

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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

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The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – June 27, 2021

PRELUDE – “JESU, JOY OF MAN’S DESIRING” – J.S. Bach

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 #659 “WILL YOU LET ME BE YOUR SERVANT”

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...Almighty and merciful God, we implore you to hear the prayers of your people. Be our strong defense against all harm and danger, that we may live and grow in faith and hope, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON:

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-33

PSALM 30 *Spoken responsively*

¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies’ triumph over me.

²**O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

³You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶**While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed."**

⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸**I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my LORD, saying,**

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

¹⁰**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper."**

¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SECOND LESSON:

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 5th Chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

MARK 5:21-43

The Gospel of the LORD.

Praise to you, O Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7-15: Paul encourages the Corinthians to honor their commitment to participate in the collection his churches are organizing for the Christians in Jerusalem. He presents Jesus as an example of selfless stewardship and reminds them that Christians have received abundantly so that they can share abundantly.

MARK 5:21-43: Jairus, a respected leader, begs Jesus to heal his daughter. A woman with a hemorrhage is ritually unclean, treated as an outcast in Jewish society. Both Jairus and the unnamed woman come to Jesus in faith, believing in his power to heal and bring life out of death.

PRAYER FOR PENTECOST 5: Do not fear, only believe. (Mark 5:36)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: God our strength, your power went forth to heal. Free us of our anxieties and strengthen our trust in your love. Amen.

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

Other concerns:

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	Maggie Fried
LECTOR	Maggie Fried
GREETERS	
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Ed Risi

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...by Dean Stover in honor of Deb Stover's 70th Birthday.

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

JULY 4 – 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

LESSONS

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:22-33 – 1st Lesson

- ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,*
his mercies never come to an end;
²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
- ²⁴ 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'
- ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
- ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.
- ²⁷ It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,
²⁸ to sit alone in silence
when the Lord has imposed it,
²⁹ to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
³⁰ to give one's cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.
- ³¹ For the Lord will not
reject for ever.
- ³² Although he causes grief, he will have
compassion according to the abundance of his
steadfast love;³³ for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

2 Corinthians 8:7-15 – 2nd Lesson

⁷Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you*—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.*

⁸ I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the generous act* of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. ¹⁰And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something— ¹¹now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. ¹²For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. ¹³I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between ¹⁴your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. ¹⁵As it is written,
'The one who had much did not have too much,
and the one who had little did not have too little.'

Mark 5:21-43 - Gospel

21 When Jesus had crossed again in the boat* to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. ²²Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' ²⁴So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' ²⁹Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' ³¹And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?" ' ³²He looked all round to see who had done it. ³³But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴He said to her, 'Daughter, your

faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.'

³⁵ While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' ³⁶But overhearing* what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' ³⁷He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. ³⁸When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' ⁴⁰And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' ⁴²And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

St. Paul's Lutheran "Blue" Church
Prayers ✠ 5th Sunday after Pentecost ✠
June 27, 2021

A: Let us come before the triune God in prayer,
responding,

“hear our prayer.”

A brief silence

A: God of hope, the ministry of your church extends across borders, from nearby neighbors to far and distant countries. Accompany all those who labor eagerly in service of the gospel, that through your good news all might experience transformation. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

A: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the air we breathe, the water we drink, the land that provides our food. Guard all species of plants and animals from harsh changes in climate and empower us to protect all you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

A: Righteous God, we pray for nations and their leaders. Give them a spirit of compassion and steer them towards a fair distribution of resources; that none among us would have too much or too little. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

A: God of healing, your touch has the power to make us whole. We pray for those suffering from physical or mental illness. Embrace those who are sick. Surround them with your unwavering presence. Today we pray especially for: Clifford, Sandra, Bill, Roger, Ann, Andrea, Frank, Peter, Carl, Jerry, Sue, Stephen, and everyone who has asked for our prayers or known only to the Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

A: We pray for Blue Church and all those gathered together in worship. Revive our spirits, renew our relationships, and rekindle our faith, that we might experience resurrection in this community. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

A: We give thanks for the faithful ancestors in every age whose lives have pointed us towards you. Envelope them in your love, that we may be reunited with one another in the last days. Lord, in your mercy,

“hear our prayer.”

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