

**I am
with you
always,
to the end
of the age**

MATTHEW 28:20

The Feast of the Holy Trinity

Matins

June 7, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Avenue, York, PA 17403

PRELUDE

Our Father in Heaven

J. Wienmann

VERSICLES

O Lord, open my lips **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God.
O Come, let us adore him.

PSALMODY

Psalm 95

The Psalm is sung by all to a setting by Carolyn Jennings.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a 'Refrain' section marked with a '3' over a triplet of notes. The lyrics are: 'Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion. 1 Let us come be-fore God's pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great rul - er a - bove all gods.' The score then repeats the 'Refrain' section, followed by the second verse: '2 In your hand are the'.

Refrain

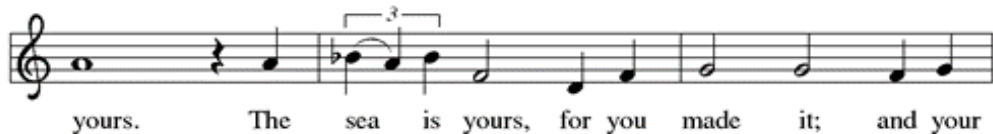
Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
rock of our sal - va - tion. 1 Let us come be-fore God's
pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing and raise a loud shout to the
Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great
God, and a great rul - er a - bove all gods.

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the
rock of our sal - va - tion. 2 In your hand are the



cav - erns of the earth; the heights of the hills are al - so



yours. The sea is yours, for you made it; and your



hands have mold - ed the dry land.

Refrain



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion. 3 Come, let us wor - ship and bow



down; let us kneel be - fore the Lord our mak - er. For the



Lord is our God, and we are the peo - ple of God's



pas - ture and the sheep of God's hand.

Refrain



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion.

PSALM PRAYER

Lord Jesus, the incarnate Word, when you consented to dwell with us, the heavens were glad and the earth rejoiced. In hope and love we await your return. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings a new song to you and the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALM 145 *The cantor sings the refrain, then it is repeated by all. The text of the Psalm is sung by the cantor. The refrain is sung by all at the appointed time.*

Psalm 145

*I will bless your name for ever,
my God and King.*

- 1 Great is the Lord, and worthy | of all praise,
His glory is past | searching out:
Men shall recount the might | of your deeds,
And proclaim your | majesty. *R*
- 2 The Lord loves all that | he has made,
His mercy is over | all his works:
All your works | speak your praise,
And your people | give you thanks. *R*
- 3 Your right hand raises | those that fall,
And those bowed down are | lifted up:
All creatures wait on | you for food,
And from your hand their | wants are filled. *R*
- 4 The Lord is near to | those who call,
He hears their cry and | brings them help:
My mouth shall tell the | praise of God,
And let all flesh his | name adore. *R*

PSALM PRAYER

Loving Father, you are faithful in your promises and tender in your compassion. Listen to our hymn of joy, and continue to satisfy the needs of all your creatures, that all flesh may bless your name in your everlasting kingdom, where with your Son and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

READING 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

A period of silence follows the reading

READING Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

A period of silence follows the reading

SERMON

Pastor Reep

The text of the sermon is provided on the last pages of the bulletin.

In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

HYMN *Holy, Holy, Holy (LBW 165)*

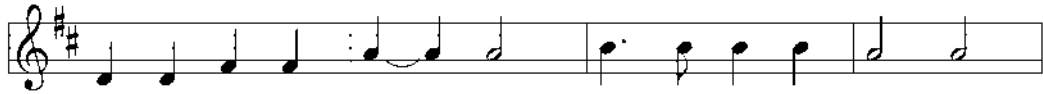


1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee,
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Continued on next page



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. . . Almighty God our Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, renewing and fulfilling creation by your eternal Spirit, and revealing your glory through our Lord, Jesus Christ: Cleanse us from doubt and fear, and enable us to worship you, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, one God living and reigning, now and forever. **Amen**

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin
Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

Almighty God, you form us as your church. Guide our bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized in sharing your life-giving good news with all the world. Strengthen us to be bold in our proclamation especially during these days of unrest. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Make the leaders of this and every land seek peace, equality, and unity. Instill wisdom in advocates who work toward justice in ignored communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Created in your image, help us see your likeness in one another. Open our eyes to see and attend to all who face oppression and suffering. Console, heal, and nourish all in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As the rhythms of summer begin, protect all who travel, renew all who will enjoy a time of sabbath, and shelter all who will not be protected from the sun's heat. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Comfort us in our grief with the promise of the resurrection. We thank you for the saints of all time, especially those most dear to us who rest in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**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.**

HYMN***Praise to the Father (LBW 517)***

1 Praise to the Fa - ther for his lov - ing - kind - ness, ten - der - ly
 2 Praise to the Sav - ior for his deep com - pas - sion, gra - cious - ly
 3 Praise to the Spir - it, com - fort - er of Is - rael, sent from the



car - ing for his err - ing chil - dren; praise him, all an - gels;
 car - ing for his cho - sen peo - ple; young men and wom - en,
 Fa - ther and the Son to bless us! Praise to the Fa - ther,



praise him in the heav - ens; praise to the Fa - ther!
 ag - ing folk and chil - dren, praise to the Sav - ior!
 Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it! Praise to the tri - une God!

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

Edward Eicker

Dear St. Paul's Friends.

The Christian Education Committee was beginning to plan three picnics (one each for June, July and August) when the pandemic hit. We are changing gears and for June and probably July we are providing a Bible story and activities for you to use at home. Watch next week for details for the first picnic on Wednesday, June 17th.

NOTE: There will be a live Zoom adult study offered that evening with Pastor Bill Snyder.

Announcements

Thank you for your faithfulness in sending your offering through the mail or by using online options from your financial institution or through the “Donate” now from the church website stpaulsyork.org. Your gifts are keeping us current with the commitments associated with St. Paul’s and our ministry partners. The Bishop expresses his gratitude for continuing our Mission Support.

We continue to experience a surge in families needing assistance through the Food Pantry. We can use some additional volunteers. We are seeking folks who are not in the “at risk” category for COVID-19. Simply notify Larry or Janet Moore if you can help on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday morning.

The elected leaders and our rostered leaders are working out plans for St. Paul’s to re-open when the county moves into the “Green” phase. We are creating a COVID-19 task force to assist us. There are many things to consider, especially everyone’s health. Continue to pray for our leaders.



The flowers that graced our altar last week were given to the Glory of God by Gene and Norma Shue in honor of their 65th wedding anniversary on May 29th.

This week’s flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sharon & James Tuccio, and by Bonnie and Alan Wysocki in appreciation for the leadership of our Pastor, Staff and lay leaders at this time.

In our prayers we remember...

Sandy Shellenberger, Brian McKenna, George Fitch, Gene Shue, Abbie Gayle Guyton, Amanda, Jim Young, Penny Bailey, Eddie Turner, Sr., Jessica Ericson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey and the family and friends of Dean Miller. Please keep all medical personnel and those in the military and in mission work in your daily prayers.

STAFF

Pastor	Reverend Stanley Reep	prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Children, Youth, Handbell Choirs Director	Emily Reep	sea2reep@comcast.net
Bookkeeper	Dale Zeiger	dzeiger.stpaulsyork@comcast.net
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Sexton	Ted Weikert	st.paulsyork@comcast.net
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

“Most people are asking what is going on in our cities, but I am more concerned about what is going on with the people” said Eugene Peterson reflecting on the riots in his beloved city of Baltimore during the 1960’s. It is what started Pastor Peterson working on a new translation of St. Paul’s letter to the Galatians. He wanted to connect people with the powerful word of God revealed through scripture. That led him to his Bible translation that is known to us as “The Message.” It was Pastor Peterson’s attempt to connect with people where they were and to draw them into conversation, fellowship, community as sisters and brothers beloved by God.

It was reported to the Apostle Paul that there were conflictual things going on in Corinth within the Christian community. He wanted to know what was going on with the people especially as it related to the powerful Word of God revealed through Christ Jesus. That led him to his letters in response to the conflict, unrest and wavering faith of the people living in the city.

This morning we hear Paul making a plea for mutual affection, calling upon his sisters and brothers, created in the image of God. He wants everyone to mend their ways inviting them to a life restored, reflecting to the world that they are truly recognized as an Assembly of God’s people. Make no mistake when Paul asks them to agree with one another, it does not mean that they are to sweep things under the rug or that they are to maintain a diplomatic truce, but rather to accept and provide counsel and encouragement. It means that everyone involved needs to listen, speak, respect, reflect and together create a path forward as it pertains to Christian community. This will in time allow for people to live in peace.

This is a radical shift from the prevalent competitive bickering that brought them into such conflict and unrest. Paul advocates that they greet each other with a Holy Kiss, that when they come together they do so in sincerity. This is not like the kiss of Judas that betrays and leads to death for both Judas and for Jesus. This idea should set them looking beyond themselves. It should help them grasp the larger picture of God’s reality in Christ Jesus. It should help them see that all God’s children are beloved by God.

The First Gospel, Matthew, reports that there were conflictual things going on in Jerusalem. The need for the Disciples to take the message of hope and salvation from Jerusalem to Samaria, and Judea, and to the ends of the earth, clues us in to see a bigger picture. Not everyone responded favorably to Jesus of Nazareth, his teaching, preaching, healing. So in the reading this morning often referred to as “the Great Commission” Jesus sends the disciples out to connect with people, drawing them into conversation, fellowship, community; *Baptizing in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and teaching them all that was commanded.*

Most people are asking what is going on in our nation, our cities, and our community. There is unrest, conflicts are openly on display, and tensions have given rise to violence. As if the pandemic hasn’t brought enough anxiety, fear, apprehension, confusion; the call for justice, the desire for recognition, the abuses of power have made their way to

the forefront of our life together. But like the Disciples, and the Apostle Paul, and like Pastor Peterson, the important thing for us to focus on as people of God is the lives of the people. All people, everyone created in the image of God. Everyone, given our theological perspective, is part of God's good creation. The Old Testament reading assigned for this day is the Creation narrative from the book of Genesis. It reminds us that at the end of each day's work of creation, God says "it is good."

While we have been spending an inordinate amount of time trying to figure out how to open up the church building and safely conduct public worship during this time of COVID-19, it is clear to me that our leadership tasks pale in comparison to the amount of time, energy, passion, conviction needed to figure out how to open up the nation so that safely we can conduct the necessary conversations, leading to agreement with one another. And in the wisdom of the Apostle Paul, it does not mean that we are to sweep things under the rug or that we are to maintain a diplomatic truce, but rather to accept and provide counsel and encouragement. It means that everyone involved needs to listen, speak, respect, reflect and together create a path forward as it pertains to a life giving community. This will in time allow for people to live in peace.

Jesus gave the great commission sending his followers out into the world to be messengers of hope and healing. Jesus sends us out.

Paul encouraged his followers to work together to bring about peace, not something that was simply for show, like Judas kissing our Lord Jesus on the cheek the night in which we was betrayed, but with sincerity so that such a kiss would be a sign of life giving in the community of faith. We are sent out to be such a sign.

In the 1960's Pastor Peterson was more concerned about the people than the cities in which they lived. His desire was to create community built on the outpoured love of God made known in Christ Jesus, his suffering, his death, his resurrection. Pastor Peterson's translation of the Holy Scriptures bears the title "The Message" for a reason. People need the message of hope made known through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. They need to know that God's creation is good. That God's love in Christ Jesus is for all humanity. And that the Holy and life giving Spirit is poured out so that all may have life and have it abundantly.

We have been entrusted with God's message of hope and salvation. We are sent out with that message into the world. It is the message Jesus gave commissioning his disciples. It is the message Paul wrote encouraging a struggling community. It is the message that Pastor Peterson relates in his contemporary translation for people who don't know God's love, acceptance, forgiveness, and belonging. We are sent out with just such a message.

On this Trinity Sunday we acknowledge the mystery of God's presence with us, the surety of God's love for us, and the peace that God alone bestows among us. Let such mystery, love and peace envelope the leaders of all communities and the people who live in them. That's the message. Amen.