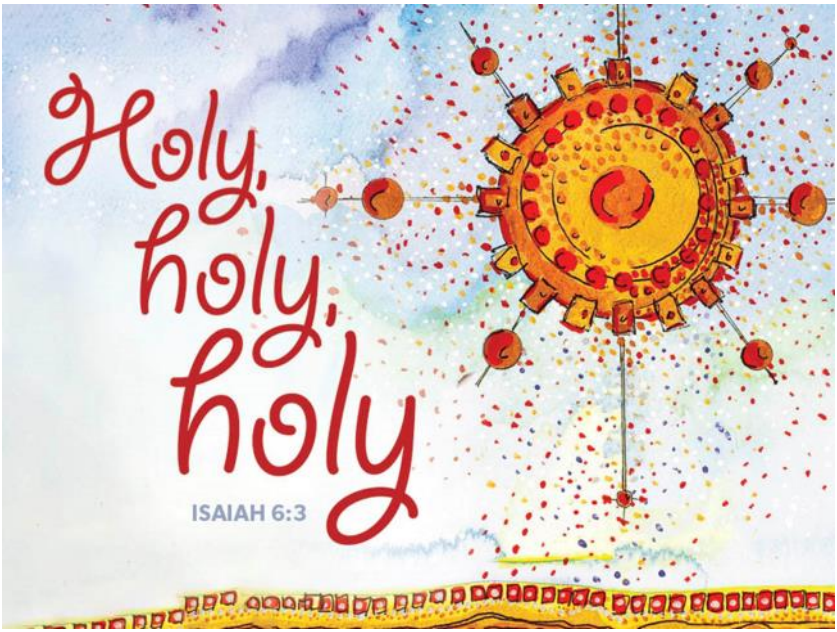


THE HOLY TRINITY
May 26, 2024

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993
Web Site: memluth.org
E-mail: office@memluth.org
717-532-4614

Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name

Reverend Godfred Effisah
717-532-4614 (church office) or 571-572-0119 (cell)
pastor@memluth.org
Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Children are an active part of Memorial's community of faith! We welcome you to worship each week! Children's bulletins and Quiet Bags (lots of exciting things to do!) are available at the doors coming from the parking lot. Please take one of each as they may help your children bring smiles into our time of worship!

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.

INTRODUCTION
When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

GATHERING

WELCOME

BELL CHOIR PRELUDE *"Holy, Holy, Holy"* *- Ingram*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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 is kept 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.

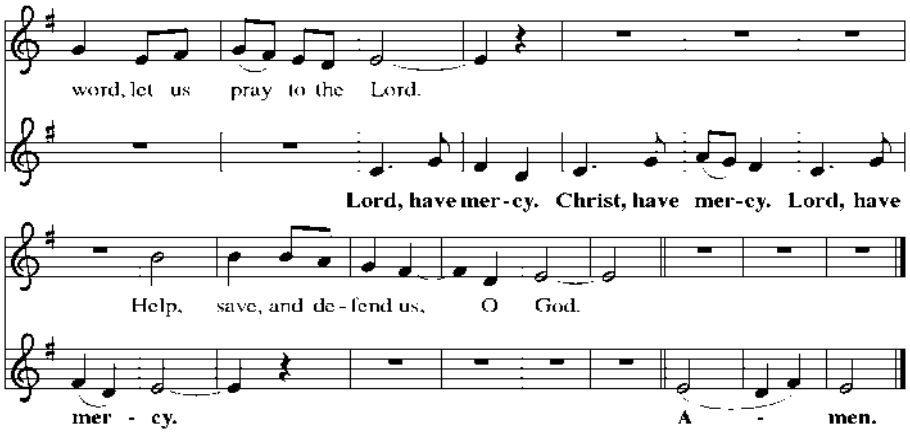
Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN *"Father Most Holy"* **ELW 415**

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.
And also with you.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE *"Glory to God"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

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.

1 In 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. 2 Seraphs 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.
3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of
hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." 4 The pivots on the thresholds
shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with
smoke. 5 And 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!" 6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me,
holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of
tongs. 7 The 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." 8 Then 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!"

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM **Psalm 29** **READ RESPONSIVELY**

1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
2 **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;**
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
4 **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;**
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
6 **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
7 The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.
8 **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;**
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the
forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”
10 **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.
11 O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING **Romans 8:12-17**

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and joint heirs with Christ the Son.

12 Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia. **Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; God’s glory fills the whole earth.** ***Alleluia.*** *(Isa. 6:3)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rdh chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.
2 He 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.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” 4 Nicodemus 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?” 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one

can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.
[6]What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.
[7]Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from
above.' [8]The 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." [9]Nicodemus said to him, "How
can these things be?" [10]Jesus 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. [12]If I have told you about earthly
things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about
heavenly things? [13]No one has ascended into heaven except the one
who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. [14]And just as Moses lift-
ed up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted
up, [15]that 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 be-
lieves 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."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Come, Join the Dance of Trinity"* **ELW 412**

NICENE CREED
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your word that teaches us what is right and wrong. Help us by your grace to treasure it in our hearts, meditate upon it daily and share it with others especially during our year of the Bible. May your holy word settle in our hearts, families and be at the center of our congregational life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty and eternal God, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces (especially Farrah Schluter, Kurtis Vargo, Devin Wilson). Give them courage, hope and strengthen their families. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love, and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abba God, you have brought us into your family, claiming us as beloved children. Bless your family of faith with gifts of cooperation and graciousness. Increase our hospitality toward all expressions of faith and teach us to honor our shared humanity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your love and power burst forth in the flashes of lightning, the dance of the wind, and the deeply rooted trees of the forest. Sustain fragile and interconnected ecosystems, that they flourish for generations to come. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give your blessing of peace to the nations. Shelter all who risk life and livelihood to protect others from violence, conflict, and injustice. On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember those who have lost their lives in war and conflict (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You are a God of love and not of condemnation. Quiet the hearts of all who struggle with shame, regret, or questions of self-worth. Teach us to forgive ourselves and one another. Restore wholeness to all who seek hope and healing (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Strengthen bonds between parents, children, and families of all varieties. We pray especially for adoptive and foster families, multigenerational households, and blended families. Grant gifts of nurture and patience to all caregivers. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

The Spirit bears grateful witness to all children of God who have now come into their inheritance among the saints (*especially*). As they lived with hope in your gift of eternal life, so strengthen us in faith, that we recognize your eternal presence even in this mortal life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY *"Let There Be Peace on Earth"* **Senior Choir**

The Ushers will collect the offering.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **ELW 884**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Let us pray together.
Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE - HOLY TRINITY
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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 *Read Together*
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
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.

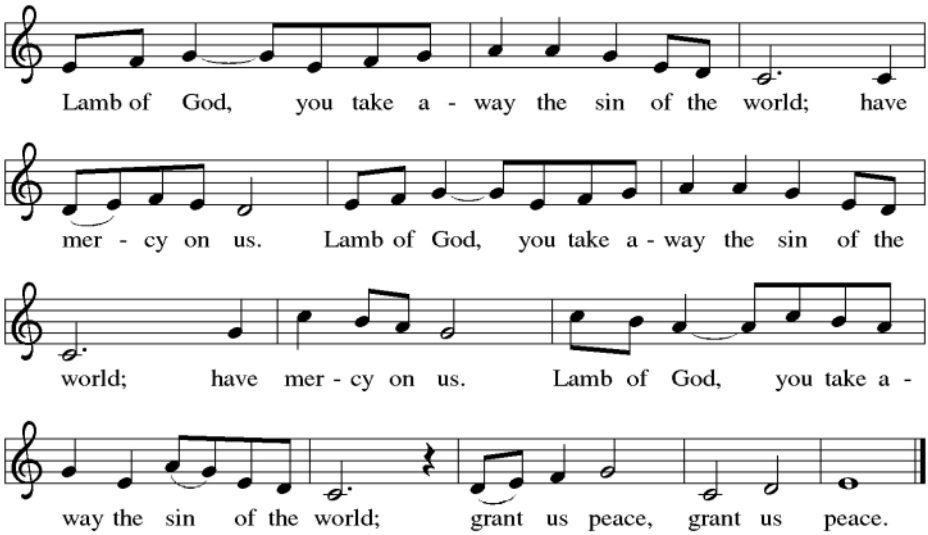
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All glory and honor is yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
Lord remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!



Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION
All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray together.
Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING
The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"* **ELW 413**

CHORAL BENEDICTION *"Tender Shepherd"* **Senior Choir**

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

Please be seated.

PIANO POSTLUDE

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Pastor
Pastor Godfred Effisah

Organist & Pianist
Nancy Fogelsanger

Senior Choir / Bell Choir Director
Kathy Kerr

Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper

Preschool Director
Shirley Perry