

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

5900 Applebutter Hill Rd. Coopersburg, Pa 18036

610-965-9500 e-mail: bluechch@ptd.net Website: stpaulscoopersburg.com

Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jitrev1@verizon.net

Blue Church Cemetery e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

Third Sunday of Easter – April 15, 2018

**PRELUDE – “Hear My Prayer” – Mendelssohn
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain (and snow).

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.

P: We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

C: We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

P: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for those newly baptized, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN #367 “NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS”

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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 and hon - or and 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.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: ACTS 3:12-19

PSALM 4 *Sung responsively* **Psalm Tone 8**

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me
and | hear my prayer.

²**You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek | after lies?"**

³Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me | when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and | do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed | sacrifices,
and put your trust | in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, "Who will show us | any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon | us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness | in my heart,
more than when grain and | wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie | down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me | rest secure.**

SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 3:1-7

EASTER VERSE & ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th Chapter.

☩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 24:36B-48

The Gospel of the LORD.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

HYMN #368 "WITH HIGH DELIGHT LET US UNITE"

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

THE PRAYERS

Response : hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

OFFERING "IN REMEMBRANCE" – DAVE WILLIAMSON

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

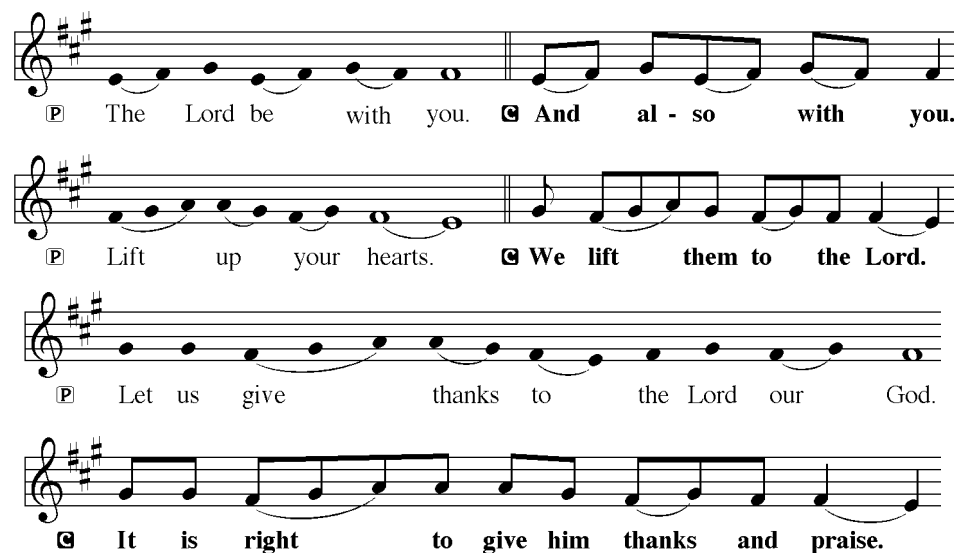
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*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.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



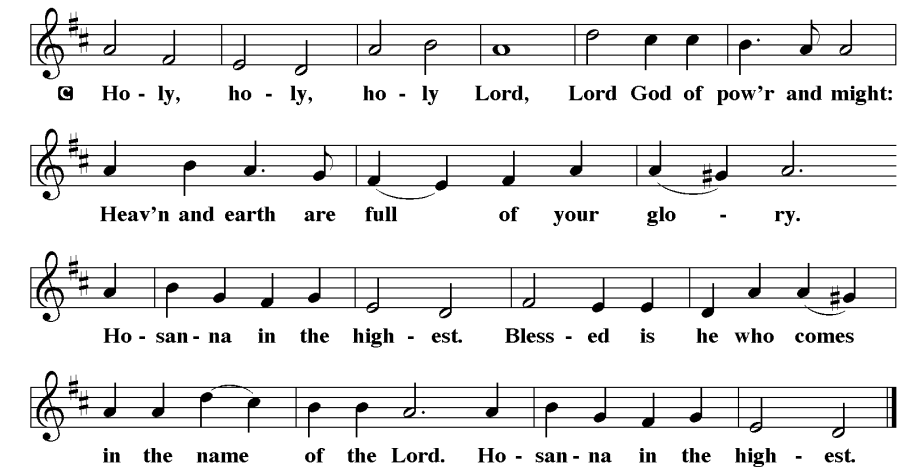
The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 HOLY COMMUNION

Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven.
Hallelujah!

LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION - #374 "DAY OF ARISING"

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

May God, who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #380

"HALLELUJAH! JESUS LIVES"

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – "THE HEAVENS DECLARE HIS GLORY" - BEETHOVEN

☩ ☩ ☩

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors.

"God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond. –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR...THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

ACTS 3:12-19: *After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

1 JOHN 3:1-7: *God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

LUKE 24:36b-48: *In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.*

PRAYER FOR 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER: When Christ is revealed, we shall be like him. (See 1 John 3:2)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord of peace, you open the hearts of your disciples to understand the scriptures. Reveal yourself to us in your word so that we may know your love and mercy. Amen.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering: Anthony Abate, Jake Dilger, Connie Fazekas, Doris Heiserman, Marie Miller, Carl Ritter, Shannon Silliman,

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in “acute care” situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of persons for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETERS	Richard & Beverly Lerch
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dick Storat
LECTOR	Dick Storat
CANTOR	Ron Fried
USHERS	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Carol Stoudt

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal at Blue Church.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship.

WED.: 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.

THURS.: 6:30 – 7:30 PM Den Meeting.

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM Christian Education at Blue Church.
10:30 AM Worship.
7 PM Confirmation Class.

COMING EVENTS - mark your calendar!

MAY 19 – 8:00 AM Mulch and Garden day at Blue Church. Bring wheelbarrows, rakes and gloves.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:
SANCTUARY LAMP...by Bill and Kathy Exner.
COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Roger and Edie Knappenberger

THANK YOU TO SUSAN CLEMENS-BRUDER for sponsoring and arranging for the Muhlenberg Gospel Choir to be here and share their wonderful talent on Palm Sunday.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who helped yesterday with the In-House Spring Cleaning at Blue Church.

THERE ARE STILL OPEN DATES TO SPONSOR THE ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETINS AND SANCTUARY LAMP FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL. Please check the charts on the Bulletin Boards in the Narthex.

BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>MAR.</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
RECEIPTS	\$ 6,114.00	\$17,071.00
EXPENSES	\$11,928.35	\$44,355.12
(DEFICIT)	(\$ 5,814.35)	(\$27,284.12)

ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES

	\$4,500.00	\$13,500.00
ENDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND	\$ 2,001.83	

HAPPENING THIS WEEK.....

APRIL 21 – ANSELM, BISHOP OF CANTERBURY, DIED 1109
This eleventh-and twelfth-century Benedictine monk stands out as one of the greatest theologians between Augustine and Thomas Aquinas. He is counted among the medieval mystics who emphasized the maternal aspects of God. Of Jesus Anselm says, “In sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.” Anselm is perhaps best known for his “satisfaction” theory of atonement. He argued that human rebellion against God demands a payment, but because humanity is fallen it is incapable of making that satisfaction. But God takes on human nature in Jesus Christ, Anselm proposed, in order to make the perfect payment for sin.