



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity**
Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

**Sunday, May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

GATHERING

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

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

Prelude on “St. Columba” (The King of Love My Shepherd Is) Healey Willan
Jesus, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (Sanctuary Choir) Robert Lau

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The congregation stands.

All may make the sign of the cross †, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of † the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

All: Amen.

P: 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 before or during the thanksgiving.

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,

All: make us one as you are one.

P: 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,

All: make us one as you are one.

P: 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,

All: make us one as you are one.

P: 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.

All: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: Sing with All the Saints in Glory..... ELW 426

Follow the cross as the procession passes by.



1 Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, sing the res - ur - rec - tion song!
2 Oh, what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing all that eye has yet per - ceived!
3 Life e - ter - nal! heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who once was dead.



Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry, to the for - mer days be - long.
Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing nev - er that full joy con - ceived.
Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es! Child of God, lift up your head!



All a-round the clouds are break-ing, soon the storms of time shall cease;
 God has prom-ised, Christ pre-pares it, there on high our wel-come waits.
 Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won-ders crowd on faith; what joy un-known,



in God's like - ness we a - wak - en, know - ing ev - er - last-ing peace.
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it, Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
 when, a - mid earth's clos-ing thun-ders, saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt.
 Music: MISSISSIPPI, William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947
 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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

All: **And also with you.**

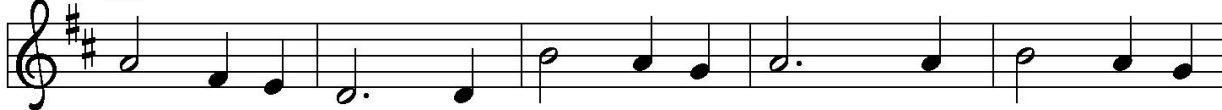
HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast*

Refrain
 Assisting minister

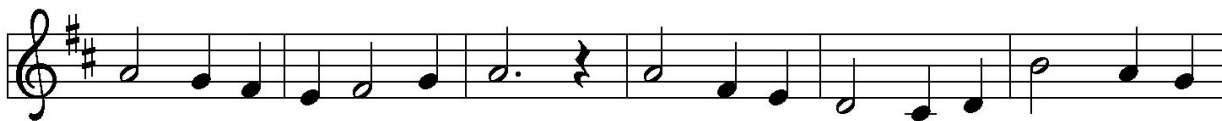


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

(Continued)

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The congregation sits.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

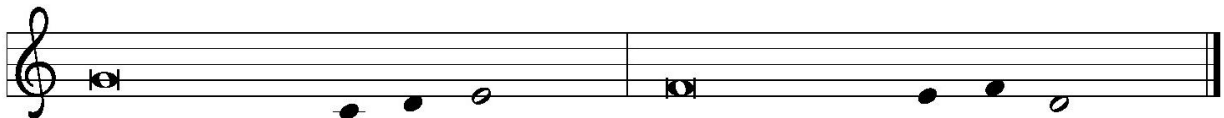
PSALM 23 (*Congregation sings the refrain and **bold** verses.*)

Refrain:



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

Verse:



¹ The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³ You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. R**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. R**

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

the Lord is my
shepherd

Psalm 23:1

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

The congregation stands.

Refrain:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Verse:

Jesus says, I am ¹ the good shepherd.* I know my own and my ¹ own know me.
(John 10:14) Repeat Refrain.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

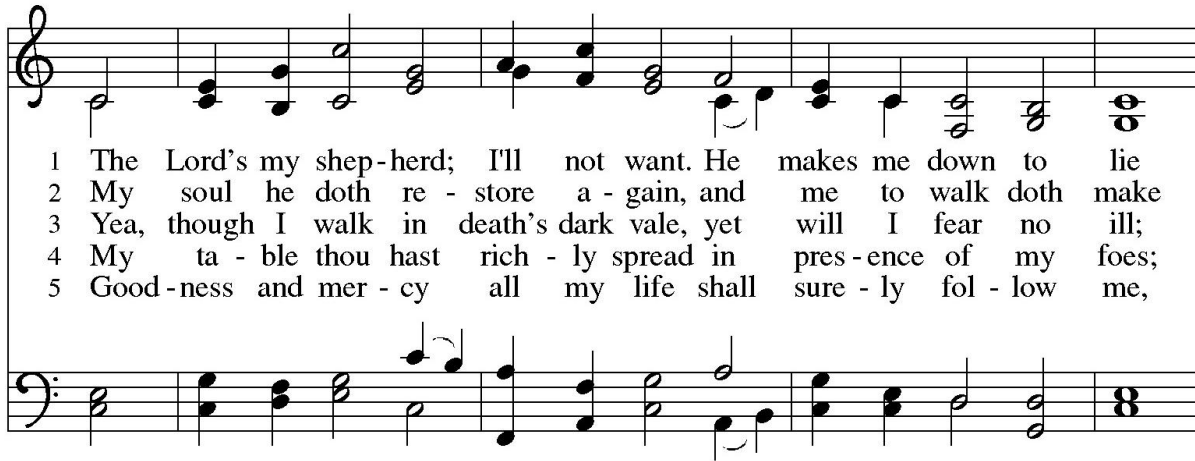
The congregation sits.

SERMON

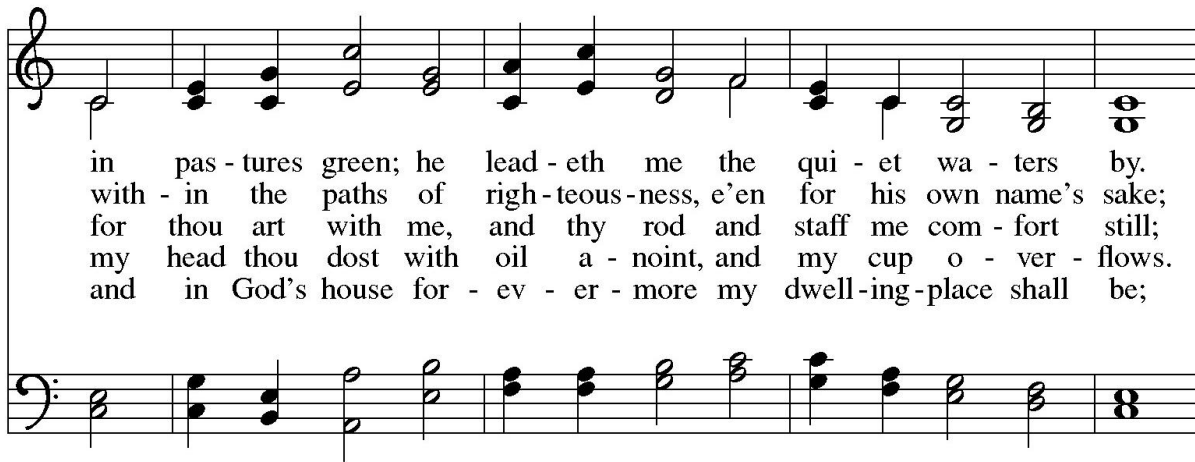
Silence for reflection.

The congregation stands.

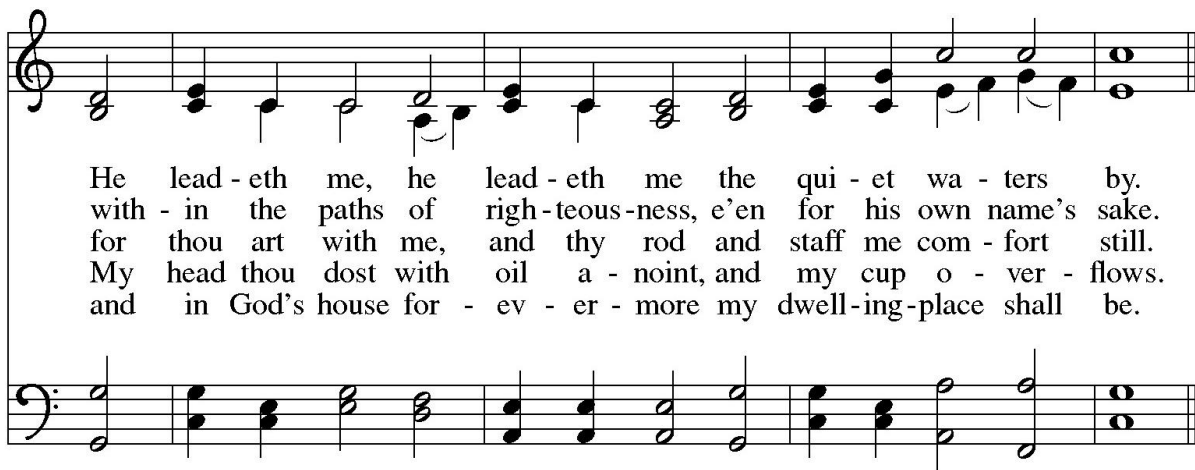
HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Lord's My Shepherd*..... ELW 778



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres - ence of my foes;
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895-1984
Arr. © Oxford University Press.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

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

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

The congregation sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Hear us. O God.

All: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF PEACE

The presiding minister and the congregation greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plate at the entrance to worship or in the Offering Box on the table with the bulletins.

TABLE SETTING SONG: *Eat This Bread/Jesus Christ, Bread of Life* **ELW 472**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew...both verses.)

The congregation stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: 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.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

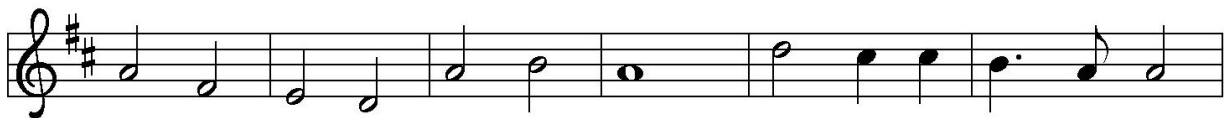
All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P:And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation sits.

LAMB OF GOD:

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC:

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing **ELW 544**

(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew)

The congregation stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us 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.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Let us pray...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.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Blessing and Honor* **ELW 854**

Follow the cross as the procession passes by.

1 Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r, wis - dom and
 2 Let all the heav - ens sound forth Je - sus' name; let all the
 3 Ev - er as - cend - ing the song and the joy, ev - er de -
 4 Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb! Take we the

rich - es and strength ev - er - more, be to the Lamb who our
 earth sing his glo - ry and fame. O - cean and moun - tain, stream,
 scend - ing the love from on high; bless - ing and hon - or and
 robe and the harp and the palm; sing we the song of the

bat - tle has won, whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the
 for - est, and flow'r ech - o his prais - es and tell of his
 glo - ry and praise— this is the theme of the hymns that we
 Lamb who was slain, dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to

throne; whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne!
 pow'r; ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.
 raise; this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
 reign; dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign!

DISMISSAL

A: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: *Blessing and Honor*.....David Maxwell

IN THE CHURCH TODAY

The bulletin is given in memory of Kaeli Brandt with love from Mommy, Grammy and Pop Pop. The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Marilyn Schaeffer, beloved wife and mother, from the Schaeffer family.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister: Rev. Jan Mills
Assisting Minister: Ruth Gardner
Reader:..... Danielle Mariano
Communion Assistants:..... Rodney Gross and Kendra Ruhl
Crucifer:..... Else Nielsen
Torchbearers:..... Gabby Gniady and Tess Mariano
Livestream: Kirk Sponaugle



Dear Lord Jesus, When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You on behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name’s sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Prayer Concerns: Susan Bianchi, Jack Bishop, Lucy Campbell (daughter of Jacob and Sarah Campbell), Barbie (Hocker) Colestock (friend of Kendra Ruhl), Donna Dixon, Bill Fosnacht, Carol Longenecker, Terry Longenecker, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, Wanda Oliver (friend of the Lechleitner’s), Julia Padgett, Tony Primerano (friend of Steve Shuey), Chris Ruff, Joyce Schroeder, Jaci Walters, Nicolle Zambrana (daughter of Marilyn Layman), and Ed Zaenglein.

DAILY PRAYERS

Roberta Anderson, Virginia Frank, Mike Hamilton (friend of Kendra Ruhl and Steve Shuey), Drew Herdson (friend of the Dunham’s), Dennis Lubold, Nancy Miller, Ed Schaeffer, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Melissa West (friend of Susan Bianchi), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all of our Homebound members.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, Tory Young

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us for worship today in-person and through livestreaming.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite all people, as well as young children who are not yet receiving the Sacrament to come forward and receive a blessing. Please ask the Pastor if you need a gluten free option. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Thus, we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine. At his table Christ grants

us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. *May your hearts be opened, and your lives made new by God's gracious love.* Please give your completed communion card to the usher during communion.

Holy Communion distribution today: The usher will guide you down the center aisle. Prepackaged Communion elements with grape juice are available on the small table. If your preference is regular wine or non-alcoholic wine, take a cup from the silver trays. Proceed to the Pastor to receive a wafer or have the prepackaged elements blessed. Proceed to the rail where there will be an assistant on either side with regular wine. There will also be one assistant with non-alcoholic wine. Stand or kneel as you are able and remain at the rail for as long as you desire.

Consecrated Communion Elements are available for "Live Stream" worship at home. Please contact the church office at 717-533-2467 or by email at htluth@comcast.net to arrange to pick up elements or have them delivered to your home.

Office Hours The office will be open this week Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. To contact the church: Phone Number: 717-533-2467, Email Address: htluth@comcast.net; Holy Trinity website: htluth.org. **In case of emergency** please call the church office and follow the prompts for emergency contact information.

Sunday School Information: All classes will meet from 9:00am-9:45am. **Children's Sunday School** meets in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). **Confirmation Sunday School** for Grades 6-8 meets in the youth room. **Sunday School** for Grades 9-12 meets downstairs next to the Youth Room. **Adult Discussion** meets in room #16. Sunday School will break for the summer beginning on May 25th.

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate all the important women in our life. We give thanks today for all women who have nurtured us with loving care.

The first step in the Call Process is filling out the Ministry Site Profile, a multiple page summary about Holy Trinity and what we are seeking in a new pastor. Therefore, we need help from the Congregation so we can represent our Church fairly. The first step is a survey that the Call Committee assembled, which will help us to answer the questions of the Ministry Site Profile. For those subscribed to Holy Trinity's email list, you should receive an email shortly. You can also find the link to the survey on our website by clicking on the Call Process Update link. Hard copies of the survey are available and can be returned to a box in the Narthex. Every confirmed member may complete a survey. Please prayerfully complete the survey by May 18th.

Attention ALL HTY: HTY Mini-Golf Night is NEXT Sunday, May 18th from 5 - 7:30pm at the Challenge Family Fun Center in Hummelstown. This event is open to ALL HTY (Grades 6 -12) and their friends. The night runs from 5 - 7:30pm and it's at the Challenge Family Fun Center in Hummelstown. The cost is \$8.00 a person (exact cash please). We are starting off with a pizza picnic dinner (provided by us), then we are playing a round of mini golf. There is a snack bar there, if after golf, you want to purchase a sweet snack or something. This cost would be additional and on you. You are responsible for getting yourself to and from this event. See you there!! Hey HTY, this is a GREAT EVENT to bring friends too!! Nuff said. **NOTE:** THIS IS A "SHINE ONLY" HTY EVENT. PLEASE CHECK YOUR E-MAIL THAT MORNING IF THE WEATHER LOOKS QUESTIONABLE.

Birthday Blessings! Dottie Kieffer will be celebrating a 90+ birthday on May 28th. Cards can be sent to Dottie at 66 Learden Road, Hershey, PA 17033. Happy birthday, Dottie!

Thank you for your generous support- the Faith in Action Committee was able to assemble **75 personal care kits** to send our faith and love outside the walls of Holy Trinity. The kits are used both internationally and, in the USA, to bring dignity and health to people in crisis. Thank you!

Graduate Information Needed We love to recognize our high school and secondary school graduates. Please tell us where you are graduating from, what your degree is in (if you graduated from college), and your future plans. Email the church office (htluth@comcast.net) or call 717-533-2467 by Sunday, May 18th.

Many thanks for your generous donations! We continuously express our thanks to all for your faithfulness and generosity in giving which allows us to continue to operate valuable ministries and pay for the ongoing bills at Holy Trinity. The Simply Giving program offers automatic withdrawals from your bank account or charges to a credit card; donated through our website (htluth.org) by clicking on the ‘Give Now’ button; donated by downloading the Mobile App ‘GivePlus Church’ (be sure to select Ev. Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity) or by taking a picture of the QR code.



Please send articles and announcements for the Newsletter to Anita Housman, our Communications/IT Specialist. Please send articles to her at aahousman2@gmail.com. She is always gathering announcements and articles for the monthly newsletter. Just a reminder – submit articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month.

Readers, Greeters and Flower Deliverers for May and June are needed to greet people as they come into church and deliver flowers after the service on Sunday. Readers need to read the 1st and 2nd reading and the Psalm. The lists are available on the bulletin board.

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You are Welcome Here!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God’s love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ’s teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.