

Communion

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

Handbell Choir

WELCOME AND GREETING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

HYMN ELW 619 I Know that My Redeemer Lives!



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

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 362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
 2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

OPENING PRAYER

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ WORD +

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

FIRST READING: Acts 16:16-34

At the end of the reading:

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING: John 17:20-26

At the beginning of the reading:

The holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Becky Schanely

HYMN OF THE DAY Hear My Prayer For Unity
sung to the tune of ELW 310 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

"Hear my prayer for unity," Jesus prayed for all his own.
"May these ones you've given me live the love that I have shown.
Mine are yours and yours are mine; in them I am glorified!
Now I send them as a sign; so may they be unified."

God, we live in great discord, torn by issues we hold dear;
Even as we call you Lord, we still cling to pride and fear.
Bound together, we'd be free; we could join in serving you!
For the best theology starts when love makes all things new.

By your Spirit, make us one; so the world will come to know
All the love of Christ the Son, all your joys that overflow.
Help us put aside our strife; give your church a humble mind!
Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life, strengthen now the ties that bind.

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PRAYERS

Each petition ends with the phrase:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

+ MEAL +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING I Know Who Holds Tomorrow – Ira Stanphill
Elizabeth Hercek, soprano

OFFERTORY



1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them



grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er

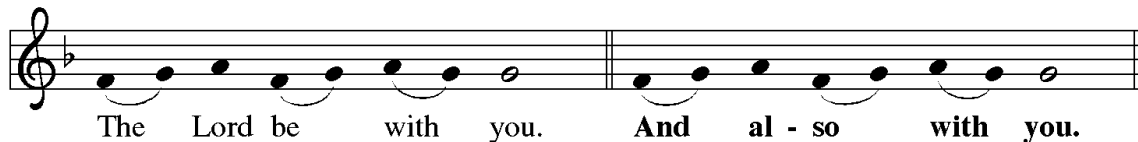


work, the food of life, the bread and wine.
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

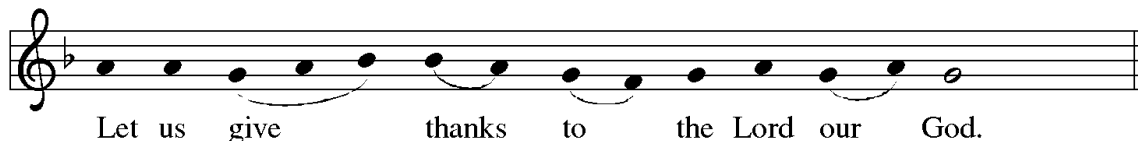
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

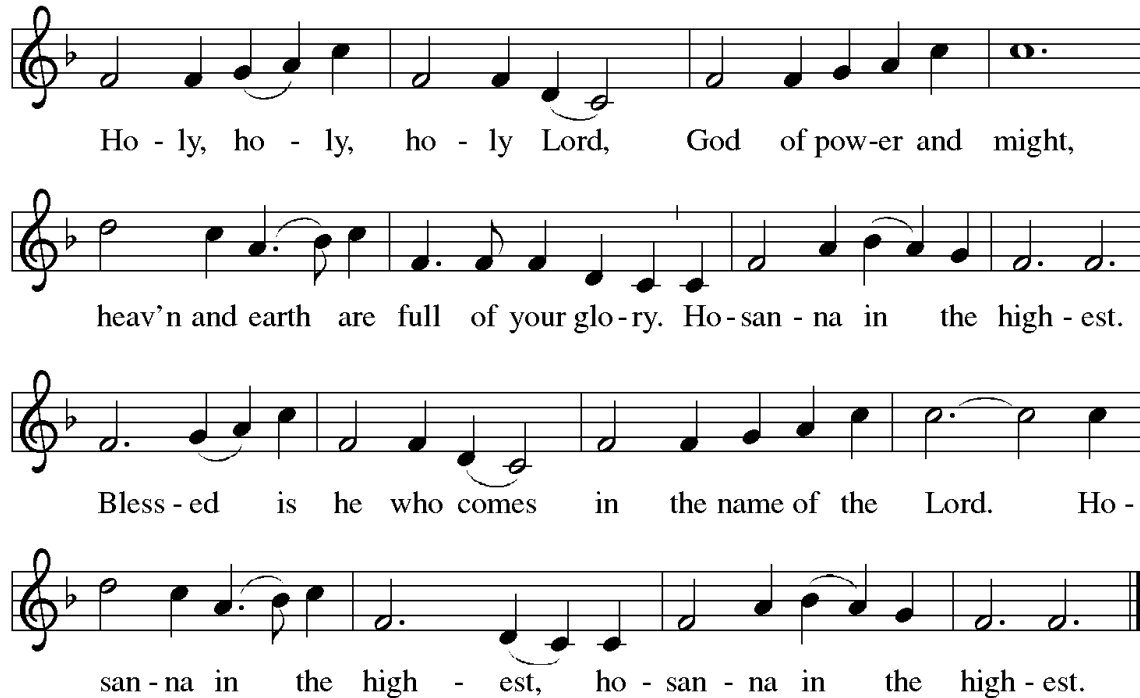


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION ELW 359 Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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. **Amen.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BLESSING

We are delighted to honor you as you graduate from high school. We, your family of faith, are proud of you! It is our privilege to celebrate with you as you complete this important phase of your lives and enter another.

I ask you to affirm your commitment to a life of faith in the body of Christ.

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare for your new endeavors, do you thank God for the many ways your faith has been your strength and guide?

*Graduates: **With God's help, I do.***

As you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, before you, behind you, below you, above you, and within you?

*Graduates: **With God's help, I do.***

As you make choices about your new endeavors, will you offer your gifts to the world as part of the body of Christ and welcome the support of a family of faith?

*Graduates: **With God's help, I will.***

People of St. John's: Do you claim these graduates as siblings in Christ, called to ministry according to their talents?

In God's love, we claim them.

As their home congregation, do you promise to support them, take an interest in their future, be with them in their celebration and sadness, and welcome them whenever they return to St. John's?

In God's love, we support them.

Do you promise to faithfully pray for these young people, placing their futures into God's loving hands as they make their choices?

In God's love, we pray for them.

Graduates are invited to pick a prayer shawl and wrap it around their shoulders for the blessing.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks today for the milestones that these graduates have attained. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they know your love in all the experiences they have. Look with love on these graduates and bless them as they complete this season of their studies. By your Spirit, help them to use their gifts for your glory and for the good of all people. In your lovingkindness, guide those who are leaving home to go far away, and those staying close by. We ask these blessings through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast to what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 543 Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Come, Christians, Join to Sing – Sondra Tucker

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HIGH SCHOOL



Catherine Shade – graduating from Upper Perkiomen High School. Catherine plans to pursue a degree in Communication Design at Kutztown University.



Elizabeth Hercek – graduating from Souderton Area High School and selected as salutatorian of her graduating class. Elizabeth plans to pursue a degree in Classical Vocal Performance at Ithaca College.



Cole Pierce – graduating from Upper Perkiomen High School. Cole plans to attend Ursinus College in the fall.

Julianna Keller – graduating from Upper Perkiomen High School. Julianna plans to attend Montgomery County Community College in the fall.



Cooper Bolton – graduating from Perkiomen Valley High School. Cooper plans to attend West Chester University in the fall.

COLLEGE

December 2024 Graduates



Erin Eisenhart graduated cum laude from West Chester University with a BS in Business Management. She is currently employed full-time as a junior stylist at Aly B. Hair Studio in Dublin.



Meghan Carlin officially graduated Summa Cum Laude earlier this month. She graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BA in music (piano and voice). Currently she is a substitute organist in New Hampshire along with her seasonal work with Appalachian Mountain Club.

Spring 2025 Graduates



Natalie Truskowski graduated cum laude from West Chester University with a BS in Marketing.

Evan Shade graduated from Penn State Brandywine with a degree in English. His future plans are to get his teaching certification and Masters in Education at DeSales University, starting in the fall.

Laura Cooney graduated from Penn State University

Kyra Lee Paul-Fowler (Jim and Kathy Fitser's granddaughter) Top Honors -Villanova Law

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, June 2	7pm Confirmation
Sunday, June 8	10:30 Outdoor Worship followed by picnic at Friedens UCC

.VBS cannot happen without lots of volunteers - group leaders who move small groups of kids from activity to activity - activity group helpers (games, crafts, kitchen, Bible time, etc.) to assist with a specific activity - even if you can only be there one day or a few hours at a time - we'll gladly accept your help whenever you are able to be with us! Please contact Jamie (jlnon7878@gmail.com) to let her know when you can help!

The VBS Supply list is available. Go to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADAC2BA2FDC61-57069249-waves#/> to sign up to provide some of the many needed things for VBS to happen.

Church Picnic and Outdoor Worship will be on Sunday, June 8th at 10:30am. We will be gathering at Friedens UCC for a combined celebration of summer.

Royersford Baptist Church on Lewis Road, will be screening ***1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted a Culture*** on June 1st at 2pm. See the weekly email for more info.

Heavenly Helpers Mission Team is having a fundraiser at Red Robin on Sunday, June 29th from 4-8pm. Dine in or order online, just be sure to mention the fundraiser (see the flyers in the narthex) for HH mission team to receive 20% of your purchase. It's a tasty way to give!

Order your Hoagie by June 9th for pick up on Thursday, June 15th from 5-6:30pm. Turkey hoagies are \$9 and Italian hoagies are \$8. Sign up outside PB's office or contact Elaine Keller 215-262-5366.

St. John's & Friedens Book Group is reading *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. Join us on Saturday, June 14th at Friedens UCC Fellowship Hall at 9:30am to discuss this book. A light breakfast and coffee will be served. All are welcome!