

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost ✠ July 29, 2018

PRELUDE – "SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER" – JAMES MANSFIELD
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 #843 "PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS"

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...Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

2 KINGS 4:42-44

PSALM 145:10-18

Sung responsively

Psalm Tone 2



- ¹⁰All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.
- ¹¹**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**
- ¹²that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.
- ¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures through- | out all ages.
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words,
and loving in | all your works.**
- ¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.
- ¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,
and you give them their food | in due season.**
- ¹⁶You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.
- ¹⁷**You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works.**
- ¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

SECOND LESSON:

EPHESIANS 3:14-21

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 6:1-21

The Gospel of the LORD.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN #469 – “BY YOUR HAND YOU FEED YOUR PEOPLE”

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 – “I WILL BELIEVE” – DUET BY VERN FEHNEL AND JENN DODD

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

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

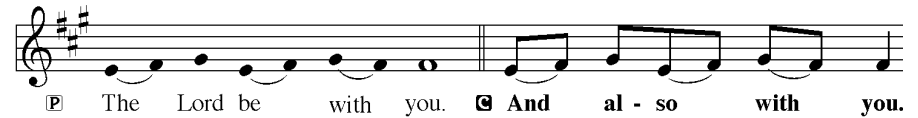
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

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.

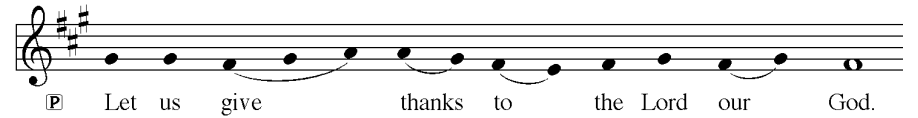
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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

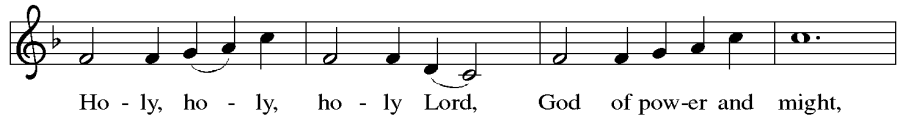


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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: #492 “EAT THIS BREAD, DRINK THIS CUP”

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 #547 – “SENT FORTH BY GOD’S BLESSING”

DISMISSAL

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

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – “FINALE” – JOHAN ROMAN

✠ ✠ ✠

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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 10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus’ table seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

2 KINGS 4:42-44: *Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

EPHESIANS 3:14-21: *We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

JOHN 6:1-21: *In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 10: By your power, accomplish in us more than we imagine. (See Ephesians 3:20)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus Christ, you fed your people when you saw their hunger. Open our eyes to the suffering of our neighbors and give us strength to help those who hunger and thirst. 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, Joyce Christman, Doris Heiserman, Jason Homlish, Mary Levy, Joanne Ritter, Shannon Silliman, Ron Stoudt, Irmie

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	Ron Fried
LECTOR	Lorraine Kline

CANTOR
USHERS
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY
CHURCH COUNCIL REP

Gwen Gibiser
Anne Nichols, Diane Wirth
Mike & Paula Clark
Ron Fried

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: **9:30 AM** Worship.
10:30 AM Yard Sale Committee Meeting
Immediately following Worship.

WED.: **9 AM** Quilting.

NEXT SUN.: **9:30 AM** Worship
10:30 AM Community Day meeting
immediately following Worship.

COMING EVENTS - mark your calendar!

AUG. 5 - Community Day meeting following Worship.
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 Shirley Hildebrand in memory of Larry Hildebrand.

BULLETINS...by Ron & Carol Stoudt in honor of their Wedding Anniversary.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Ron & Carol Stoudt

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.

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.
