



The Day of Pentecost May 19, 2024

Whenever you see an asterisk (*), you are invited to stand as you are able. You are invited to speak sans serif **Bolded type** with the congregation.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

PRELUDE: "Toccata" (Gordon Young)

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP – VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Jesus Christ, ascended into Heaven!

Our God is enthroned in majesty! Alleluia!

Today, we recall the fulfilled promise,

that the Spirit would be poured out.

Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to stir up within us and fall fresh upon us.

Come, Holy Spirit, send forth the heavenly radiance of your light.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, mother of the poor, come, giver of gifts, come, light of the heart.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Greatest comforter, sweet guest of the soul, sweet consolation.

Come, Holy Spirit!

In labor, rest, in heat, temperance, in tears, solace.

Come, Holy Spirit!

O most blessed light, fill the inmost heart of your faithful.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Without your spirit, there is nothing in a person, nothing that is not harmful.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Cleanse that which is unclean, water that which is dry,

heal that which is wounded.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Bend that which is inflexible, fire that which is chilled, correct what goes astray.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Give to your faithful, those who trust in you, the sevenfold gifts.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Grant the reward of virtue, grant the deliverance of salvation, grant eternal joy.

(ELW 394)

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, Holy Spirit!

Come, Holy Spirit! Amen! Alleluia!

*GATHERING HYMN "Hail Thee, Festival Day!" Refrain Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev - er; day when the Ho - ly Ghost shone in the world with his grace. on those who a - wait his ap - pear - ing, Bright and in like-ness of fire, the Al-might-y, the Lord, the rul - er of earth and the heav-ens 5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r now flow in us, fount of our be - ing, Repeat refrain once after each stanza he whom the Lord had fore-told sud - den-ly, swift-ly de - scends: from harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in: guard us light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide: light that en -Dai - lv the li dorned with love ness a the grows, Je - sus, the health of the world, light - en our en Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and of blos som: heav - en glo ry her gates un - bars, minds, great re deem er, Son of the Fa - ther su -Au thor of con cord, pour out your balm on our Repeat refrain once after each stanza of light: fling her ing in crease preme, on ly be got ten of God:

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, 530–609; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Music: SALVE FESTA DIES, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

der our

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

days;

in

your

peace:

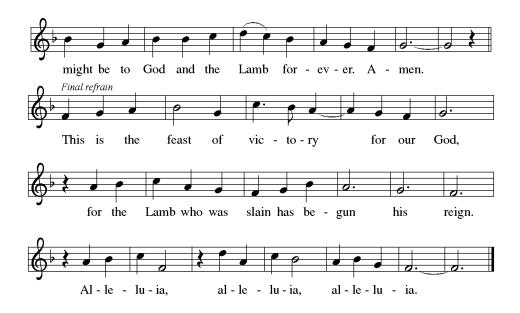
ways

*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.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. A: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **A: Amen**

WORD

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 37:1-14

Judah had been defeated, the temple destroyed, and many citizens were taken into exile in Babylon. Seventy years later, cut off from home and seemingly from the promises of God, the exiles were drained of hope. In this vision, the Spirit of God renews and affirms that the Israelites continued to be God's chosen people, and would soon be brought back to their own country. In Hebrew, a single word means "spirit," "wind," and "breath" – all of these meanings run through the vision.

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put

breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GoD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

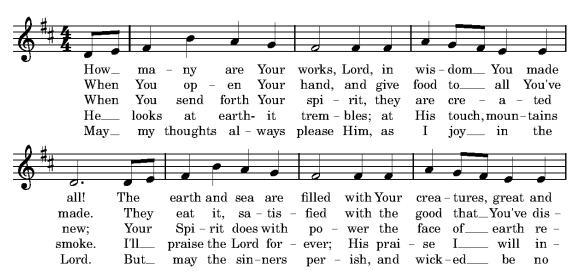
¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

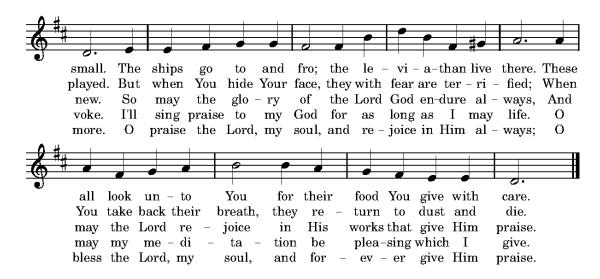
L: The word of the Lord. A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 104:24-34, 35B

(Sung to the tune Munich [ELW 810])

These verses, whose vision of the universality of God's message is appropriate for Pentecost, also include the line which inspires the Nicene Creed's declaration that the Spirit is not only Lord, but Life-Giver. "Leviathan" is a sea monster, probably inspired by reports from the Nile of the hippopotamus.





SECOND READING: ACTS 2:1-21

For first century Jews, Pentecost (Shavuot) was, like Passover, one of the three annual festivals for which everyone who could went to Jerusalem. Given the rhythms of agricultural life, it was the one most possible for most people. Just as Passover commemorated the escape from Egypt, Shavuot commemorated the giving of the law on Sinai (50 days later). Wind and flame accompanied the presence of God on that mountain.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed,

these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

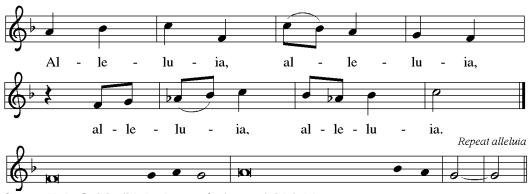
¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts | of your faithful,* and kindle in us the fire | of your love.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 15:26-27; 16:4B-15

As part of his final address to his followers, Jesus promises a "Paraclete." This marks the Holy Spirit as an "advocate," a defense attorney, but one who is also a trustworthy witness, and a companion (the word literally means, "one called to stand beside"). It is remarkable that John says that Jesus "gave up his spirit" (John 19:30) and that in his first resurrection appearance to the disciples, he breathed the Spirit on them (John 20:22)

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the fifteenth chapter. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When 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. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

L: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ**.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: "O Spirit All-Embracing"

(ACS 944)



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

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*INVITATION TO BAPTISM

*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.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

L: We pray for the church universal, for its ministries, and for the spread of the gospel. Shower your Spirit upon Sunday school students, confirmands, and the newly baptized (especially). God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: For the earth, our precious home. We give thanks for the diversity of plant and animal life on our planet. Empower us by your Spirit to be wise and faithful stewards of all you have made. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: For the nations and those who govern. Give those in authority understanding hearts, that they work together to bring justice and peace on earth. Grant all who vote in elections wisdom and discernment. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: For those in need around the world: for victims of crimes, for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation, for those who are incarcerated. For all who suffer in any way (*especially*). God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: For this congregation and its ministries: for those who plan and lead worship, for acolytes and communion servers, for readers and tech ministers, for all who prepare and clean our worship space. May our worship be pleasing in your sight. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: We remember the faithful departed (especially). Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us in the faith. At the last day, breathe new life into our dry bones, that we might feast forever with all the saints in light. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

A: Amen.

*PEACE

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

MEAL

OFFERING



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.

MUSICAL OFFERING: "Resignation"

(Alice Jordan)

OFFERTORY - "Come, O Holy Spirit, Come"

(WOV 681)



Text and music: WA EMIMIMO, The Church of the Lord (Aladura); transc. and para. I-to Loh, b. 1936

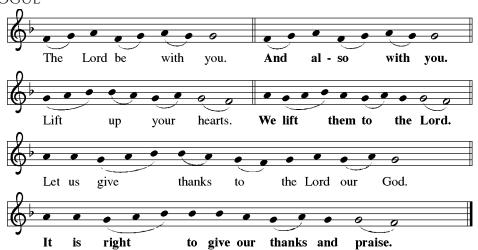
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*OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING





*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, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,

you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

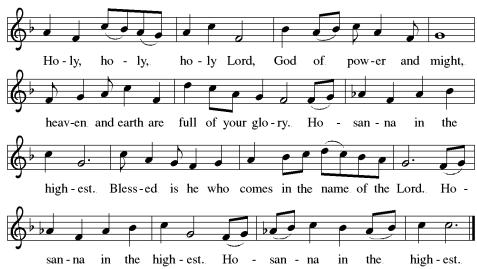
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God,

Breath of life and Fire of love:

with a mighty wind you brought creation into being,

by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom,

and through your Counsel the prophets and poets were inspired.

We praise you for the gift of your Son,

who, by ascending to sit at your right hand and filling all things, poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

In the night in which he was handed over,

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.

In the Holy Spirit, we proclaim the great mystery of our faith:

A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore,

his death, resurrection,

and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit,

we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth.

A: Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal:

anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love,

that, with thankful hearts,

we may be witnesses to your Son.

A: Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

A. Amen

*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

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.

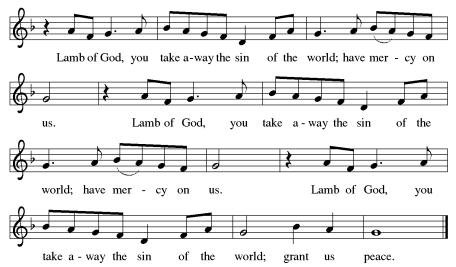
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

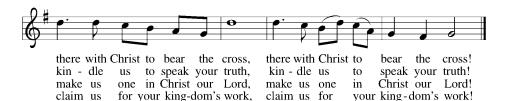
L: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN: "God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind" (ELW (400)





past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser-vice, let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice, for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us; may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

A: Amen

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise (ELW 207)



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **A: Amen.**

SENDING

*SENDING OF COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

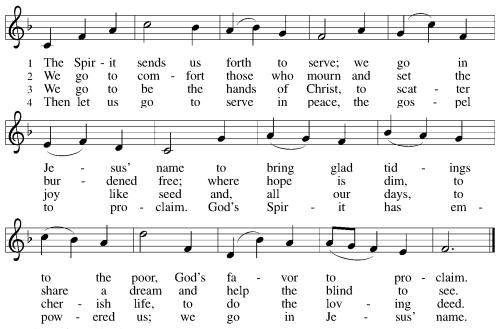
You may be seated.

*CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

*BLESSING

L: 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: "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" (ELW 546)



Text: Delores Dufner, osB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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*DISMISSAL

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **A: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**L: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE: "Postilion" (Gordon Young)



DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 19

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (30)

Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Monday, May 20

Joel 2:18-29

Corinthians 12:4-11

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Tuesday, May 21

Genesis 11:1-9

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Wednesday, May 22

Ezekiel 37:1-14

John 20:19-23

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Thursday, May 23

Isaiah 1:1-4, 16-20

Romans 8:1-8

Psalm 29

Friday, May 24

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 8:9-11

Psalm 29

Saturday, May 25

Isaiah 5:15-24

John 15:18-20, 26-27

Psalm 29



SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader	Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister	Linda Govere
Musician	Jim Rearick
Sacristan	Karen Magnuson
Reader	Joy Kling

ABOUT ST. PAUL

<u>Purpose</u>

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. [lesus 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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