a number of the prominent Greek women as well as men. ¹³ But when the Jews from Thessalonica found out that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul at Berea, they came there too, agitating and upsetting the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the brothers and sisters immediately sent Paul away to go to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed on there. ¹⁵ Those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving instructions for Silas and Timothy to come to him as quickly as possible, they departed.

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed when he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with those who worshiped God, as well as in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also debated with him. Some

said, “What is this ignorant show-off trying to say?” Others replied, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign deities” — because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

¹⁹ They took him and brought him to the Areopagus, and said, “May we learn about this new teaching you are presenting? ²⁰ Because what you say sounds strange to us, and we want to know what these things mean.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners residing there spent their time on nothing else but telling or hearing something new.

²² Paul stood in the middle of the Areopagus and said, “People of Athens! I see that you are extremely religious in every respect. ²³ For as I was passing through and observing the objects of your worship, I even found an altar on which was inscribed, ‘To an Unknown God.’ Therefore, what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it — he is Lord of heaven and earth — does not live in shrines made by hands. ²⁵ Neither is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives everyone life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one man he has made every nationality to live over the whole earth and has determined their appointed times and the boundaries of where they live. ²⁷ He did this so that they might seek God, and perhaps they might reach out and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For in him we live and move and have our being, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also his offspring.’ ²⁹ Since, then, we are God’s offspring, we shouldn’t think that the divine nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image fashioned by human art and imagination.

³⁰ “Therefore, having overlooked the times of ignorance, God now commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has set a day when he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he has appointed. He has provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard.

⁹ **He keeps us alive and does not allow our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, God, tested us; you refined us as silver is refined.

¹¹ **You lured us into a trap; you placed burdens on our backs.**

¹² You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out to abundance.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows**

¹⁴ that my lips promised and my mouth spoke during my distress.

¹⁵ **I will offer you fattened sheep as burnt offerings, with the fragrant smoke of rams; I will sacrifice bulls with goats. Selah**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

17 I cried out to him with my mouth, and praise was on my tongue.

18 If I had been aware of malice in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

19 However, God has listened; he has paid attention to the sound of my prayer.

20 Blessed be God! He has not turned away my prayer or turned his faithful love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

13 Who then will harm you if you are devoted to what is good? **14** But even if you should suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. Do not fear them or be intimidated, **15** but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. **16** Yet do this with gentleness and reverence, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame. **17** For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

18 For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, **19** in which he also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison **20** who in the past were disobedient, when God patiently waited in the days of Noah while the ark was being prepared. In it a few — that is, eight people — were saved through water. **21** Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you (not as the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **22** who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel. (*Lector*)

***Gospel Acclamation**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷ He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live too. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ The one who has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I also will love him and will reveal myself to him."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

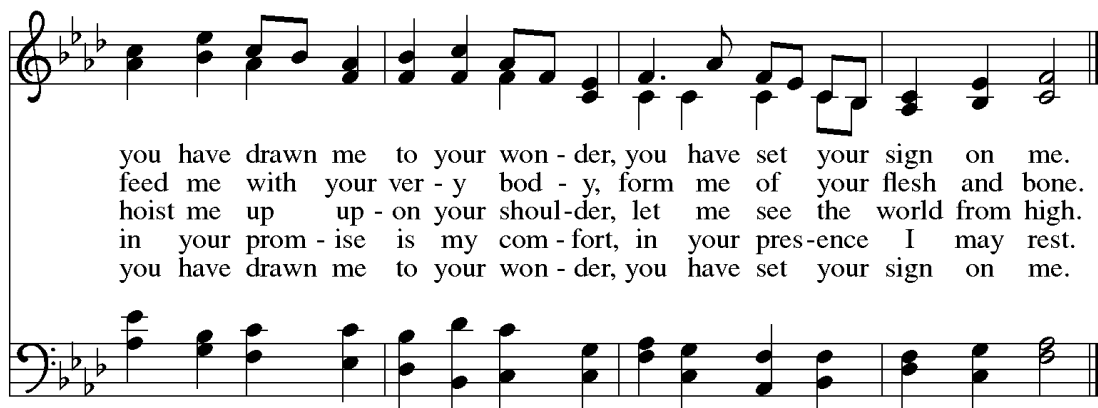
*Hymn of the Day

Loving Spirit

vs 1-4



1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. hymnal version

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***The Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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 our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send your people into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurturing Lord, you sent your Spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

At this time, you are welcome to share 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.

*The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. 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.

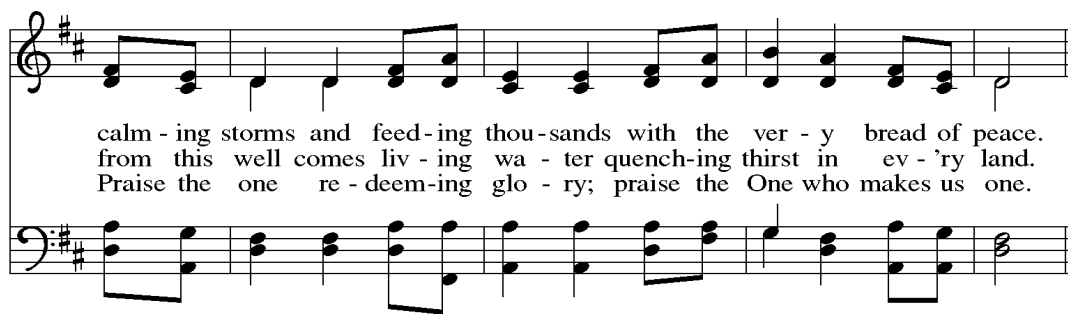
Amen.

*Closing Hymn Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;

praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.

Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813
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***Choral Benediction "Go Now and Pass It On"**



May the Lord walk be - side us as we
 leave this qui - et place, for the Lord will al - ways
 guide us if we walk in the light of His grace.
 May we feel God's love a - round us as it
 keeps us faith - ful and strong, for the peace
 of God sur rounds us, and now we must pass it
 on. Go now and pass it on.

***Charge to the People**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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



Prayer Requests

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

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; Norm Rinker; 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.

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.

Next Week – Baptism of Madelyn Storman, granddaughter of Deb & Dan Storman

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.

Monroe County Historical Association Lecture

Thursday, May 18th at 7:00 pm. “Religious Dynamics in the Making of Monroe County, PA” beginning with the religion of the Native American Lenape, the presentation will describe how religious concepts have shaped the social interaction for people entering this region through the centuries. Admission is free and the lecture will be available online at the association’s website.

St Paul Night at the Ball Game

Saturday, July 8th, St Paul Tannersville is joining with St Paul, Craig’s Meadow (Smithfield) and Cherry Lane United Methodist, for a night of baseball and Christian fellowship. We will be going to Scranton/ Wilkes Barre PNC Field for a game between the RailRiders and the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs. Our seats are in the Infield Box area at \$15.00 per ticket. GREAT SEATS!! Sign-up sheet is available on round table in the Narthex.

Ecumenical Faith Leadership Meeting

St Paul is hosting the Ecumenical Faith Leadership meeting June 6th at 9:00am. As part of our hosting duties, providing refreshments is part of that. We are looking for a few volunteers to provide breakfast/snack options from baked goods to fruits to bagels. See Leanna to volunteer.

Pastor’s Video Game Youth Night

Friday, May 26th, from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Pastor will be hosting a video game night for youth of St Paul and their friends. The night will include hot dogs, chips and beverages.

	Acolyte	Ushers	Lector	Communion Assistants	Counters	Altar Guild
5/14/2023	Linda Below	Donna Warner	Linda Below		Beth Werkheiser	
Mother's Day		Deb Storman			Donna Warner	
5/21/2023	Barb Allen	Linda Below	Bev Otten	Dawn Bartron	Barbara Allen	Barbara Allen
		Deb Storman		Dawn Weiss	Beth Werkheiser	Deb Storman
5/28/2023	Dawn Weiss	Donna Warner	Joan Rinker		Beth Werkheiser	
		Linda Below			Donna Warner	

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

Next Week’s Readings:

Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11