

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

701 S. College Avenue, Newark, Delaware 19713

*Growing in faith. Growing in community.  
Welcoming all in Jesus' name.*



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

**10 AM Service of  
Holy Communion**



Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

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## WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**We believe all people are created in God's image.** Rooted in Jesus' ministry of liberation, unconditional love, and hospitality, we strive to welcome all into our community. This welcome explicitly includes those who have traditionally been marginalized in the church and society due to their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, racial and ethnic background, physical ability, developmental ability, citizenship/documentation status, and socio-economic status.

We hope that our young people experience God in our gathering together. Families, you are welcome to use the Playground in the rear corner of the sanctuary if you want more space, and to use the Playground in the narthex if you need a break from the activities in the sanctuary. Most of all, know that the joyful noise of young people in our worship is welcome!

**Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex.  
If you need any other help with worship, please speak  
with an usher at the doors to the sanctuary.**

## ✠ GATHERING ✠

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Upon entering the sanctuary, the people pray silently or engage in quiet meditation allowing the music to focus their attention on God and God's kingdom.*

**PRELUDE**

"Prelude in G Major"  
BWV 568

J. S. Bach

## WELCOME AND PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font.*

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

*The presiding minister may asperge (sprinkle) the congregation with water during the singing of the opening hymn.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

RWSB 148



1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san-na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.  
3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav-en nev - er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic chor - us: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.  
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.  
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: BEECHER, John Zundel, 1815–1882

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## DIALOG AND GREETING

God calls us to this place,  
a haven for healing and hope.

**We come, with the pain of our burdens;  
we come to hear God's Word for us.**

Together, we will sing songs of joy;  
each of us will hear God whisper our name:  
'Beloved of my heart.'

**We join our voices in prayer and praise;  
we sing of our longing for new lives.**

Here, our shadowed corners are filled with Light;  
here we discover that God dwells with us.

**And not just us, for God would teach all to love;  
God's Spirit would lead all peoples in peace.**

The grace of our risen Savior, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## ✠ WORD ✠

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

## FIRST READING

**Acts 16:9-15**

*Lydia and her household are baptized by Paul*

A reading from Acts:

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

<sup>11</sup> We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Lord is risen! The Word is alive.

**God will meet us on our journey.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

## Psalm 67

Refrain: Ps. 67:4

*The choir sings the Refrain; the congregation repeats it.*

*The choir then sings the verses; the congregation responds with the Refrain.*



Let the na - tions be glad and sing for joy.

<sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup> Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and

guide all the nations on earth.

**REFRAIN**



Let the na - tions be glad and sing for joy.

<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup> The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.

<sup>7</sup> May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

**REFRAIN**

**SECOND READING      Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5**

*The Lamb is the light of the city of God*

A reading from Revelation:

<sup>10</sup> And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.<sup>22:</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the

throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Lord is risen! The Word is alive.

**God will meet us on our journey.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**WELCOMING  
THE GOSPEL**

**The Peace of the Lord**

**ELW 646**

*Verse 1*

1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the

peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the

Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's

chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for

me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.

## HOLY GOSPEL

## John 14:22-29

*The Father will send the Holy Spirit*

The Gospel according to John.

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

<sup>22</sup> Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?" <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup> "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.

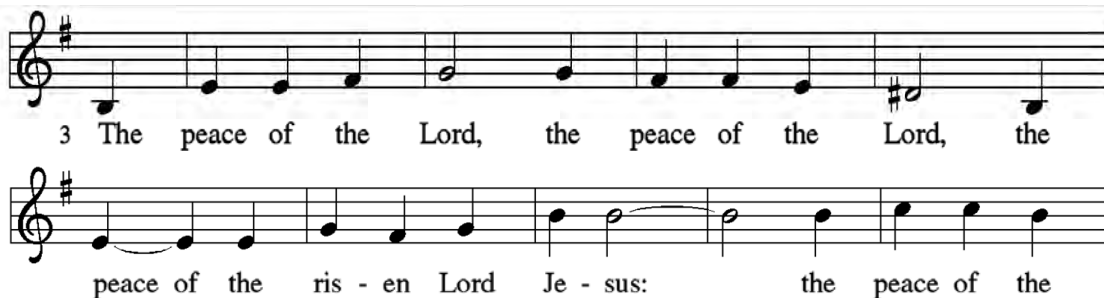
**Praise to you, O risen Christ.**

## CELEBRATING THE GOSPEL

## The Peace of the Lord

ELW 646

Verse 3







Text: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923

Music: LA PAZ DEL SEÑOR, Anders Ruuth

Spanish text and tune © Anders Ruuth, admin. Augsburg Fortress. English text © Lutheran World Federation.

*Be seated.*

## SERMON

Pastor Cris Frigm

*Space for writing or doodling as the Spirit moves...*



*Please stand, as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**Day of Delight and Beauty**

ACS 933



1 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel  
2 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ  
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -  
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;  
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the  
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in  
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!  
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

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## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

## Nicene Creed

Let us profess our faith:

**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 INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church,  
the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbors in the greater Newark area, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are ill or struggling, especially those on our prayer list and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

This Memorial Day weekend, we remember all who have died in military service. Soothe loved ones who mourn and strengthen support systems for veterans and their families. Bring peace among nations, that war and conflict around the world might cease. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Through a vision you sent forth Paul to preach the gospel and called the women to the place of prayer on the sabbath. Grant that we and our partners in ministry, especially St. Paul Lutheran Church in Cordova, Maryland, and Mosaic of Delaware, may be sent like Paul and be found like Lydia, our hearts responsive to your word and open to go where you lead us. Hear us O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ. Comfort those who mourn, especially the family and friends of Christian. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers.*

**Amen.**

**And also with you.**

**Peace be with you.**

*Be seated.*

✠ MEAL ✠

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

*In response to God's love in Jesus Christ,  
we offer our gifts for service and mission.*

***At this time, please sign the Fellowship Pad** (the black folder) found at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor and back again. We ask **visitors** to provide us with contact information so we can thank you for enriching our worship experience. We ask **members** to update any changes to their information so records are maintained.*

# ANTHEM

## “Peace to Soothe Our Bitter Woes”

arr. Cherwien

## Sanctuary Choir

*Text:* ELW 381

*Please stand and sing as the gifts are presented and the table is set.*


## OFFERTORY

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

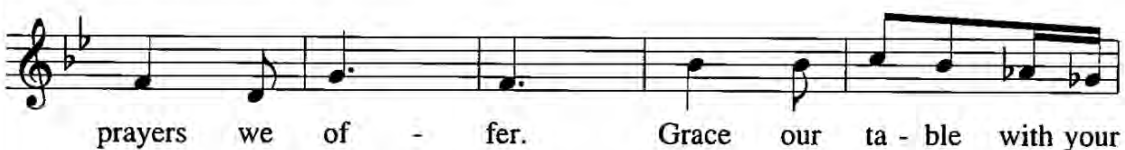
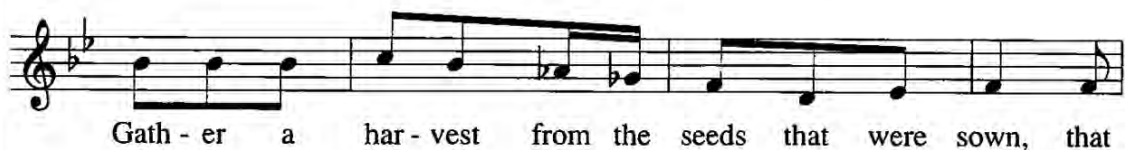
### Creation Setting

Marty Haugen

3



**C** Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, —



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Risen One,  
**you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

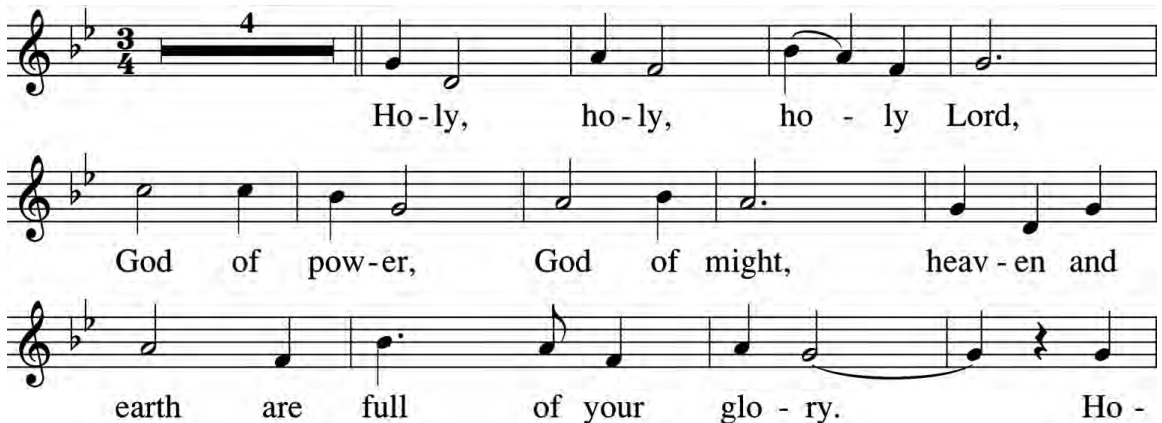
**We lift them to the Lord.**

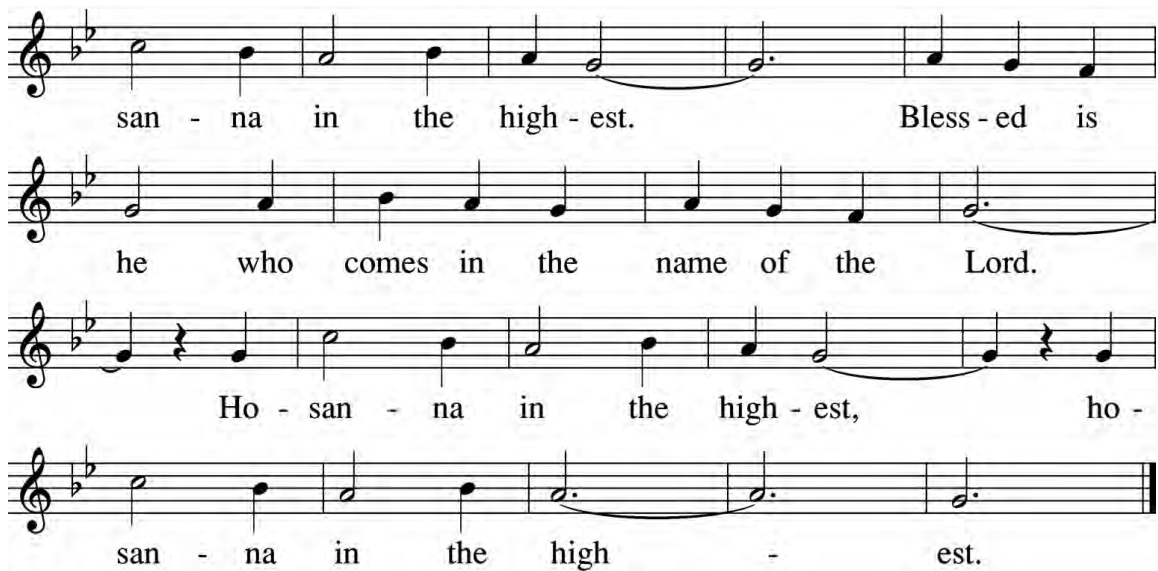
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:

*Creation Setting*  
Marty Haugen





## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,  
who taught us to pray...

**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.**

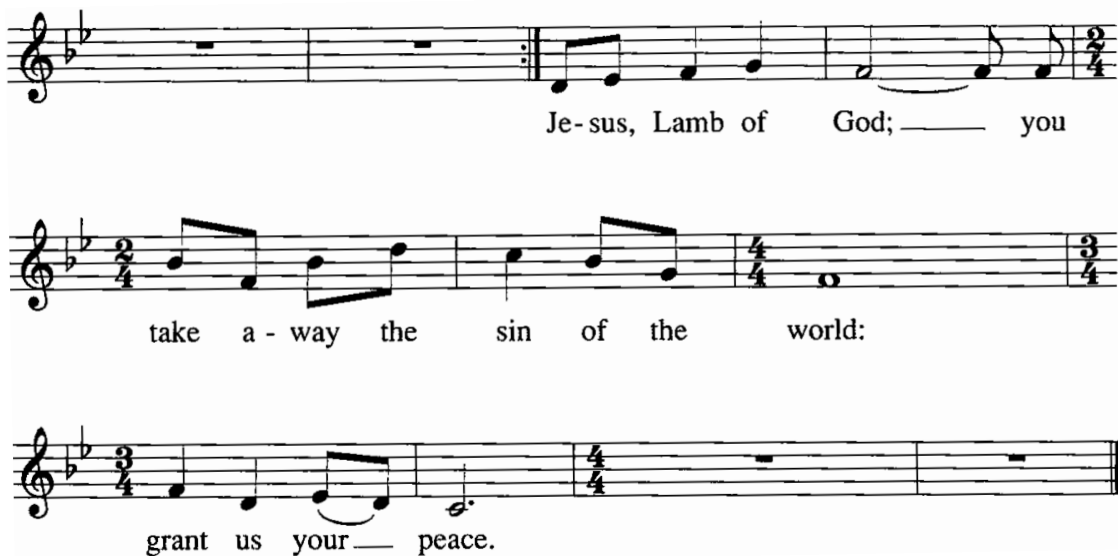
## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come to the table of grace.  
We come to receive the gift of new life.

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Creation Setting*  
Marty Haugen





*Be seated.*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*In Christ's body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.*

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Those who choose not to commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossed arms. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, please notify an usher.*

*Non-alcoholic grape juice and gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.*



## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

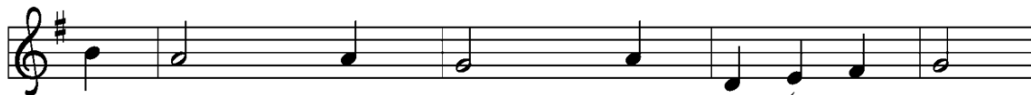
**O Spirit of Life**  
 ELW 405 (harmony)  
*Found on p. 19*

**Come Away to the Skies**  
 WOV 699  
*Found on p. 20*

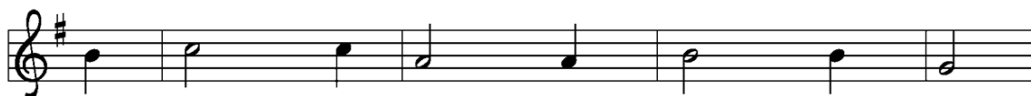
# O Spirit of Life



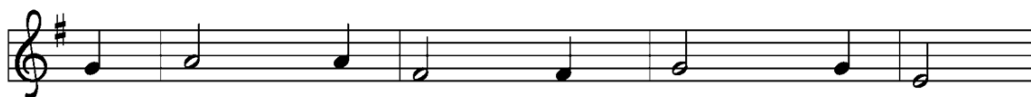
1 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God,  
 2 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God,  
 3 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God,  
 4 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God,



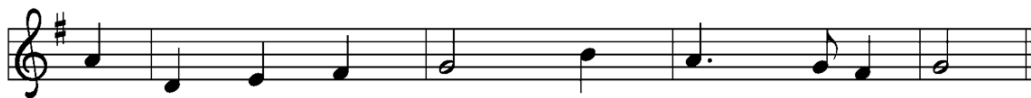
in ev - 'ry need you bring us aid,  
 in - crease our faith in our dear Lord;  
 make us to love your sa - cred word;  
 en - light - en us by that same word;



pro - ceed - ing forth from heav - en's throne,  
 un - less your grace the pow'r should give,  
 the ho - ly flame of love im - part,  
 teach us to know God's ra - diant love,



from God, the Fa - ther and the Son;  
 none can be - lieve in Christ and live;  
 that char - i - ty may warm each heart;  
 lead us to Christ who reigns a - bove;



O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God.  
 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God.  
 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God.  
 O Spir - it of life, O Spir - it of God.

Text: Johann Niedling, 1602–1668; tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, alt.  
 Music: O HELIGER GEIST, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln*, 1623

## Come Away to the Skies



1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -  
2 For thy glo - ry we were first cre - at - ed to share both the  
3 We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which has  
4 Hal - le - lu - jah we sing to our Fa - ther and King, and our



joice in the day you were born: on this fes - ti - val day,  
na - ture and king - dom di - vine; now cre - at - ed a - gain,  
joined us to Je - sus'. . . name; so u - nit - ed in heart,  
rap - tur - ous prais - es re - peat: to the Lamb that was slain,



come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn.  
that our lives may re - main through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine.  
let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.  
hal - le - lu - jah a - gain; sing, all heav - en, and fall at his feet.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: MIDDLEBURY, *A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony*, c. 1821

*After all have communed and returned to their places,  
remain seated.*

### BLESSING AND PRAYER

Strengthened by the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and kept in his grace, we pray.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

**Amen.**

## ✠ SENDING ✠

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

### LIFE OF THE CHURCH – ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### BENEDICTION

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.  
**Amen.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

ELW 834 (harmony)

*Found on p. 22*

### DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### POSTLUDE

*“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

arr. Limbaugh



The flowers in the chancel are given  
to the glory and praise of God in honor  
of their daughter Allison's birthday  
by Linda and Rich Radwick.



### THANK YOU

to Rich Wallden for substituting at the organ bench  
this morning while Mike Bareham is away on vacation.

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional



### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Assisting Minister: Lynn Deschere  
Lector: Barb Rhodes  
Bread Provider: Linda Radwick  
Altar Guild: Cheri Simons  
Flower Guild: Cheri Simons

*Alleluia.*

*Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,  
and we will come to them and make our home with them.*

*Alleluia.*

John 14:23

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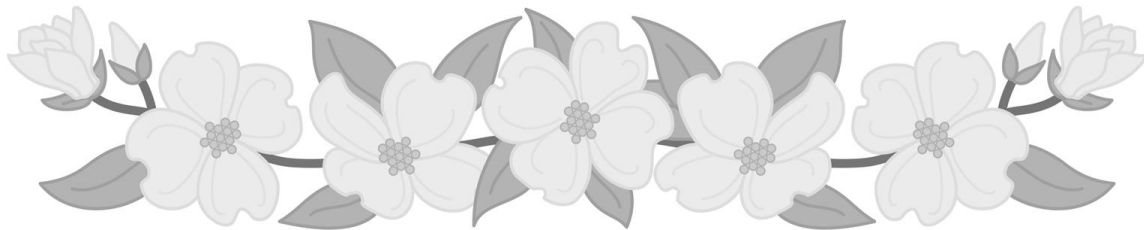
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## LET THE CHILDREN COME

“Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them” (John 14:23). What wild and good news this is! If we love God, then God and Jesus will come and make their home *with us*! What kind of home would God want? What kind of home would make Jesus feel most welcome? What kind of home would the children want? What kind of home would make them feel most welcome? Brainstorming together with the kids will help the whole congregation think about these questions.

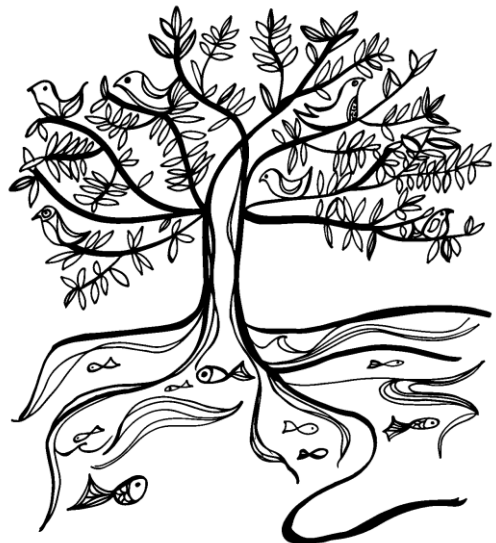
## CONNECTIONS WITH CREATION

Purple is usually the color of Lent, not Easter. Yet purple fits this day with Lydia, “a dealer in purple cloth” (Acts 16:14). Purple was associated with wealth because purple dye was rare and laborious to produce, extracted from mucus secretions of Murex sea snails. It took thousands of snails to extract enough, which could be done while the creature was alive but often involved killing them. Our clothing may not require snails but often is resource intensive – in fertilizer for cotton, in water and chemicals for leather, using fossil fuels for synthetics, with human lives in sweatshops. How do you balance the comfort and appearance of your clothing with the environmental costs involved?

## COMMENTS FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

I am yearning for the time  
When my right is all revealed –  
Jesus Christ, true tree of life,  
Fount of all our justice he;  
My strong support, my second made,  
No empty hope of fig-leaves’ shade.  
– Ann Griffiths

[*The Hymns of Ann Griffiths*, ed.  
John Ryan (Caernarfon: Y Llyfrfa,  
1980), p. 125.]





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# ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 25, 2025

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## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Visions are the distinctive mark of this day. Paul receives a vision from God telling him that he needs to leap from one continent to another to take the good news abroad. John the Seer shared his vision of the new Jerusalem – an image of what it means to live with God. Jesus is the reflection of God's plan for the world and for our lives.

## NAC CONCERT TODAY

The New Ark Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Michael Larkin, will present their eighteenth annual *American Tapestry* concert this afternoon, **Sunday, May 25, at 3PM** here in the sanctuary at St. Paul's. Come enjoy music celebrating the American experience. Tickets are \$20.00 at the door. Those eighteen and under are admitted for free. A reception will follow the concert.

## MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

The church office will be closed Monday, May 26 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

## NOISY OFFERING

We will be collecting an offering for the DE-MD Synod's World Hunger appeal to be taken to Synod Assembly at the end of May. Please bring your spare change and drop it in the designated container on the narthex welcome table. We will be collecting change today. You can also place a check in the offering plate designated for "World Hunger" or give through Tithe.ly (QR code on the back of the bulletin).

## BOOKS AND BANTER

St. Paul's avid readers meet the fourth Wednesday of each month at 1PM in the Youth Room. If you have a book that you would like to share with the group, please let us know. Please join us for conversation and fellowship.

**May 28** "Tomorrow Will Be Different" by Sarah McBride

**June 25** "The Measure" by Nikki Erlich

## **BREWING THEOLOGY**

We meet this week at the Delaware Saengerbund on **May 28 at 7PM**. Join us as Pastor Cris reflects on the Holy Trinity. All are welcome!

## **HOLY HIKE**

Our next hike will be on Sunday, June 8, along the C & D Canal, east from Biddle's Point. This will be a four-to-five-mile hike – out and back, along a flat, paved trail. We will meet at the trail head at Biddle's Point off Cox Neck Road in Delaware City.

## **OLDER WISER LUTHERANS**

Today is the last day to RSVP for the OWLS trip to Hamilton, New Jersey, to visit Grounds for Sculpture on **Wednesday, June 11**. Cost per person is \$25 for eighteen and over, and \$18 for sixty-five and over. Please RSVP with your cash payment to Linda Grund. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.

## **MEMORIAL DAY**

Memorial Day started as a good idea from an organization made up of Union Civil War veterans, the Grand Army of the Republic. These veterans lobbied state and local governments across the former union to recognize May 30 as a day of remembrance, originally known as "Decoration Day."

They chose May 30 because no battles happened on that day. Over the next 100 years, Decoration Day morphed into Memorial Day, which is now observed on the last Monday in May.

Congress eventually changed the observance to the last Monday in May as a way to give federal employees a set of standard three-day weekends -- and widen the observance of the day.

Every Memorial Day at 3 p.m. local time, please take a moment to observe the National Moment of Remembrance. For just one full minute, Americans everywhere should pause to remember all the men and women who died in service to our country.

*Dr. Michael Larkin and the  
New Ark Chorale presents*

# AMERICAN TAPESTRY

**OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF  
AMERICAN MUSIC**

**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

**3:00 PM**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

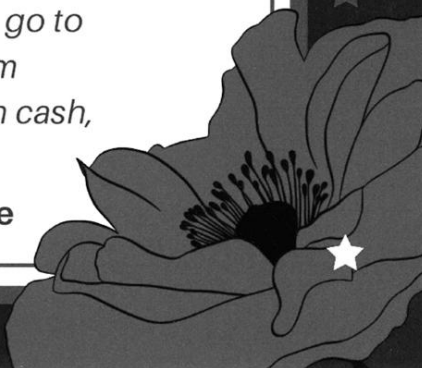
701 South College Avenue, Newark, DE 19713

**Tickets are \$20.00**

*To purchase tickets ahead, go to  
[brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)*

*Or purchase at the door with cash,  
check or Venmo.*

**Wheelchair Accessible**





## St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: [www.stpaulsnewarkde.org](http://www.stpaulsnewarkde.org)

*Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to  
live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.*



**The Reverend Cris Frigm**

*Pastor*

302-368-0064 ext. 104

[pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org)

**Jerilynn Hinrichs**

*Office Administrator*

302-368-0064 ext. 101

[office@stpaulsnewarkde.org](mailto:office@stpaulsnewarkde.org)

**Church Council**

Anne Sullivan, *President*

Greg Johnson, *Vice President*

Heidi Burch, *Secretary*

Mary Collins, *Treasurer*

Kristine Cassar, Phillip Gerecke,

Winnie Hull, Ian Kenyon, Susie Olson

**Michael Bareham**

*Director for Music and Worship*

302-368-0064 ext. 123

[music@stpaulsnewarkde.org](mailto:music@stpaulsnewarkde.org)

**Nalini Janaki**

*Business Administrator*

302-368-0064 ext. 102

[business@stpaulsnewarkde.org](mailto:business@stpaulsnewarkde.org)

**Dr. Rae Watts**

*Early Education Director*

St. Paul's Lutheran School

302-368-0064 ext. 118

[stpaulschool@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulschool@comcast.net)

**Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast**

Articles due by Wednesday morning at

10 AM. Late submissions will be shared

the following week. Please send articles to

the church office at [office@stpaulsnewarkde.org](mailto:office@stpaulsnewarkde.org)

**St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry**

Send prayer requests to:

[prayonstpauls@gmail.com](mailto:prayonstpauls@gmail.com)

**WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES  
OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH?  
THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE**

