

# 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; [jjtrev1@verizon.net](mailto:jjtrev1@verizon.net)

Blue Church Cemetery – 484-201-5048; e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 22, 2018**

**PRELUDE – “Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us” – Bradbury  
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 #836 “JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE”

### 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...O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:5-12**

**PSALM 23** *Sung responsively* *Psalm Tone 2*

The LORD | is my shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.

**2The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

**3You restore my | soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.**

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I  
shall | fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they |  
comfort me.**

**5You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.  
6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my  
life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

**SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 3:16-24**

**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. John, the 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

☩ Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18**

The Gospel of the LORD.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

**THE SERMON**

**HYMN #502 "THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS"**

**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 "SHEPHERD'S SONG" – ALEXANDER & AMERSON

*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

P The Lord be with you. C And al - so with you.  
 P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.  
 P 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!

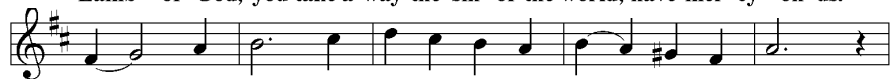
## LAMB OF GOD



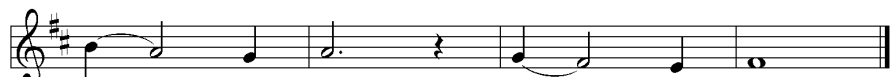
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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 - #782 "MY SHEPHERD, YOU SUPPLY MY NEED"

### 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 #778

"THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD"

## 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 – "REJOICING" - HANDEL



Liturgical music reprinted from **Lutheran Book of Worship**, © 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg-Fortress, license #15175-L. All rights reserved. Psalm 23 is reprinted from *Psalter for Worship Year B* copyright 2008 Augsburg Fortress. Copying of any music in this bulletin prohibited without written permission.

## 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....FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*The image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sister or brother in need.*

### ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

**ACTS 4:5-12:** *Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.*

**1 JOHN 3:16-24:** *Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.*

**JOHN 10:11-18:** *In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.*

**PRAYER FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER:** O God, help us love in action and in truth. (See 1 John 3:18)

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:** Good Shepherd, you laid down your life and rose again to be with your people. Help us serve the flock you have redeemed with your blood. Amen.

---

**BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering:** Anthony Abate, 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**

<b>CELEBRANT</b>	The Rev. James Hammond
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
<b>GREETERS</b>	Pete & Cathy Link
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Savannah Giannattasio
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Maggie Fried
<b>LECTOR</b>	Loraine Kline
<b>CANTOR</b>	Gwen Gibiser
<b>USHERS</b>	Ron & Carol Stoudt
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL REP</b>	Pete Link

**CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD**

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

**7 PM Confirmation Class.**

**WED.:** 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.

**NEXT SUN.:** **9 AM Choir Rehearsal.**

**9:30 AM Christian Education at Blue Church.**

**10:30 AM Worship.**

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: BULLETINS...**by Richard and Beverly Lerch in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

**COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...**by Roger and Edie Knappenberger

---

**HAPPENING THIS WEEK.....**

**APRIL 23 - TOYOHICO KAGAWA, RENEWER OF SOCIETY, DIED 1960**

Toyohiko Kagawa (toy-oh-hee-koh ka-ga-wah) was born in 1888 in Kobe, Japan. Orphaned early, he was disowned by his remaining extended family when he became a Christian. Kagawa wrote, spoke, and worked at length on ways to employ Christian principles in the ordering of society. His vocation to help the poor led him to live among them. He established schools, hospitals, and churches. He also worked for peace and established the Anti-War League. He was arrested for his efforts to reconcile Japan and China after the Japanese attack of 1940.

**APRIL 25 - MARK, EVANGELIST**

Though Mark himself was not an apostle, it is likely that he was a member of one of the early Christian communities. It is possible that he is the John Mark of Acts 12 whose mother owned the house where the apostles gathered. The gospel attributed to him is brief and direct. It is considered by many to be the earliest gospel. Tradition has it that Mark went to preach in Alexandria, Egypt, became the first bishop there, and was martyred.

---