

Worship Guide – May 30
Holy Trinity Sunday
9:30 AM Worship

+ WE GATHER BEFORE GOD +

WELCOME

PRELUDE The Kingsfold Trumpet – Alfred V. Fedak

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LIGHTING OF THE TRINITY CANDLE

St. John's is a community that is

Ignited by Spirit, Growing in Love.

We begin our worship in the name of the Father,
the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN ELW 412 Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun –
The interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,
But as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance.

Come, speak aloud of Trinity, as wind and tongues of flame
Set people free at Pentecost to tell the Savior's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
Go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!

Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
We sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave, by love and hope set free,
To shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.

Text: Richard Leach Music: English folk tune
Text c. 2001 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.
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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.

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 883 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell; come ye before Him and rejoice

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore.

Text: William Kethe Music: Louis Bourgeois
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PRAYER

God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity,
we ask for your presence to enter this space.
We know that in self-giving love,
Your very nature teaches us how to love one another.

Father and Creator,
Son and Redeemer,
Spirit and Advocate,

We call upon you to teach us this hour.
Teach us to pray.
Teach us to love.
Teach us to be one, as you are one.

With all of our divisions we create with our own biases,
from social class to race,
from gender to age,
from ability to different abilities,
we know we still have much to learn.

Teach us this hour, we pray,
Amen

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW 574 Here I Am, Lord (refrain)

Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

Repeat

Text and Music: Dan L. Schutte c. 1981 OCP Publications, Inc.
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GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a

teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 948 Womb of Life and Source of Being

Womb of life and source of being,
home of ev'ry restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened;
you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather round you,
at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter,
we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus,
born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us,
knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles,
Life of life and Death of death,
risen Christ, come stand among us,
send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us;
be our partner, be our friend.
When our mem'ry fails, remind us
whose we are, what we intend.
Labor with us; aid the birthing
of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord, and master,
free for love and unity.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

Together with people of faith in all times and places, we profess our faith in God, the Three in One, with the words of the 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.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

All Glory be to God on High – Johan Philipp Kirnberger

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God...we pray:

Holy God, we praise your name.

Into your endless love we commend all for whom we pray, trusting as did Jesus in your grace and might, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.

+ WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Just as God's Word was sent into the world
to heal and redeem,
so God sends you into the world this day
to be light and love, healing and hope.
Go now to be light for the world!
And may the grace and peace of God the Creator,
the Redeemer, and the Sustainer
come upon you this day
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 413 Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and Seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber Music: John B. Dykes
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE A Modal Menuet – Eric H. Thiman

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Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers:

Alex Kunkel, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Robin Seasock, Paige Seasock, Peyton Seasock, Nancy Terpoilli, Brian Allebach, Glen Van Dyke, Charles Krupp, Jean Leister, Kenny Nace, Tom Ciesielka, Ann Brown Hager, Alyssa Gegan, David Mounts, Ann Lewis, Carolyn Iris, Melissa Snyder, Sandy Umstead, Theresa Hasson, Renaud Fix, Theresa Gross, Lynda Lysoby, David and Linda Kratzer, Leah Crater, Leanne Kratzer, Steve Keyser and Terry Gable.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S LOVE

Worship Attendance 5/23/2021 – Zoom - 53 households		
Giving Amounts	Total received between 5/9-22/2021	Amount Needed between 5/9-22/2021
General Fund	\$9,035.62	\$11,216
Building Fund	\$620.76	
<i>Weekly average is based on the 2021 budget. A weekly building fund amount needed is no longer reported as the building fund has been used for the mortgage, which has been paid off. All other building expenses are included in General Fund budget and giving. The above numbers include electronic giving. Mint duty is being done every other week for the time being.</i>		

Capital Campaign Activity Update	
Capital Campaign Contributions Pledged	\$ 260,000.00
Capital Campaign Contributions received between 5/9-22/2021	\$185
Capital Campaign Contributions received to date	\$ 250,389.65

Outdoor Worship begins on Sunday, June 6 at 9:30 AM

Zoom worship will still continue every Sunday at 9:30 AM

As we prepare for outdoor worship on June 6, here's what you need to know:

- Worship will be held in the grassy area in front of the playground. Please park in the back lot or the side lot.
- We invite you to bring your own lawn chairs for worship, but we will have folding metal chairs from the fellowship hall available for anyone who needs one.
- We ask that you wear your mask anytime you are moving and in close proximity to others – walking to the worship area, greeting people, returning to your vehicle at the end of worship. Once you are seated and worship is taking place, you may remove your mask if you feel comfortable doing so. Please recognize some folks may choose to remain masked, especially when singing.
- We ask that you social distance when you set up where you will sit – please be sure there is at least 6 feet of distance between you and anyone else who has already set up their chairs.
- Bulletins will be on a table as you enter the worship area – please take one for each member of your family.
- There will be two speakers used to provide adequate audio of the service outside. Folks who might have difficulty hearing normally should sit closer to one of the speakers.
- At the conclusion of worship, any trash or used bulletins may be discarded in the trash and recycling receptacles by the table.
- We will still be providing online worship at the same time for anyone who is unable or not ready to be in-person so, please understand that someone will be sitting near the front of the worship area with a tripod to provide video feed for the live-stream.

So, to recap,

What should I bring to worship?

- lawn chairs
- your mask
- your offering
- an open heart and spirit

This outdoor service that is being live-streamed is a whole new set up for our tech team and staff – we know there may be glitches that we could not predict. Please be patient with us as we work out those glitches both online and in-person in the early weeks as we do our best to provide a worshipful experience for all.

In the event of inclement weather

Please call the church and listen to the outgoing message and/or check the website for changes to outdoor worship. In the event that outdoor worship is not feasible, the service will be live-streamed on Zoom from within the sanctuary. Anybody who is unable to connect on Zoom from home is welcome to come to the church and sit in your car in the parking lot to listen to the worship service on your car radio – tune in at FM 89.5.



Welcome our new musician: Ben Modica

Ben Modica is a former music teacher that has turned his attention to the organ. His most recent position was that of organist at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Birdsboro, where he also served as choir director and director of music.

As a full time job, Ben works as a court clerk, but Church music is his first passion. Ben is also the proud parent of eight cats! Please offer Ben a warm welcome as he begins at St. John’s as our new musician. Cards to welcome Ben can be sent to his attention at St. John's.

An official welcome reception will be held after the 9:30 AM outdoor worship service on Sunday, June 13th.



Graduate Recognition Sunday

On June 6, we will take time during worship to recognize our graduates – whether that be preschool/kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, high school, college or graduate school graduates. If you would like for your graduate to be recognized on June 6, please submit the following information to the church office by Sunday, May 30:

- Student’s name and where he/she is graduating from.
- Where student is headed next (school, work, military, etc.)
- A picture of the graduate



Help wanted! Warm weather is here and the grass is growing. We are looking for people who are willing to mow or do some weed wacking around the church property. If you are willing to pitch in, please call or email Vikki at the church office (215-234-4888 or stj.stown@verizon.net).



Food Collection for Open Link

Saturday, June 5th 9-11am at the back entrance to the church.

Order your Hoagies by Thursday, June 10th



Italian \$7 Turkey \$8

Can be ordered with or without onions and banana peppers

To order your June hoagie please contact Elaine Keller by phone (215.262.5366) or email elaineakeller@comcast.net before June 10 for a June 17th pick up. If you have any questions about the hoagies or our trips, please contact Elaine.

The Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, June 8 7pm** we are reading *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger

The unforgettable story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression. In the summer of 1932, on the banks of Minnesota's Gilead River, Odie O'Banion is an orphan confined to the Lincoln Indian Training School, a pitiless place where his lively nature earns him the superintendent's wrath. Forced to flee after committing a terrible crime, he and his brother, Albert, their best friend, Mose, and a brokenhearted little girl named Emmy steal away in a canoe, heading for the mighty Mississippi and a place to call their own. Over the course of one summer, these four orphans journey into the unknown and cross paths with others who are adrift, from struggling farmers and traveling faith healers to displaced families and lost souls of all kinds. With the feel of a modern classic, *This Tender Land* is an enthralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.

We plan to meet around the fire pit at church, but if the weather doesn't cooperate or you are not comfortable meeting in person connect via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87058916584?pwd=bDV3dGI5YWZtVGM2YXZmZzRadWJTZz09>

New Dates available! Meal Train for Brian & Jennifer Allebach



As you may be aware, Brian Allebach, former chancel choir director at St. John's, was diagnosed with ALS in 2019. As the disease progresses and life changes for the Allebachs each week, we are hoping to support them in whatever ways we can.

A meal train, to provide a meal on Saturdays, has been started. To access the meal train sign-up, see what dates are available and find out all the pertinent information, see the weekly email or contact the church office.

Brian also loves to receive cards - so feel free to drop one in the mail to their home address, which is: Brian Allebach, 1096 Soffa Road, East Greenville, PA 18041.



Make Music Upper Perk is back in person on Monday June 21st! This year, the music is all outdoors. A lucky thirteen venues are hosting music throughout the day, some as early as 9 a.m., and others as late as 9 p.m. You can find music at the new Community Garden, the YMCA (including Meghan Carlin!), Java and Friends, Steep Teas/Frozen Treat, Pennsburg UCC, Bike and Sol, the Upper Perk Valley Library at Centennial Park, Wunderbarn, M&J Gourmet, St Mark's Lutheran Lawn, Chiaro's Green Lane, Mario's Pizza, New Goshenhoppen Park. All over the Valley, there is something for everyone. To find exactly which musicians at what times and in each location, go to ValleyArtScene@wordpress.com. As always, all events are free and open to the public.



Join us for Grab-and-Go Meals This Summer!



Open to ALL
kids 18 and
under!

We're bringing the food to you at 5 locations:

**June 14-
August 20,
2021**

**Drive-thru
or Walk-up
Service**

Mondays and Thursdays

- Treichler's Mill Park, Hereford — 11:30-12 noon
- Bieler Park, East Greenville — 12:15-12:45 pm

Tuesdays and Fridays

- Pennsburg Commons, Pennsburg — 11:30-11:55 am
- Hope Valley Community Church, Red Hill — 12:00-12:25 pm
 - Isaac Smith Park, Green Lane — 12:30-1 pm

Each child gets 2 breakfast + 2 lunch meals. We look forward to seeing you!