ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Holy Trinity

June 15, 2025

Midweek Evening Prayer, Wednesdays 6PM

Welcome to Saint Paul!

We are happy to have you here!

How to know when to stand, sit, or speak

Whenever you see an asterisk (*) at a heading, you are invited to stand as you are able. You are not required to stand, so if, for health or emotional reasons you cannot or do not wish to stand, that is okay.
You are invited to speak the words printed in **bold type**.

We are an Open Communion Congregation

This means that any Christian who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is invited to receive Holy Communion.

How to financially support us

Offerings can be made online at **stpaulpgm.org/give,** mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

A note on Communion Wafers

To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain 15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.
If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Gathering

The Gathering for worship began when you started readying yourself for worship

An Introduction to the day

"O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God's love and hope to our neighbors.

Prelude – *Out of consideration for our musicians, please refrain from talking during the prelude.*

*Confession and forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit. A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, in the presence of God and of one another.

P Most merciful God, **A: 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.**

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. **A: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn *"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* *(ELW 413)*

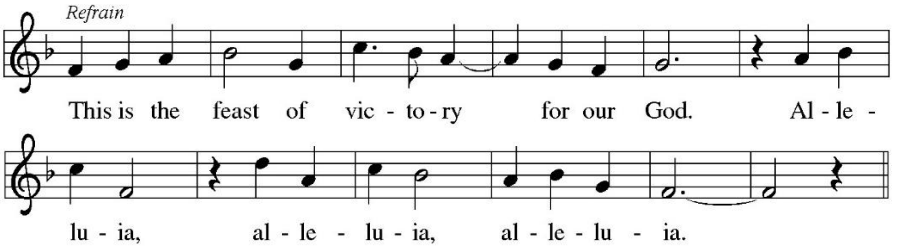
Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.
Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

*GREETING

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

*KYRIE

*THIS IS THE FEAST



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-
lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, 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, hon-or, 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, al-le-lu-ia.

*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also with you.**
P: Let us pray. 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.
A: Amen.

Word

First Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

In several places in Proverbs God's Wisdom is personified as a woman. Like the Logos ("Word") in John 1 (and in Greek philosophy), Wisdom is the means through which God brings forth and maintains creation, and which is shared with humans for our benefit.

1 Does not wisdom call
and understanding raise her voice?
2 On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
3 beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
4 "To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all who live.

22 "The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
23 Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
24 When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
25 Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth,
26 when he had not yet made earth and fields
or the world's first bits of soil.
27 When he established the heavens, I was there;
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

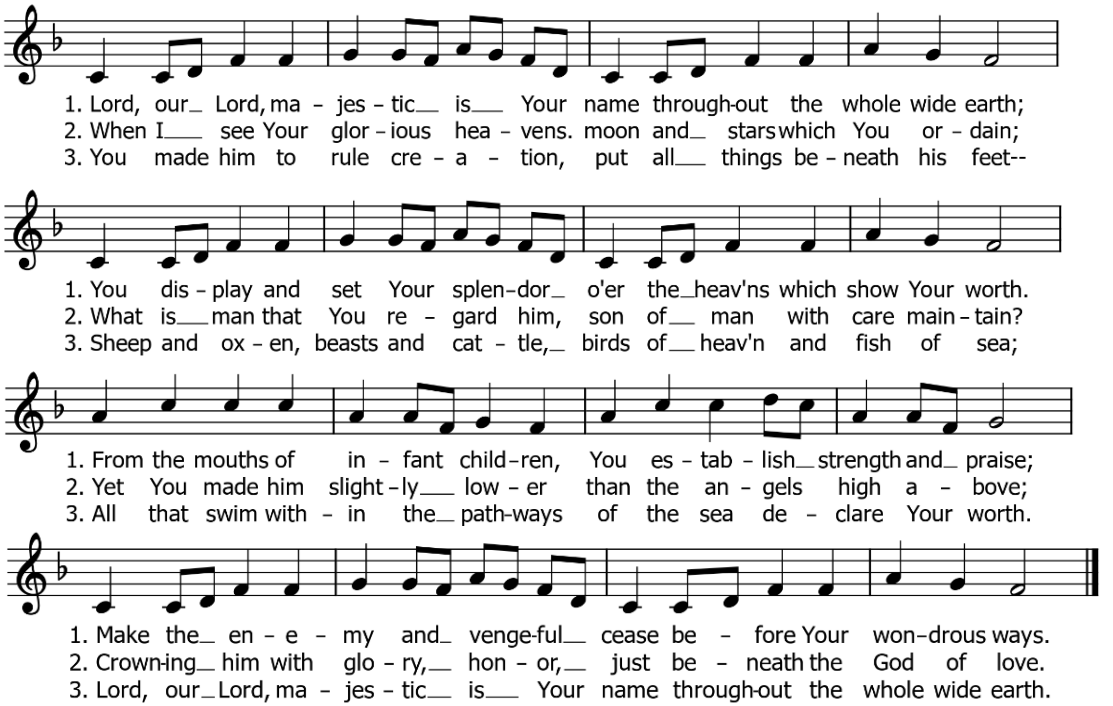
[28] when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
[29] when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
[30] then I was beside him, like a master worker,
and I was daily his delight,
playing before him always,
[31] playing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God**.

Psalm 8

(sung to the tune Holy Manna)

In the first reading God brings forth creation through Wisdom; here we are reminded that humanity, the crown of that creation, is entrusted with its care.



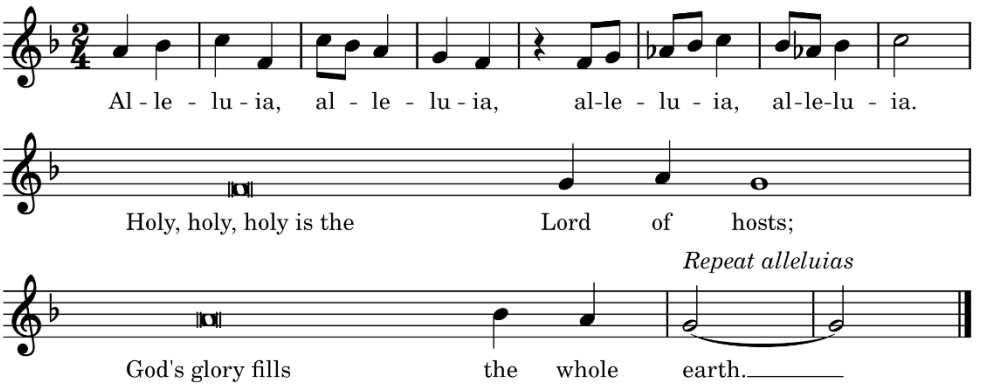
Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

This is one of the few passages from the New Testament which, within a very few verses, mention each member of the Trinity. For Paul, it is clear that our salvation (and our growth) is a shared work in which God, Jesus, and the Spirit play distinct roles.

[1] Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ, [2] through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand,
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. [3] And not only that, but we also
boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, [4] and endurance
produces character, and character produces hope, [5] and hope does not put us to
shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that
has been given to us.

L: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel Reading: John 16:12-15

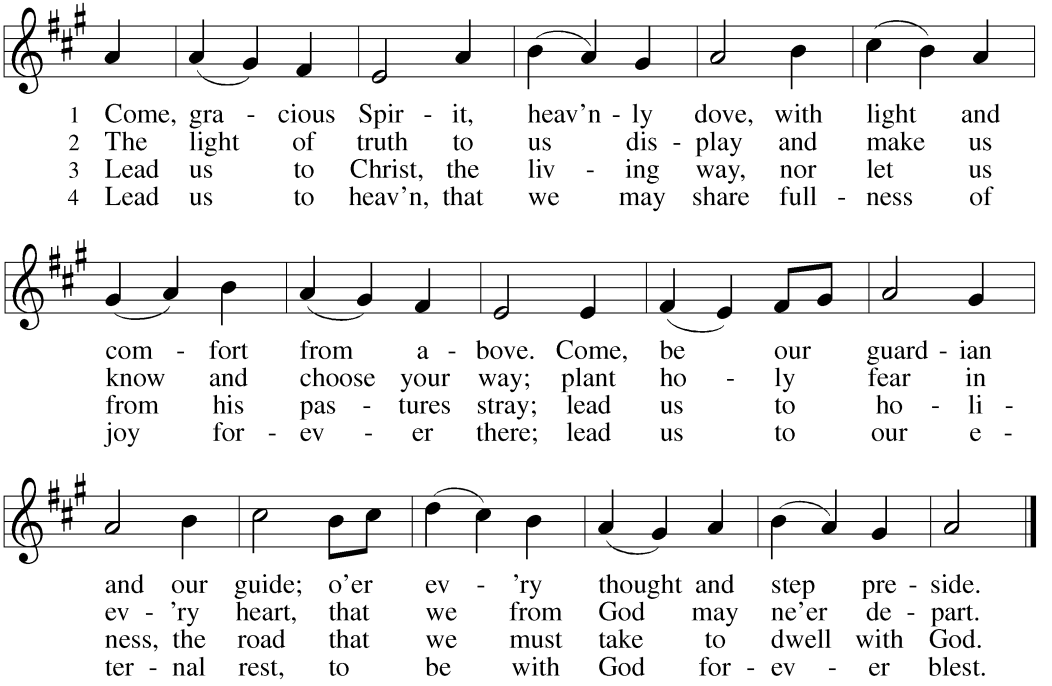
As part of his final address to his followers, Jesus promises that the Spirit will continue his work of revelation. Elsewhere in that address, he describes that Spirit as "Advocate" or helper. Here he identifies the Spirit as the "Spirit of truth." "Truth" has been an important theme for John, from chapter 1, where Jesus is described as being "full of grace and truth" to another point in this speech, where he identifies himself as "the Way, the Truth, and the Life" to his trial, where he is the unspoken answer to Pilate's question, "What is truth?"

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the sixteenth chapter.
A: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] 12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them
now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not
speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things
that are to come. 14 He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to
you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine
and declare it to you." P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ**.

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "*Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove*" (LBW 475)



Text: Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt.
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

The Quincunque Vult (AKA, The Athanasian Creed)

P Whoever wants to cling to the catholic faith, to guard it whole and inviolable, believes these mysteries:

A We worship one God in trinity and the Trinity in unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the divine being.

1 For the Father is one person,
2 the Son is another,
3 and the Spirit is still another.

A But the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one,
equal in glory, coeternal in majesty.

1 What the father is,
2 the Son is,
3 and so is the Holy Spirit.
1 Uncreated is the Father;
2 uncreated is the Son;
3 uncreated is the Spirit.
1 The Father is infinite;
2 the Son is infinite;
3 the Holy Spirit is infinite.
1 Eternal is the Father;
2 eternal is the Son;
3 eternal is the Spirit.

A And yet there are not three eternal beings, but one who is eternal;
as there are not three uncreated and unlimited beings,
but one who is uncreated and unlimited.

1 Almighty is the Father;
2 almighty is the Son;
3 almighty is the Spirit:

A And yet there are not three almighty beings, but one who is almighty.

1 Thus the Father is God;
2 the Son is God;
3 the Holy Spirit is God:

A And yet there are not three gods, but one God.

1 Thus the Father is Lord;
2 the Son is Lord;
3 the Holy Spirit is Lord:

A And yet there are not three lords, but one Lord.

A **As Christian truth compels us**
to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord,
so catholic religion forbids us to say that there are three gods or lords.

1 The Father was neither made nor created nor begotten;

2 the Son was neither made nor created,
but was alone begotten of the Father;

3 the Spirit was neither made nor created,
but is proceeding from the Father and the Son.

1 Thus there is one Father, not three fathers;

2 one Son, not three sons;

3 one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

A **And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other;**
but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal.
and so we must worship the Trinity in unity
and the one God in three persons.

P This is how we think of the Trinity.

P But we also faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus became flesh.

A **For this is the true faith that we believe and confess:**
That our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is at once God and a human being.

1 He is God, begotten before all ages from the being of the Father,

2 and he is a human being, born in this age from the being of his mother.

1 He is perfect God

2 and a perfect human being,

3 composed of a rational soul and human flesh.

1 He is equal to he Father with respect to his divinity,

3 less than the Father with respect to his humanity.

A **Although he is God and a human being,**
nevertheless he is not two but one Christ.

1 However, he is not one by the changing of the divinity into the flesh,
but by the taking up of the humanity in God.

2 Indeed, he is one not by a confusion of substance but by a unity of person.

3 For, as the rational soul and the flesh are one human being,
so God and the human being are one Christ

A **He suffered death for our salvation.**
He descended into hell and rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
At his coming all people shall rise bodily
to give an account of their own deeds.

P This is the catholic faith. We believe this firmly and faithfully.

Formatting of Quincunque Vult done by the Rev. Dr. Mark W. Oldenburg

*Prayers of Intercession

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

L: Abiding God, your love pours into your whole church, creating faith and bestowing hope. Fill all the baptized with these good gifts in our various callings. Gather your church in every place and expression into the unity of your Spirit. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Creating God, your name is majestic in all the earth, and we are filled with awe at your creation. Renew this planet and all its wonders: springs abounding with water, earth and soil, beasts of the field, birds of the air, and fish of the sea. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Sovereign God, you delight in the whole human race. On this week of Juneteenth, bring an end to racial oppression and heal the wounds of racial trauma. Grant us your wisdom, so that all people, especially those in authority, work for the life and freedom of others. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Compassionate God, your mindful care for us is everlasting. Give peace to all who are troubled, endurance to all who suffer, deliverance to all who are afflicted, healing to all who are sick (*especially*), and comfort to all who grieve, especially the family of James Rearick. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Living God, your glory appears in our shared life. On this Father's Day, give to all fathers and father figures gentle hearts and strong spirits, heal the wounds in our families, and comfort those for whom this day brings pain. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Eternal God, your hope does not disappoint. We give you thanks for all who have died in the hope of the resurrection especially James Rearick, Pearl Smith, Todd Wheeler, Charles Thomas Aikens, our former pastor, and the Emanuel Nine martyrs. Hold us in our grief and bring us at last to fullness of life in you. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
A: Amen.

*Peace

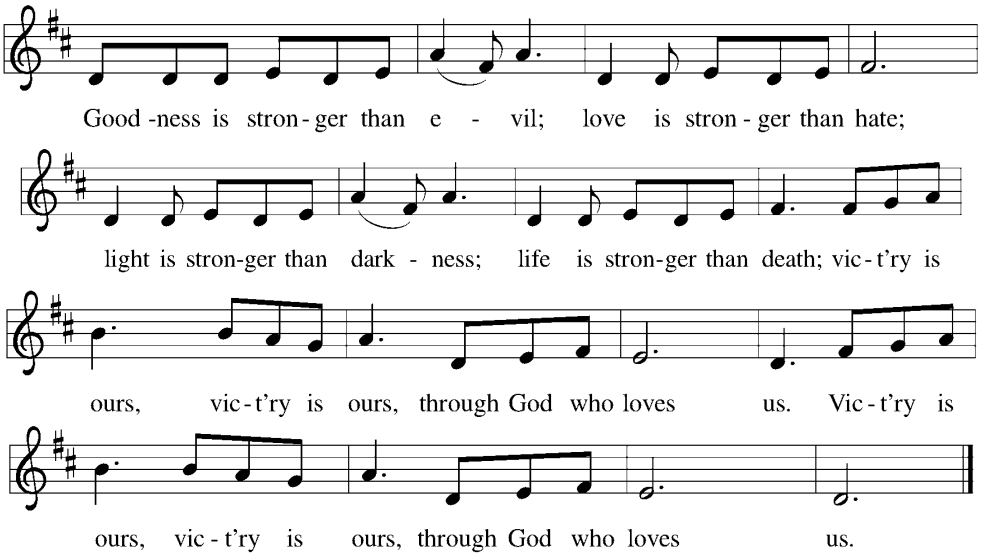
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

Meal

Offering

Musical Offering

*Offertory: *"Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil"* *(ELW 721)*



Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931
Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949
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Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
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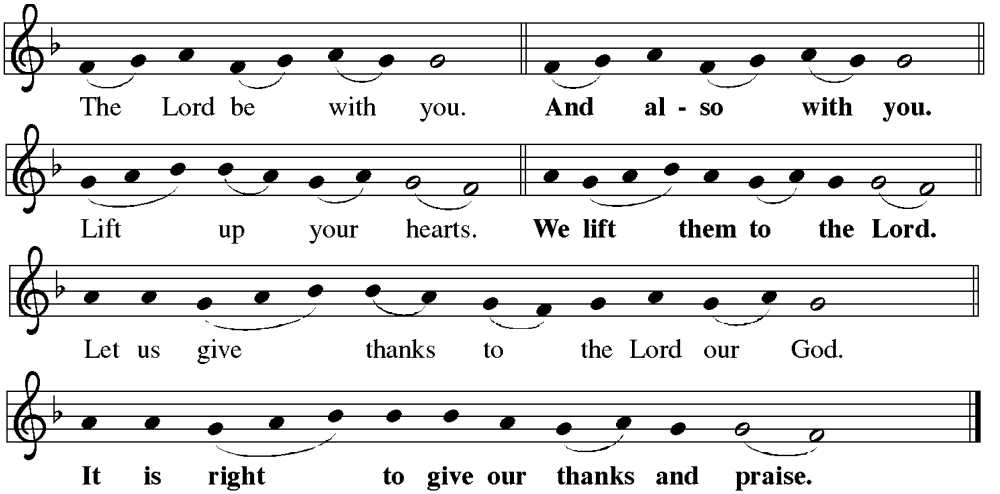
*Offering Prayer

L: Let us pray: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

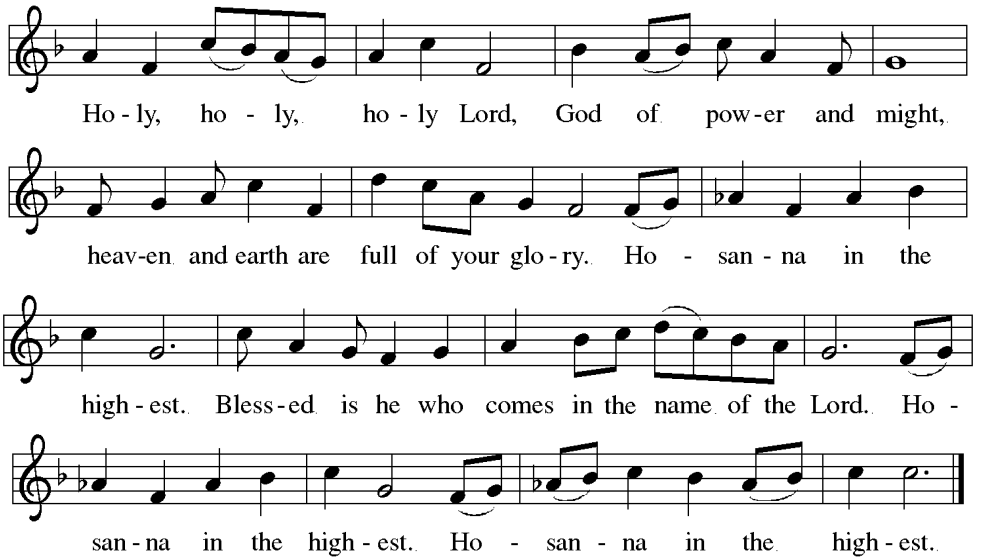
* DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

P: 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. 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:

*SANCTUS



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!
Before all that is, you were God.
Outside all we know, you are God. After all is finished, you will be God.
Archangels sound the trumpets, angels teach us their song,
and the saints and martyrs pull us into your presence.

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!
You beyond the galaxies, you under the oceans, you inside the leaves,
you pouring down rain, you opening the flowers, you feeding the insects,
you giving us your image, you carrying us through the waters,
you holding us in the night;
your smile on Sarah and Abraham, your hand with Moses and Miriam,
your words through Deborah and Isaiah.
You lived as Jesus among us, healing, teaching, dying, rising,
inviting us all to your feast.

In the night in which he was handed over, he 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.

Holy Father, we remember your Son,
his life with the humble, his death among the wretched,
his resurrection and ascension for us all:
Your wisdom our guide, your justice our strength,
your grace our path to rebirth.

And so, with the church from across the eons, yearning for his mercy, glory, and blessing we cry,
A: Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy Father, we beg for the Spirit:
Enliven this bread, awaken this body, pour us out for each other.
Transfigure our minds, ignite your church, nourish the life of the earth.
Make us, while many, united, make us, though broken, whole,
make us, despite death, alive.

And so with the whole church and the earth itself, we cry out:
A: Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three,
our Life, our Mercy, our Might, our Table, our Food, our Server,
our Rainbow, our Ark, our Dove,
our Sovereign, our Water, our Wine, our Light, our Treasure, our Tree,
our Way, our Truth, our Life.
You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three, Holy Father, Holy Son, and Holy Spirit!
Praise now, praise tomorrow, praise forever.
A: Amen, amen, amen!

*Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

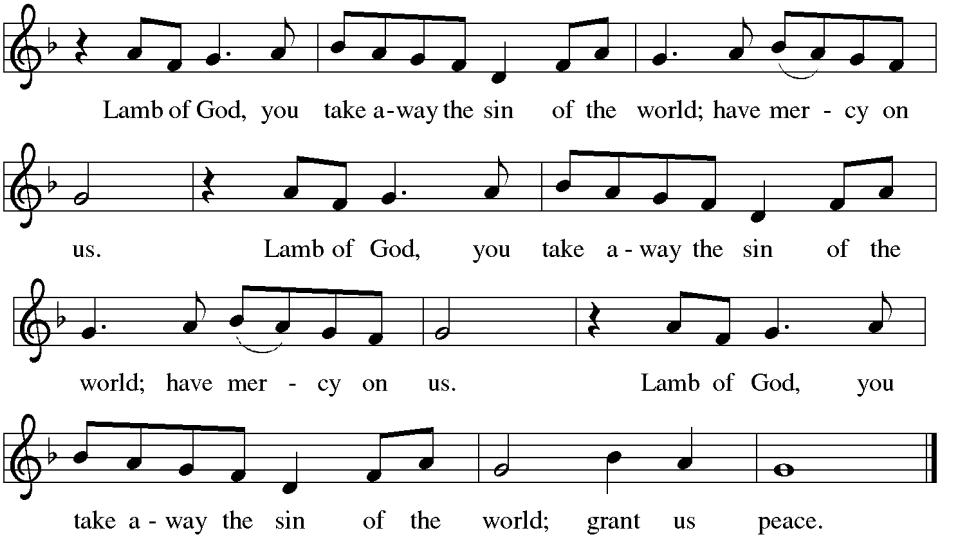
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

*Lamb of God



Communion

P: The body of Christ, given for you. L: The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

Communion Hymn: *"Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud"* *(ACS 947)*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1841–1903
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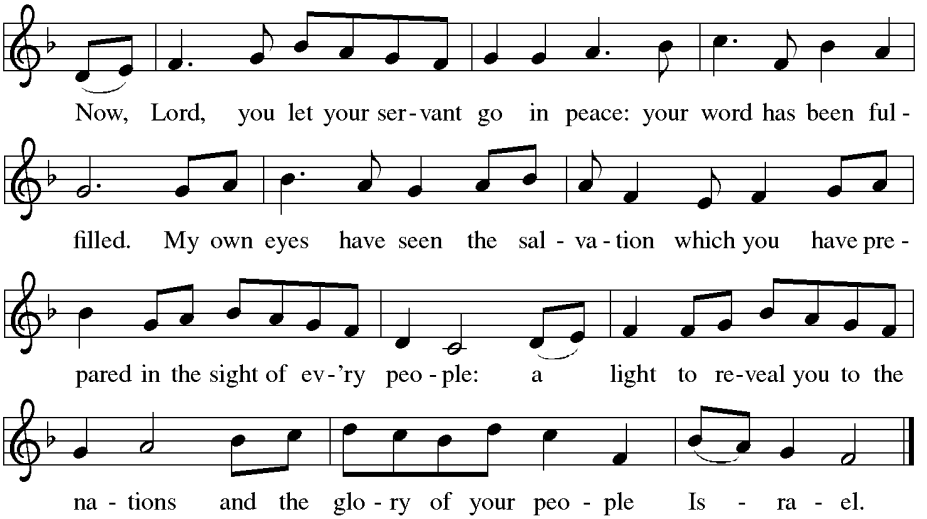
*Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you, body, mind, and soul, now, and unto eternal life**. A: Amen.**

*Post-Communion Canticle – *Nunc Dimittis* (*Now, Lord)*



*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **A: Amen.**

Sending

Blessing of Fathers

God of all creation, pour out your blessing on all fathers and those who provide fatherly care. You have made them in your image and given them children to love and care for in your name. Bless them with a heart like your heart: discerning and thoughtful, bold and decisive, compassionate and loving. As they model for their children
the life that is lived by faith and not by sight, grant them courage under pressure and confidence in your power. When troubles threaten to overwhelm them, grant them your coping calm. When doubts give rise to anxiety, shore up their trust in your promises. When joy fills their days, grant them a keen gratitude for your abundant supply of grace. Season them with a lively sense of humor, Lord, for it will make life richer for us all. In all circumstances preserve them as your own. We ask this in Jesus' name. **A: Amen.**

*Sending of communion

P: Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **A: Amen.**

Announcements

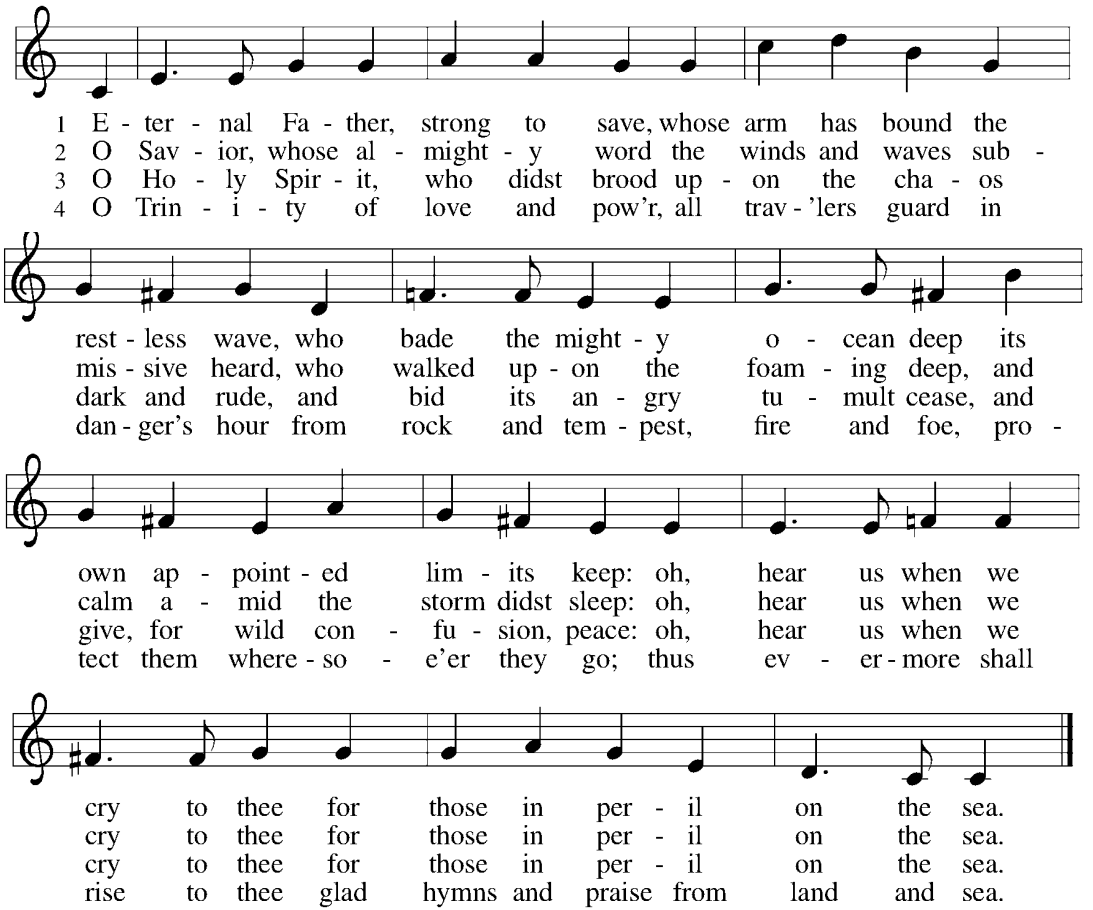
You may be seated.

Table Grace for Fellowship Potluck

*Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"* *(ELW 756)*



Text: William Whiting, 1825–1878, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Daily Readings for the week

Sunday, June 15
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8 (2)
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Monday, June 16
Proverbs 7:1-4
Ephesians 4:7-16
Psalm 124

Tuesday, June 17
Proverbs 8:4-21
Ephesians 5:15-20
Psalm 124

Wednesday, June 18
Daniel 1:1-21
Luke 1:46b-55
Psalm 124

Thursday, June 19
Isaiah 56:9-12
Romans 2:17-29
Psalm 22:19-28

Friday, June 20
Isaiah 57:1-13
Galatians 3:15-22
Psalm 22:19-28

Saturday, June 21
Isaiah 59:1-8
Matthew 9:27-34
Psalm 22:19-28

ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Kevin Shock
Assisting Minister.....Linda Govere
Pianist.....Michelle McMullen
Sacristan.....Delorse Homan
Reader.....Jeff Muthler

About St. Paul

Purpose

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

Mission

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

Core Values

Faith • Compassion • Generosity • Community

Our Bible Verses

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

Land Acknowledgement

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

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