

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter – June 2, 2019

PRELUDE – "PRAELUDIUM" – GORDON YOUNG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEDICATION OF STONE WALL (SEE INSERT)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Silence for reflection

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you. All life is sustained by you, our Source.

We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on Blue Church, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN #645 CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

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.

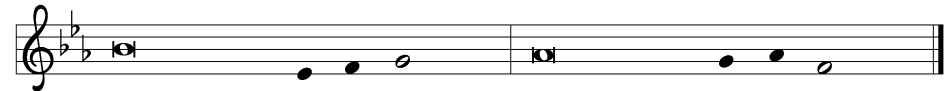
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

ACTS 16:16-34

PSALM 97 (Sung Responsively) Psalm Tone 10



The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

**2Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's
throne.**

**3Fire goes be- | fore the LORD,
burning up enemies on | every side.**

**4Lightnings light | up the world;
the earth | sees and trembles.**

**5The mountains | melt like wax
before the Lord of | all the earth.**

**6The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD,
and all the peoples | see your glory.**

**7Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false
gods! Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods.**

**8Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,
because of your judg- | ments, O LORD.**

**9For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth;
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.**

**10You who love the | LORD, hate evil!
God guards the lives of the saints
and rescues them from the hand | of the wicked.**

**11Light dawns | for the righteous,
and joy for the hon- | est of heart.**

**12Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's | holy name.**

SECOND LESSON:

REVELATION 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

EASTER VERSE & ALLELUIA



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17th Chapter.



THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 17:20-26

The Gospel of the LORD.



THE SERMON

HYMN "THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS" (INSERT)

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 : **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING — "ROCK OF AGES" — KEITH CHRISTOPHER

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

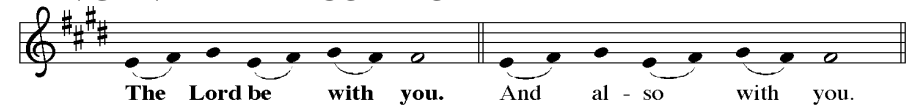
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*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.*

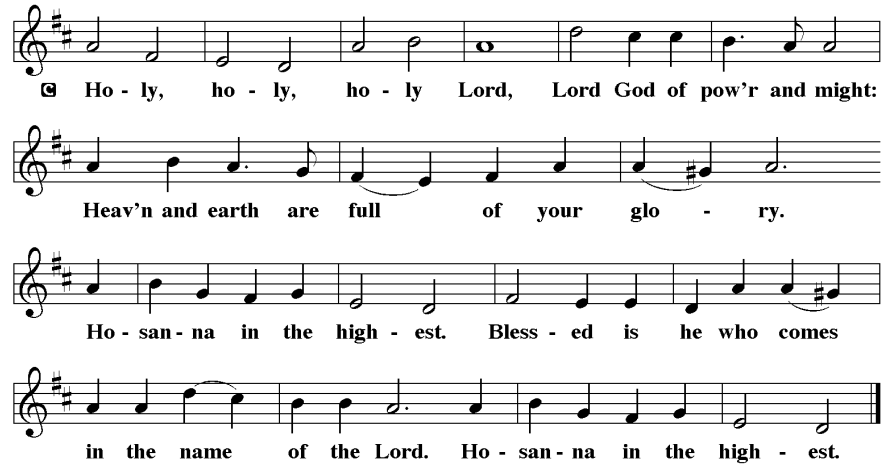
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Risen One,
as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia! Come to the feast.

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 - #588 *THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY*

BLESSING

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

PRAYER

Let us pray...Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The blessing of the living God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

HYMN - #547 *SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING*

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE – “A CHEERFUL TRUMPET” – PATRICIA LOU HARRIS

✠ ✠ ✠

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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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER...

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended LORD for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

ACTS 16:16-34: *The owners of a slave girl who used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for "healing" her and, consequently, ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.*

REVELATION 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21: *The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, LORD Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.*

JOHN 17:20-26: *Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: Come, Lord Jesus. (Revelation 22:20)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus, heal the wounds that divide your church, and make us witnesses to the unity you desire for the whole world. 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: Greg Baringer, Joel Hammond

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 those 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
GREETER	Bill Winkler
ASSISTING MINISTER	Maggie Fried

LECTOR	Gwen Gibiser
CANTOR	Gwen Gibiser
USHERS	Anne Nichols, Diane Wirth
ALTAR CARE	Sandy Denora, Genie Mattson
CHURCHTIME NURSERY	
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Ron Fried

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY:	9:30 AM Worship/Wall Dedication.
WED.:	9 AM Quilting.
SAT.:	8 AM Church Clean Up.
NEXT SUN.:	9:30 AM Worship – Pentecost/ Confirmation

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

June 10 – 7 PM Church Council Meeting.

June 23 – 9:30 AM Worship at Upper Saucon Park/Pot Luck Lunch.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 2:00 PM Worship at Valley Manor.
Please see Pastor Jim if you are willing to help on any of these Tuesdays.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...by Dean & Deb Stover in honor of Granddaughter Arya's 7th Birthday.

BULLETINS...by Lillian Frey.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Mike and Paula Clark.

There are still some weeks available to sponsor the Bulletins and Sanctuary Lamp. Please check the chart on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

IN SEARCH OF:

- 1. Someone willing to coordinate a Parish Photo Directory.**
- 2. Someone willing to take pictures of the events happening at Blue Church.**

Talk to Pastor Jim or any Church Council member for more information.

**A CHURCH CLEANUP IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY,
JUNE 8TH AT 8:00 AM.**

Some of the projects to be tackled are:

1. Finish the ramps for the bridge.
2. Stain the steps to the parking lot.
3. Install thermostats with covers.
4. Find vent for the sewer.
5. Clean up mulch and branches.
6. Bottom red door doesn't close.
7. Replace light in the kitchen and right side of worship area.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for you to sign up to help. Any amount of time you can give would be greatly appreciated.

Stewardship Snippet

June 2, 2019 (Seventh Sunday of Easter)

John 17:26—I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.

The foundation of generosity is the abundant love of God in Christ Jesus. It has the power to inspire and inform every aspect of our lives, including decisions about the most faithful use of our time, talent, and resources.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK.....

JUNE 3 – JOHN XXIII, BISHOP OF ROME, DIED 1963

In his ministry as a bishop of Venice, John (then Archbishop Roncalli) was loved by his people. He visited parishes and established new ones. He had warm affection for the working class—he himself was the child of Italian peasants—and he worked at developing social-action ministries. At age seventy-seven he was elected bishop of Rome. Despite the expectation that he would be a transitional pope, he had great energy and spirit. He convened the Second Vatican Council to open the windows of the church and “let in the fresh air of the modern world.” The council brought about great change in Roman Catholic worship, changes that have influenced Lutherans and many other Protestant churches as well.

JUNE 5 – BONIFACE, BISHOP OF MAINZ, MISSIONARY TO GERMANY, MARTYR, DIED 754

Boniface (his name means “good deeds”) was born Wynfrith in Devonshire, England. He was a Benedictine monk who at the age of thirty was called to missionary work among the Vandal tribes in Germany. His first missionary attempt was unsuccessful, but he returned two years later and was able to plant the gospel in an area filled with superstitious and violent practices. He led large numbers of Benedictine monks and nuns in establishing churches, schools, and seminaries. Boniface was also a reformer. He persuaded two rulers to call synods to put an end to the practice of selling church offices to the highest bidder. Boniface was preparing a group for confirmation on the eve of Pentecost when he was killed by a band of pagans.

JUNE 7 – SEATTLE, CHIEF OF THE DUWAMISH CONFEDERACY, DIED 1866

Noah Seattle was chief of the Suquamish tribe and later became chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, a tribal alliance. When the tribes were faced with an increasing number of white settlers, Seattle chose to live and work peacefully with them rather than engage in wars. After Seattle became a Roman Catholic, he began the practice of morning and evening prayer in the tribe, a practice that continued after his death. On the centennial of his birth, the city of Seattle—named for him against his wishes—erected a monument over his grave.