

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

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

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost ✠ August 5, 2018

PRELUDE – "HOW GREAT THOU ART" – STUART HINE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love. **Amen.**

Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection

Eternal God our creator,
in you we live and move and have our being Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ✠ forgives you all your sins. **Amen.**

HYMN #638 "BLESSED ASSURANCE"

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

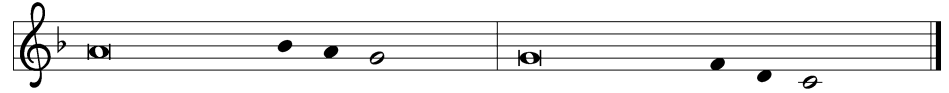
FIRST LESSON:

EXODUS 16:2-4, 9-15

PSALM 78:23-29

Sung responsively

Psalm Tone 2



²³So God commanded the | clouds above
and opened the | doors of heaven,

²⁴**raining down manna upon | them to eat
and giving them | grain from heaven.**

²⁵So mortals ate the | bread of angels;
God provided for them | food enough.

²⁶**The LORD caused the east wind to blow | in the heavens
and powerfully led out | the south wind,**

²⁷raining down flesh upon | them like dust
and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,

²⁸**letting them fall in the midst | of the camp
and round a- | bout the dwellings.**

²⁹So the people ate and | were well filled,
for God gave them | what they craved.

SECOND LESSON:

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

VERSE



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th Chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

JOHN 6:24-35

The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #487 – “WHAT FEAST OF LOVE”

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. 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.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Response : hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING – “WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS” – KEITH CHRISTOPHER

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

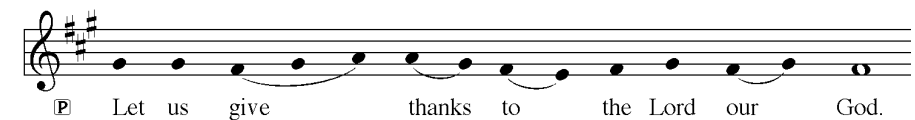
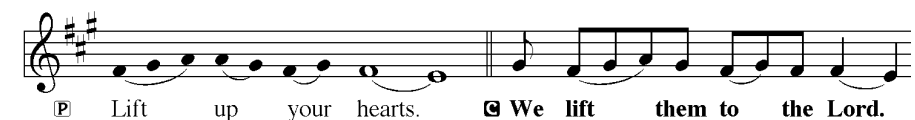
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*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

Merciful God,
you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *The pastor offers the 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

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN: #656 “BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS”

BLESSING

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

PRAYER

Let us pray...Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are LORD forevermore. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #618 – “GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – “POSTLUDE IN G MINOR” – J.S. BACH

☩ ☩ ☩

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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....THE 11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus’ feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John’s gospel when people want a sign. Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

EXODUS 16:2-4, 9-15: A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God’s saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.

EPHESIANS 4:1-16: Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one LORD, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry, whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ’s one body.

JOHN 6:24-35: Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 11: Lord, give us the bread of life. (See John 6:34)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus, you are the source of our skills and talents. Help us use them to strengthen the unity of your body, the church. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR....Sick/Recovering: Claire Biser, Doris Branson, Jason Homlish, Shannon Silliman, Ron Stoudt, Irmi

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	Pete & Cathy Link
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dick Storat
LECTOR	Dick Storat
CANTOR	Ron Fried
USHERS	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY	Susan Valasek
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Roger Knappenberger

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: **9:30 AM** Worship.

10:30 AM Community Day Meeting
immediately following Worship.

WED.: **9 AM** Quilting.

NEXT SUN.: **9:30 AM** Worship

**Church Council Picnic and Meeting at
Sue and Dick Storat’s residence.**

COMING EVENTS - mark your calendar!

**OCTOBER - BLUE CHURCH YARD SALE, SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 13TH AT LOWER MILFORD TOWNSHIP FIRE
COMPANY.**

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...by Anne Nichols in honor of Carly Hampton’s Birthday.

BULLETINS...by Mike & Paula Clark.

SANCTUARY LAMP...Kathy & Bill Exner in memory of Michael Barilla.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Emmett & Marie Miller

SIGN UP SHEETS ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE NARTHEX to sign up for watering and weeding the “Garden for Giving”. Kindly pick the week that you would be willing to help.

MANY THANKS TO THE ANONYMOUS PERSON WHO DONATED THE 100 FOOT RED GARDEN HOSE TO HELP SUPPLY WATER TO THE “GARDEN OF GIVING”.

PLEASE CHECK OUT THE SIGN-UP SHEETS ON THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR WAYS TO HELP WITH COMMUNITY DAY ON SEPTEMBER 15TH. There are a lot of opportunities for you to help.

THERE ARE STILL OPEN DATES TO SPONSOR THE SANCTUARY CANDLE, BULLETINS, ETC. Please check the appropriate chart on the Bulletin Boards in the Narthex.

THE PRODUCE ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX IS FROM THE BLUE CHURCH “GIVING GARDEN”. Please feel free to take what you can use and leave a donation in the “Cabbage”. All monies will be donated to Betty Lou’s Food Pantry to help feed the hungry.

Do you see anything around Blue Church that needs repairs? If so, jot it down on the form on the clip board on the table in the Narthex and the Property Committee will look into fixing it.

THE DATE HAS BEEN SET!! BLUE CHURCH WILL HAVE A YARD SALE ON OCTOBER 13TH. Mark your calendar. *It’s not too early to start saving all your unwanted “treasures” for this event.*
