

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 or 484-375-5875;

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The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – June 20, 2021

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

God our provider,
help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ☩ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

HYMN #824 "THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD"

GREETING

From God our Father and the LORD Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

JOB 38:1-11

PSALM 107:1-3, 23-32 *Spoken responsively*

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²**to herald your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night;**

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre,
and to the melody of the harp.

⁴**For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;
and I shout for joy because of the works¹ of your hands.**

¹²The righteous shall flourish ¹ like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³**Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
shall flourish in the courts of our God;**

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵**that they may show how upright the LORD is,
my rock, in whom there is no injustice.**

SECOND LESSON:

2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 4th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

MARK 4:35-41

The Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

HYMN #742

"WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS"

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.

EUCHARISTIC 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,**

HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and

PRAYER

Let us pray...Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #856 "HOW GREAT THOU ART"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

✠ ✠ ✠

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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 4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation! Now we are in the storm, the boat almost swamped; but Jesus is here now, and when we call him he will calm the storm. Even the wind and waves listen to him as they would to their creator. We also listen to him and are called to believe in the power of God's word in him, a power greater than all that we fear.

JOB 38:1-11: *At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.*

2 CORINTHIANS 6:1-13: *Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.*

MARK 4:35-41: *Jesus' calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life's turbulence.*

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 4: Open our hearts wide, O LORD. (See 2 Corinthians 6:13)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Son of God, you calmed the storm and replaced fear with wonder. Increase our faith so that we do not fear doing bold things in your name. Amen.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR...Cliff Benner, Sandra Denora, Bill Exner, Dr. Roger Fischer, Ann Greensweig, Andrea Incacaterra, Frank Kelly, Peter Link, Jerry Smith, Sue Storat, Stephen.

Other concerns: The family and friends of Bill Rabenold.

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
ASSISTING MINISTER	Amy Ortwein
LECTOR	Amy Ortwein
GREETERS	Roger & Edie Knappenberger
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Amy Ortwein

PLEASE PASS IT ON...Pastor Jim is now available to make home visits for those wishing Holy Communion. He has had both his shots but the proper Covid precautions will still be needed (mask wearing). Please call the church office (610-965-9500) to set up an appointment for the visit. Please leave a message and we will get back to you.

LOOKING AHEAD

JUNE 27 – 9:30 AM Worship in the Fellowship Hall.
The Fellowship Hall is air-conditioned for the summer Worship services.

BETTY LOU'S PANTRY UPDATE...Most needed donations at the pantry right now:

Tuna Helper Chunky Soups Baked Beans Kidney Beans

Other things always needed:

Toilet paper, jelly (other than grape), non-sugared cereal, hygiene products (other than soap)

Also looking ahead at the Pantry to the Boy Scout Food Drive and where we are going to store the food. If we go back to letting our patrons shop in the pantry, we will have the room to store most if not all the scout food donations at the pantry. Please let me know if you and your church volunteers will return to working in the basement and in the back of the church if we require everyone to wear masks, including patrons and volunteers. Obviously, this all depends on how things look in the fall. I need to start reviewing our options now though to be prepared.

Thanks for your help.

Chris Page 610-360-2730; or talk to Deb Stover, 484-437-3831 if you will still be willing to help.

So Le Hi Kid Care in Coopersburg is seeking reliable and flexible individuals who have experience with children for year round permanent part time positions.

Lead teacher position for the kindergarten enrichment program and before/after school positions are available. The lead teacher position requires an Associate's degree. The before/after school position requires a high school diploma.

Please contact Linda Kolumber for more information. 610-282-2373 or

solehikidcare@gmail.com

BLUE CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	<u>MAY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
RECEIPTS	\$ 9,700.39	\$58,327.24
EXPENSES	\$13,005.41	\$59,886.17
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ (3,305.02)	\$ (1,558.93)
ENDOWMENT FUND WITHDRAWN TO COVER EXPENSES		
	\$0	\$0
EMDOWMENT FUND INTEREST/REFUND		\$0

LESSONS

Job 38:1-11 – 1st Lesson

38 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

² 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³ Gird up your loins like a man,
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴ 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone

⁷ when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings^{*} shouted for joy?

⁸ 'Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—

⁹ when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,

¹⁰ and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,

¹¹ and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?

2 Corinthians 6:1-13 – 2nd Lesson

⁶As we work together with him,^{*} we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.'

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹ We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

Mark 4:35-41 - Gospel

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' 36 And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. 37 A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. 38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' 39 He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. 40 He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' 41 And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

St. Paul's Lutheran "Blue" Church
Prayers ✠ 4th Sunday after Pentecost ✠
June 20, 2021

A: Let us come before the triune God in prayer, responding,
"hear our prayer."

A brief silence

A: Holy God, you gather your people from east and west, north and south. We pray for the mission of the church throughout the world, that your steadfast love may be made known to all peoples. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

A: You laid the foundations of the earth and the waters are the womb of creation. The morning stars sing your name and all creation shouts for joy. We pray for your

blessed creation, that it may continue to flourish and magnify your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

A: You keep watch over all nations. We pray for countries experiencing violence, hunger, and unrest. Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to establish safety and justice. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

A: You are close to the brokenhearted and near to those in distress. We pray for those who are experiencing oppression. Liberate us from the systems and chains that bind us. Remove the barriers that separate us from one another. Today we pray especially for: Clifford, Sandra, Bill, Roger, Ann, Andrea, Frank, Peter, Jerry, Sue, Stephen, the family and friends of Bill Rabenold, and everyone who has asked for our prayers or known only to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

A: You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our leaders and elders. Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their leadership you may be exalted in Blue Church. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

A: Your love endures in all situations. On this Father's Day, we pray for those who are fathers or wish to be fathers, for those with broken or strained relationships, for those who are missing their fathers, and for fathers who have lost children. Bless and strengthen them. Lord, in your mercy,
"hear our prayer."

Pastor: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. Amen.