



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity**

Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 5, 2026**

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. The prophet describes an everlasting realm that contrasts with earthly nations, one marked by peace, humility, and freedom. Jesus associates with those excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with selfish desires; we lament flawed systems; and we seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather around word, water, and meal by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Here we find rest for our souls and hope for life in beloved community.

GATHERING

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

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

Voluntary in D..... George Dyson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

✠*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

P: In the name of the holy Trinity, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

A brief silence is kept.

P: Compassionate God,

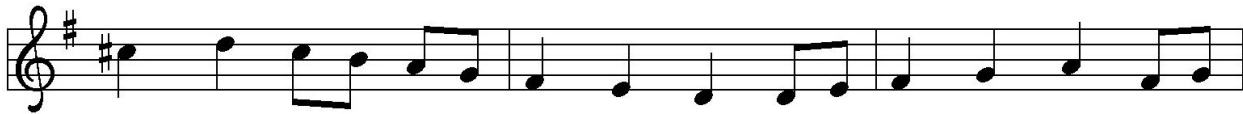
All: **have mercy on us. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. We confess to you all our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Forgive us and call us back to you. Uphold us by your Spirit, and restore us to dwell in your peace, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

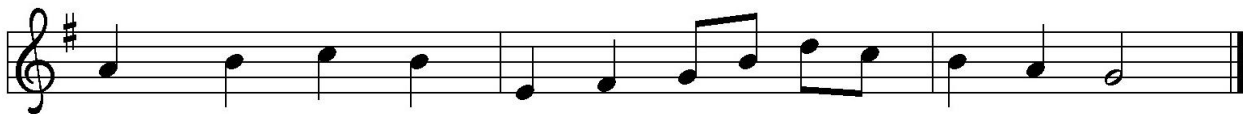
All: **Amen.**



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
 2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and
 3 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new. Dis -
 4 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
 5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
 hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
 I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.
 thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.
 all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
 heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.
 Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélémon, 1741–1808

GREETING

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: *Glory to God*



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Sovereign Lord of all, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all living in these lands the blessing of well-bring and harmony, but above all give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory and honor to your name and blessings to all people, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

The congregation sits.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
 Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
 See, your king comes to you;
 triumphant and victorious is he,
 humble and riding on a donkey,
 on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
 and the war horse from Jerusalem;
 and the battle bow shall be cut off,
 and he shall command peace to the nations;
 his dominion shall be from sea to sea
 and from the River to the ends of the earth.

- ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: Word of God, word of life.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:8-14 (*Congregation sings the refrain and bold verses*)

Refrain:

The LORD is gra-cious and full of com-pas-sion, the
LORD is full of com-pas-sion.

Verse:

- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
⁹ **LORD, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works. R**
¹⁰ All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.
¹¹ **They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**
¹² that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.
¹³ **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all ages.
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.**
¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

- ¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that

dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a} Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation stands.

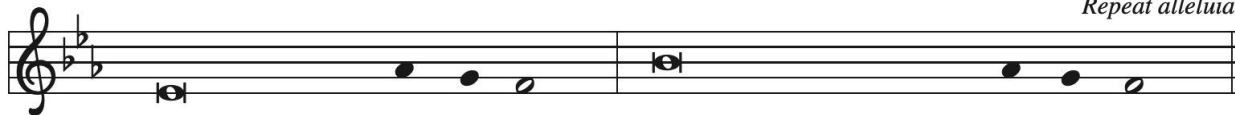
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

Refrain:



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Verse:



Blessed are you, Lord of | heav'n and earth;* you have revealed these | things to infants.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸“For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁰ Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done because they did not repent. ²¹“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And you, Capernaum,

will you be exalted to heaven?

No, you will be brought down to Hades.

“For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P: Glory to you, O Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation sits.

SERMON

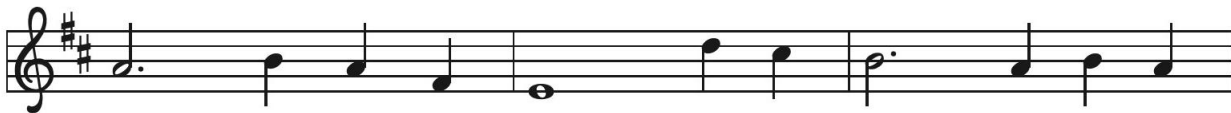
Silence is kept for reflection.

The congregation stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Come to Me, O Weary TravelerACS 1017



1 “Come to me, O wea - ry trav - ’ler; come to
 2 “Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not
 3 “Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my
 4 “Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - ’ler; rest in



me with your dis - tress; come to me, you heav - y -
 fear, my bur - den’s light; do not fear the path be -
 yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -
 me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is



bur - dened; come to me and find your rest.”
 fore you; do not run from me in fright.”
 side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty.”
 gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care.”

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: AUSTIN, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The congregation sits.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of Grace,
All: **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plates at the entrance to worship or in the narthex. Or scan the QR Code.



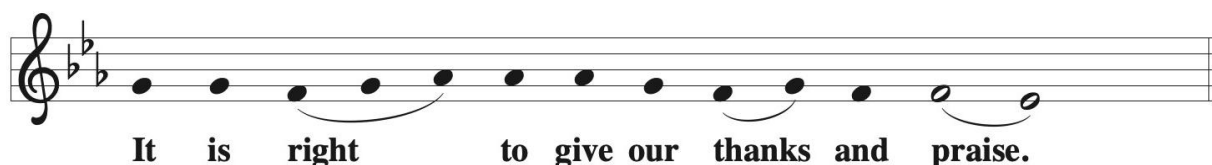
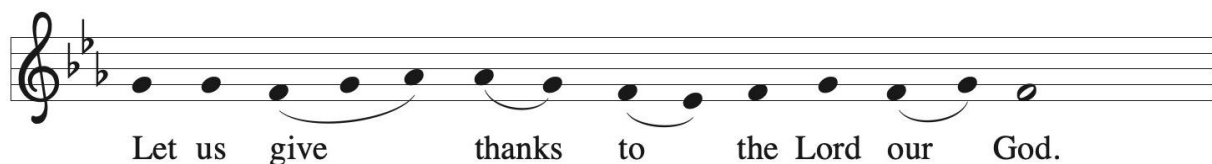
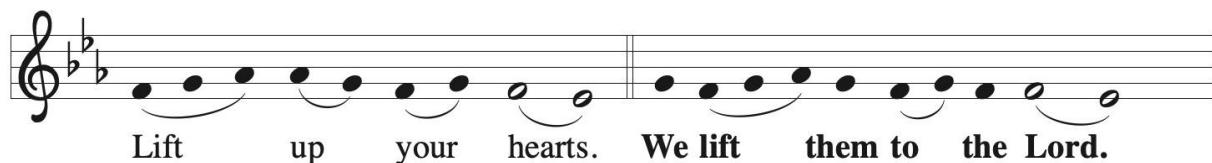
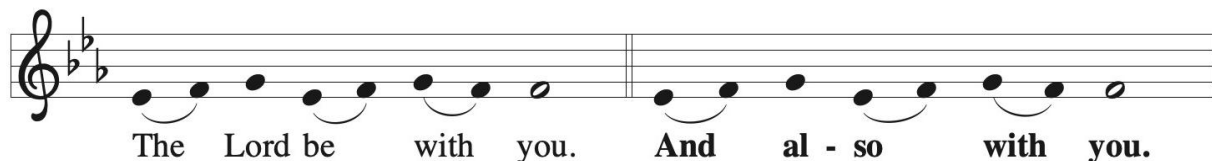
OFFERTORY HYMN: *We Place Upon Your Table, Lord* **ELW 467**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

The congregation stands.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A: Let us pray... God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
All: **Amen.**

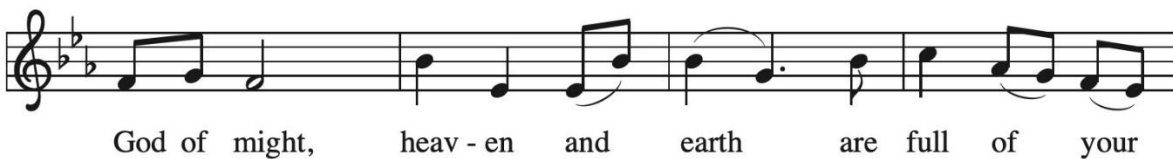
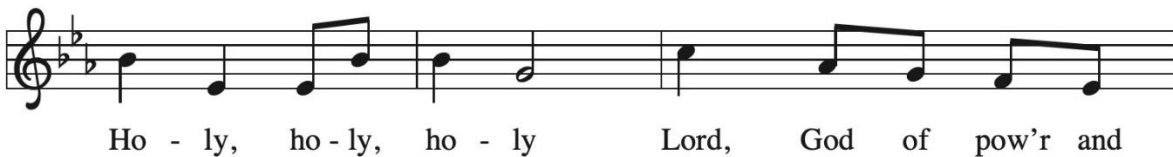
GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





Ho - san - na, 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: Heaven has come near. Come share the feast.
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.

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

The congregation stands.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: *Lord of All Hopefulness*..... ELW 765



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

DISMISSAL

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Variations on ‘SLANE’ (Lord of All Hopefulness)* David Lasky
 (I: Theme; II: Meditation; III: Trio; IV: Fugato; V. Improvisation; VI: Paean)

BULLETIN SPONSOR

The bulletin is given in memory of Roy and Mildred Dunham on their wedding anniversary (July 6th) with love by Derek and Beth Dunham.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister: Rev. Pamela J. Carnes
Director of Music Ministries/Organist: Alan Hair
Assisting Minister: Donna Artley
Reader: Jane Ebersole
Communion Assistants:..... Rodney Gross and Joan Rizzo
Livestream Team: Kirk Sponaugle, Jordan Paul, and Adam Gardner

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Prayer Concerns: Carole Bowman, Barbara Ehrhart, David Ehrhart, Sharon Ellis (friend of the Dunham’s), Bill Fosnacht, Michael Fox, Ben Housman, Herb Huebner, Father Michael Hutsko, Ann Jonell (friend of the Dunham’s), Matthew Kulbacki, Carol Longenecker, Carol Miller, Donald Moyer (Donna Artley’s Father), Jessica Noeske (Derek Dunham’s cousin), Geri Phillips (Sister-in-Law of Sherry Welty), Chris Ruff, Kathy Spitler (cousin of Marilyn Layman), Edward Sellard, Kay Smith, and Vicki Sponaugle.

DAILY PRAYERS

Virginia Frank, Dean Huebner, Evadne Kopp, Dennis Lubold, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, George Trump, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all our **Homebound members:** Carole Bowman, Shirley Espenshade, Bill Fosnacht, Herb Huebner, Evadne Kopp, John and Ruth Knol, Carol Longenecker, Dennis Lubold, Chip Murray, Tookie Delores Peterson, Joyce, Schroeder, Kay Smith, Susanne Wiest and Nila Wiley.

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

It's Time to Make School Kits! In July and August we will be collecting for school kits. Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children, and in some cases, adults, continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities. Holy Trinity will supply the backpacks, and we need your help to provide the supplies to go inside. Several stores in the area will have school supplies on sale soon or you can order supplies online. Please bring your items to the **NEW collection site in the Narthex (coming soon!)** or put the following items into a plastic bag and drop them off in the bin on the back porch of the office.

You can also support the project by making a monetary donation. Make your check payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and write "school kits" on the memo line. Checks can be mailed to the office, put in the offering or put through the mail slot by the front door of the office. Thank you for your generosity!

Items needed for each School Kit:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons (Crayola brand is preferred because they don't melt as easily)
- One eraser approximately 2 1/2" long



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