



*All of them were filled  
with the Holy Spirit*

ACTS 2:4

# St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155

Email: [st.paulsyork@comcast.net](mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net)

[www.stpaulsyork.org](http://www.stpaulsyork.org)

[www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com](http://www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com)

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George

YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

**WELCOME** Thank you for being with us.

**We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition** (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 188 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

**Offerings** Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at [www.stpaulsyork.org](http://www.stpaulsyork.org) or use the QR Code provided.



**Restrooms** are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.

**An AED/Defibrillator** unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

**Lutheran Church in York, PA - St. Paul's Lutheran...**

[stpaulsyork.org](http://stpaulsyork.org)

**The Nursery** is accessed through the front right double doors.

The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

**Parents**, please do accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.



***Next Sunday we begin the Summer Worship Schedule with a combined liturgy at 9:15 A.M., Fellowship to follow.***

STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Reep	<a href="mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net">st.paulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Youth Director	Kelly Moore-Spencer	<a href="mailto:kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Organist, Choir Director	Victor Fields	<a href="mailto:vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Children Choirs Director	Julianna Jones	<a href="mailto:jjones.stpaulsyork@comcast.net">jjones.stpaulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Bell Choirs Director	Leah McComas	<a href="mailto:lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com">lmccomas.stpaulsyork@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Patee Pizzirusso	<a href="mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net">st.paulsyork@comcast.net</a>
Sexton	Ted Weikert	<a href="mailto:tweikert.stpaulsyork@gmail.com">tweikert.stpaulsyork@gmail.com</a>
Preschool Director	Deb Becker	<a href="mailto:director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com">director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com</a>

**Pentecost**  
**Sunday, May 19, 2024**  
**Holy Communion 8:00 & 10:30 AM**

**PRELUDE**

*O Day Full of Grace*

Charles Ore

*Stand turning to face the Baptismal Font.*

**CONFESSION**

In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit..

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

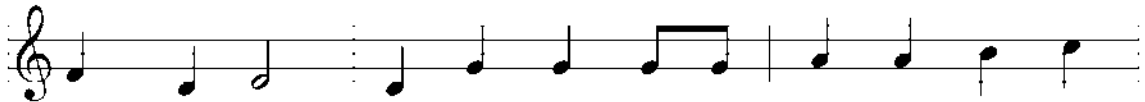
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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**

**ENTRANCE HYMN*****O Day Full of Grace (LBW 161)***

1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on  
2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the  
3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the  
4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, his Spir - it new  
5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for



earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may  
earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -  
cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the  
life re - veal - ing, that we might no more from him be  
us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -



be re - plete in his joy this sea - son. God, shine for us  
time, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all  
stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -  
lost, all dark - ness for us dis - pel - ling. His flame will the  
glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and walk in the



now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon,  
mor - tals did em - brace, all dark - ness and shame re - mov - ing,  
gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing,  
mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all his heal - ing,  
light of God's own place, with an - gels his name a - dor - ing.

**APOSTOLIC 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.**

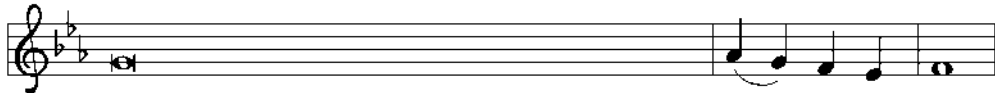
## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



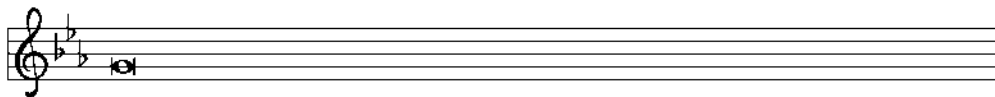
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



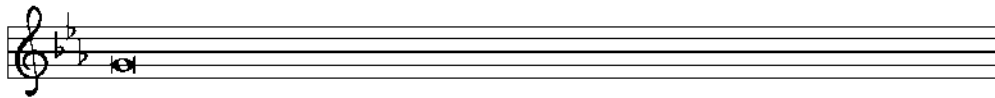
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

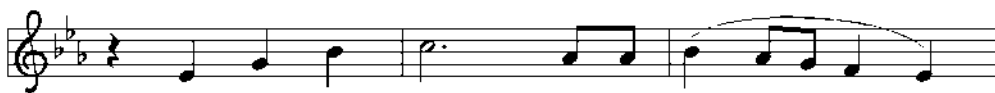


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. . . God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as you sent upon the disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, look upon your Church and open our hearts to the power of the Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of your love, and strengthen our lives for service in your kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

*Sit*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-21

(back cover)

### PSALM

**Psalm 104: 25-35, 37** *spoken antiphonally* pulpit side/font side

<sup>25</sup> O LORD, how manifold | are your works!\*

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.

<sup>26</sup> **Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too man- | y to num-  
ber,\***

**creatures both | small and great.**

<sup>27</sup> There move the ships, and there is | that Leviathan,\*  
**which you have made for the | sport of it.**

<sup>28</sup> **All of them | look to you\***

**to give them their food | in due season.**

<sup>29</sup> You give it to them; they | gather it;\*

you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

<sup>30</sup> **You hide your face, and | they are terrified;\***

**you take away their breath, and they die and return | to their dust.**

<sup>31</sup> You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;\*

and so you renew the face | of the earth.

<sup>32</sup> **May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;\***

**may the LORD rejoice in | all his works.**

<sup>33</sup> He looks at the earth | and it trembles;\*

he touches the mountains | and they smoke.

<sup>34</sup> **I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live;\***

**I will praise my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>35</sup> May these words | of mine please him;\*

I will rejoice | in the LORD.

<sup>37</sup> **Bless the LORD, | O my soul.\***

**| Hallelujah!**

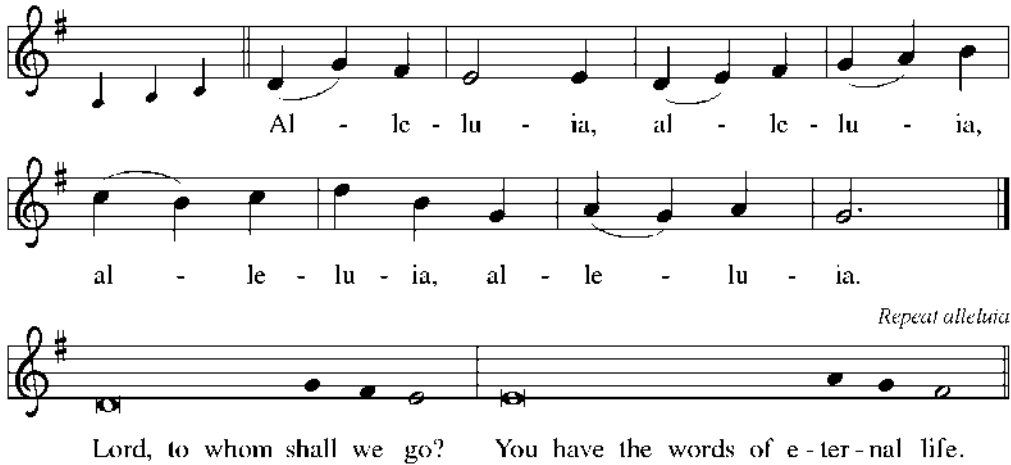
### SECOND READING

Romans 8:22-27

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*Stand*  
**VERSE**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15** (*back cover*)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John  
*At the conclusion of the Gospel.*  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*  
**SERMON**

Pastor Reep

*Stand*  
**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**

*Stand*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing in the risen Christ let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church universal, for its ministry of outreach, and for the spread of the gospel. Shower your Spirit upon Sunday school students, confirmands, and the newly baptized (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the diversity of plant and animal life on our planet. Empower us by your Spirit to be wise and faithful stewards of all you have made. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth. Grant all who vote in elections wisdom and discernment. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Bring healing and wholeness for victims of crimes, for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, for those who are incarcerated. We pray for all who suffer in any way (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

For this congregation and its ministries and mission: for those who plan and lead worship, for Congregation Council members, for Committee Chairpersons, and all who give of themselves “to teach the world that God is love”, God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember the faithful departed. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us in the faith. At the last day, breathe new life into our dry bones so that we feast forever with all the saints in light. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

8:00 am Organ

*Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire*

Michael McCabe

10:30 am Chancel Choir

*Come Down, O Love Divine*

Hilary Tadman-Robins

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;  
praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## DIALOGUE

*Sung by Pastor and congregation*

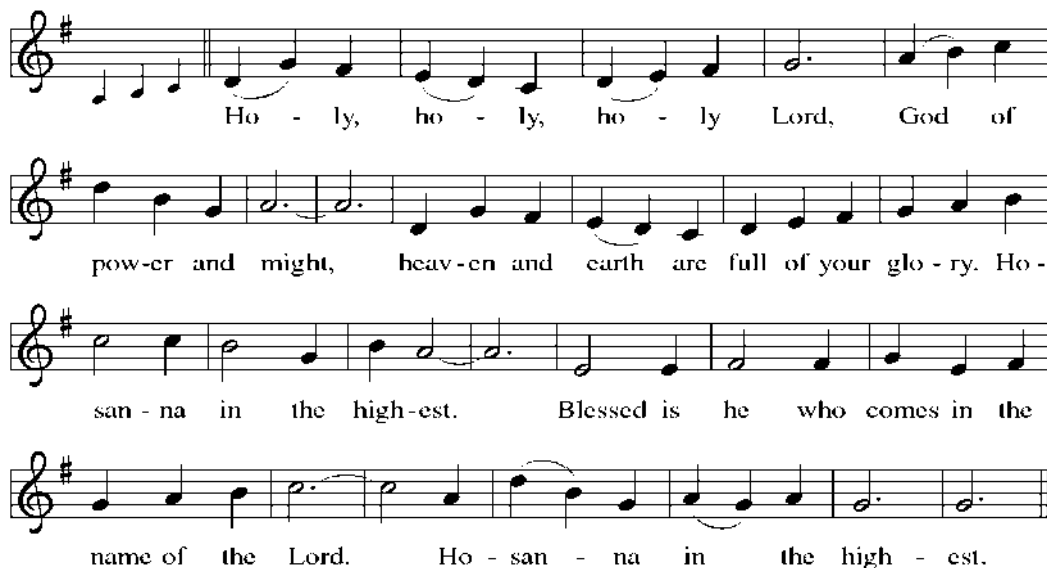
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



## PREFACE *The preface appropriate to the day is sung.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, on this day, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



## THANKSGIVING

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness;  
 you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.  
 We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.  
 We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all.  
 We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise:  
 the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the fathers,  
 the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us.

We remember the sacrifice of his life:

his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death.

But chiefly on this day we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

## **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**

## FRACTION RITE

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

## AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.


*Sit The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.*

## COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Our Communion is “open” to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

*Procedure for receiving Communion:*

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle.*
- 2. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.*
- 3. Take your place along the chancel step.*
- 4. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.*
- 5. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.*
- 6. Return to your pew using the side aisle.*

**COMMUNION HYMN***Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire (LBW 472)*


Stanza 1 Choir 1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, our souls in - spire, and light - en  
Stanza 2 Women 2 Thy bless - ed unc - tion from a - bove is com - fort,  
Stanza 3 Men 3 A - noint and cheer our soil - ed face with the a -  
Stanzas 4 & 5 4 Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son, and thee, of  
All



with ce - les - tial fire; thou the a - noint - ing  
life, and fire of love. En - a - ble with per -  
bun - dance of thy grace. Keep far our foes; give  
both, to be but one; that through the a - ges



Spir - it art, who dost thy sev'n - fold gifts im - part.  
pet - ual light the dull - ness of our blind - ed sight.  
peace at home; where thou art guide, no ill can come.  
all a - long thy praise may be our end - less song!



5 Praise to thine e - ter - nal mer - it, Fa - ther,



Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men

*Stand***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. God our Father, may the Spirit you sent on your Church to begin the teaching of the Gospel continue to work in the world through all who have received this heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. **Amen**

## HYMN

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (LBW 486) next page*  
*Please sing 4 part harmony. Stanzas 2 & 3 are unaccompanied.*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The people remain standing until the ministers have left the chancel*

## POSTLUDE

*O Spirit All-Embracing*

*Brenda Portman*

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies

### *Serving the Lord with Gladness*

DATE	TIME	Assisting Minister	Crucifer	Lector	Comm. Assist	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild
5/19	8:00 AM	Jennifer Ports	Harrison Palmer	Ann Ulrich	Harold Sargeant	Ron & Norma Riese	Team 2E: Ron Riese, Kathy Monk, Ken Hinkle, Alex Bas-	Ron & Norma Reise
	10:30 AM	Tristan Ericson	Jaclyn Kinkella	Rev. William	Patty Snyder	Rev. William and Patty	Team 2L: Kem Vaught, Gail Kerchner, Sandy Dickensheets	Deb Becker, Isabella Lehr



*The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God  
in memory of my husband, Bill, by Nancy Banta*


# Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:



stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,  
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;  
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,



and make me love you as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!  
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

## Announcements and Up-dates for the week of May 19, 2024

**The Benevolence Committee** continues to receive applications for funding ministry projects for 2024 and 2025. Please request an application from the church office.

**We continue to collect clothing** in support of Union Lutheran Church, W. Market Street, with their clothing closet. There is a collection bin in the Good Shepherd Room. If you have a large number of items to donate you can take them directly to Union Lutheran Church, simply call them for details.

### Desserts in support of Mission—Thank you!

The elegant bake sale for Mother's Day was an incredible success. Thank you to everyone who prepared desserts, helped with the setup, worked at the tables helping people identify the perfect dessert to take home for Mother's Day, all who made financial donations, and those who cleaned up afterward. The proceeds from this event will be used to offset the costs associated with hosting St. Paul's delegation while in Tukuyu. The Mpuguso Committee has also made application to the Benevolence Fund to match the total up to \$2,500 for this purpose. Once again thank you.



**Children's sermons** are a way of communicating the faith and sharing the good news of God's love in Christ Jesus. We are seeking volunteers to provide a children's sermon during the summer months. A clip board with the dates and Bible texts is located on the table in the Good Shepherd Room. Simply sign up for a Sunday that fits your schedule. Thank you!

**Summer Worship Schedule** begins on Memorial Day weekend, Sunday May 26, Holy Trinity Sunday, with combined liturgy at 9:15 AM with fellowship to follow. The schedule remains through Labor Day weekend September 1.



### This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open Mon–Thurs 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, May 19 Pentecost

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist  
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist– Live-Stream  
4:30 PM Tanzania Mission Group  
6:30 PM AA Meeting—Community Rm

#### Monday, May 20

10:00 AM Preschool Program & Carnival  
7:00 PM Council Mtg—Christ Hall

#### Tuesday, May 21

9:30 AM Food Pantry Clients  
6:00 PM CREATE—Preschool—Grade 6

#### Wednesday May 22

10:30 AM Bible Study—Christ Hall

#### Thursday, May 23

6:30 PM Harvest Dinner Mtg

#### Sunday, May 26 Trinity Sunday

9:15 AM Holy Eucharist– Live-Stream  
6:30 PM AA Meeting—Community Rm

## **Nina and Phillip Friedman Scholarship**

Active members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church who will be attending York College of Pennsylvania for the fall 2024 academic year should make their request known to Pastor Reep. He will recommend you for the Friedman Scholarship administered by York College of Pennsylvania. Pastor Reep will notify the Office of Financial Aid with the names of St. Paul's members seeking financial aid from this scholarship.

The Nina and Phillip Friedman Memorial Scholarship, designed for students attending York College of Pennsylvania, was established in 1984. The scholarship was funded through the generosity of Friedman's estate. Their relationship with St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Temple Beth Israel gave access to the scholarship for members and children from the two congregations. Additionally, recommendations by the President of the College may also be included. The scholarship is not need based. Numerous members of St. Paul's have benefitted from the Friedman Scholarship and bridge a wide area of study.

## **Nurturing Faithful Families—Summer 2024—Tuesdays from 5:30-7:30 PM**

The Christian education committee is preparing for a summer of intergenerational fellowship, learning and fun. On 10 Tuesday evenings from, June 11 through August 13, we will gather to nurture faithful stewardship families. A simple supper will be served at 5:30 PM followed by some music and songs. At 6:15 PM the evening's theme will be presented. At 6:30 PM time for reflection and to participate in an activity specific to the theme will be provided. 7:00 PM there will be some time for recreation. At 7:15 PM we will have a summary of the evening and the closing prayer. We will need people to help with leading, music, set-up, cooking and serving, and clean up. Mark your calendar now. The first 9 sessions will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Enter through the Springettsbury Ave. Entrance. Gather in Christ Hall for the meal and for the session. The last session on Tuesday August 13 is a picnic at Kain Park. Everyone is invited to come and join in nurturing faithful stewardship families! For additional information and to volunteer to help with these summer sessions please contact; Johanna Paterson, Christian Education Chairperson; Miss Kelly, Youth Director; or Pastor Reep.

## **Mpuguso Mission Trip Send Off—9:15 AM, Sunday, June 9, 2024**

One year ago an article identifying planning for a mission trip was included in the June/July issue of *Our Church*. Now it is time for the group to take their leave, make the journey, engage with our sisters and brothers at Mpuguso Lutheran Church, renew acquaintances and create new friendships. The group of travelers from St. Paul's is diverse. At the end of the June 9, 9:15 AM liturgy there will be a special blessing and send off for the mission delegation. Please be present. And do continue to pray for those traveling to Tanzania; that they will remain healthy and strong, pray for our sister congregation as they work to complete their church building and continue to make disciples through Holy Baptism, and pray for peace in the world. On Sunday August 25 plans are being made for a Sunday to celebrate the trip, a safe return, and to hear firsthand account from those who made the journey.

Commonwealth, common good, commonality, commonsense, are actually not common at all. They are all rather extraordinary. We reside in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The law of the land has at its core the sharing of wealth and political power residing with the people or the many for the common good. Common good is not a negative. It is what makes for a thriving lively community. I don't think that I am alone in the desire that there be an abundance of commonsense shared lavishly, bestowed, upon humankind. Often a starting point identifies commonality. It is what often gets things moving.

On this Feast of Pentecost we pray "Come Holy Spirit." This simple prayer is vital for our life together. The community without the Holy Spirit is dead. The church is enlivened and speaks truth only through the Spirit of the Resurrected Jesus. It is in his Spirit that we gather and through his Spirit that we have life. Jesus gives it to us! It is his Spirit that makes a thriving lively community.

The Spirit in the Acts of the Apostles is manifest, made known, activated, and breathed into us precisely within the common hearing that binds us together. In the Acts text we read that "*they all hear in their own language.*" The Spirit does not speak a different message to each spiritual seeker; "you find your truth and I'll find mine." That is not the way of the Spirit at work within the community. A quest for truth, spiritual truth that would isolate us from one another or from our neighbors is flawed at the outset. The miraculous gift of Pentecost and the pouring forth of the Spirit at this time and place reside in discovering commonality, our commonality. And there is nothing common about it!

The ecumenical work in the last half of the previous century brought differing groups together for conversation and discussion. Dialogues between Lutherans and Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Reformed, Presbyterian, United Methodist, and Moravian concluded with a volume from each dialogue containing the findings of the conversations, discussions, and theological debate and concluding with a section identifying where there was commonality that bound us together. There were nuances with each set of dialogue, but in the end naming commonality brought about future work and hope. There is something life giving about discovering our commonality.

Now in our 188<sup>th</sup> year it is hard to remember the origins of this congregation. But the charter of this congregation under the patronage of St. Paul identified the need for an English speaking Lutheran congregation in York. English was the common language of the people in their daily life and living. The congregation formed not because of a theological issue, or a political one, it formed out of commonality.

The Spirit leading us brought us to a place in time where three congregations; Augsburg, St. Luke and Old St. Paul's all located on the south side of the city were brought together based on the commonality of mission. They called Pastor Simonton to bring the congregations together under one roof, new St. Paul's and it was accomplished through commonality.

In our current ministry and mission the Spirit leads us in commonality. The delegation preparing for a mission trip to Tanzania to our sister congregation has been gathering to identify goals, hopes, and in the process is discovering commonality. The majority of the travelers either ring handbells currently or has rung them in the past. They are preparing to ring a selection or two at the cornerstone laying service to be held on "Father's Day" June 16. This is just one commonality, but another is to discover and build deeper relationships. Responding to the good news of Christ Jesus and how it is shaping lives here in York and there in Tukuyu. Upon return I believe that the mission trip will strengthen life together through new found commonality made possible through the Spirit.

The message that day in Jerusalem permitted the people gathered to hear a common message, they all heard of God's deeds of power. In Bible study on Wednesday morning the group rattled off a rather long list of the mighty deeds of God's power. Many we discovered are included with the Biblical texts, the readings, at the Vigil of Easter. But they all made sense anchored in the common story of Christ Jesus. The group practically shouted out the Kerygma "*Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!*"

On Pentecost we return to this story claiming it as our own. It is the story that holds us together, it is common, it is extraordinary, because it proclaims God's forgiveness of sin through Christ Jesus, and God's desire that we are not left alone, that we are given the Comforter, Counselor, Advocate, the Holy Spirit to be with us individually and corporately strengthening our commonality.

Commonwealth, common good, commonality, commonsense, are actually not common at all. They are all rather extraordinary. We reside in the common embrace of God's love made known through Christ Jesus. We are united for life and mission by the Spirit of the risen Lord. Through the Spirit we are given commonality which makes for a thriving lively community. Through the Spirit we are given an abundance of grace and share lavishly in the forgiveness of sin, God's gift bestowed upon humankind. Christ Jesus and the pouring forth of the Spirit is the starting point identifying our commonality. It was true in Jerusalem on that first Pentecost when they "*were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. And all were able to hear the common, extraordinary, message of God's deeds of power.*" That day like today "*everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*" Amen.

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>"In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your  
daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's  
great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
shall be saved."

**or Ezekiel 37:1-14 [not printed]**

**Psalms 104:24-34, 35b**

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27**  
[not printed]

**or Acts 2:1-21 [see First Reading]**

**GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

[Jesus said:] "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.

Cover: *Holy Spirit* from Crosiers stained glass. Copyright © Crosiers. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Crosiers in Onamia, Minnesota.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at [www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org).

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Tracks 1 and 2  
ELCA-R