

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday of Pentecost
July 2, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit, † one
God,
full of compassion and mercy,
abounding in steadfast love.

Amen.

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

The congregation may kneel as desired.

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 were still sinners;

and for his sake, God † forgives you all your sins.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“As We Gather at Your Table”

Red Book #522

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.

GLORIA

page 121 in the front of the red book

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN’S SERMON

FIRST READING Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah’s rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all

the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 89:1-4, 15-18 *read responsively*

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

**²For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

³“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

**⁴I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”**

¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

**¹⁶They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.

**¹⁸Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

SECOND READING Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin’s final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin’s slavery to live obediently under God’s grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who

have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL Matthew 10:40-42

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, the tenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“All Who Love and Serve Your City”

Red Book #724

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the healing of the World.

We pray for the Church. We pray especially for those Christians who live in places that are hostile to the faith and suffer persecution because of their trust in you. Hear Us, O God.

Your Mercy is Great.

We pray for the earth. We give thanks for the gentle rains that we have recently received and pray that drought-stricken areas will receive relief. Continue to bless this growing season so that all may share in the earth's goodness. Hear Us, O God.

Your Mercy is Great.

We pray for our country as we celebrate the founding of our nation. We pray for our government: national, state, county, and city. Give leaders wisdom and a heart for justice. Hear Us, O God.

Your Mercy is Great.

We pray for all who worship you today. From wise elders to energetic children, from those who are long-time believers to those who are new seekers, from those who celebrate with great joy to those who are grieving losses. Hear Us, O God.

Your Mercy is Great.

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we ask in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation may stand.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation may sit.

ORGAN OFFERTORY

The congregation may stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”

Red Book #691

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

GREAT THANKSGIVING



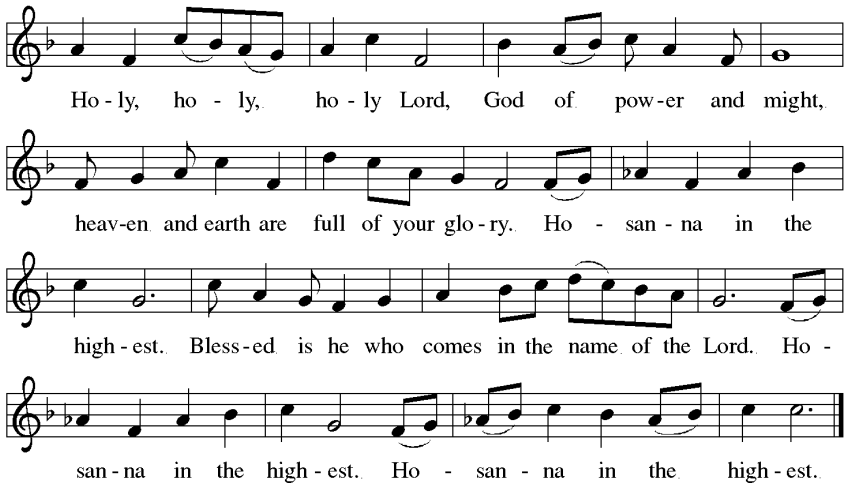
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory....*(The presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again....

The prayers conclude:

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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,

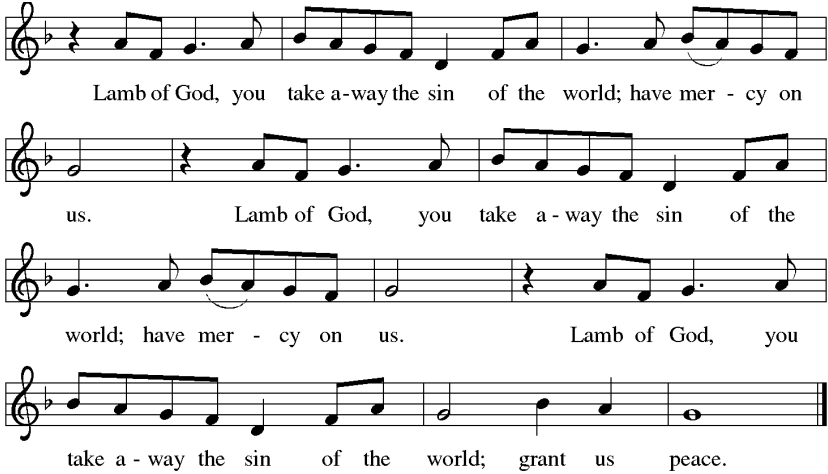
but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, invites you to share in this banquet of forgiveness and new life. Come to his table!

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.

The congregation may sit.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT *shared at the center aisle*

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *led by the assisting minister*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May God who has brought us from death to life
fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

Red Book #893

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news of the risen Christ!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Mike Robinson	Presiding Minister
Sharon Heist Miller	Assisting Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Communion Assistant
Jeanne Graff	Reader
Kevin Mathias	Pianist
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Melody Kameron	PowerPoint Minister
Dan Morrow, Stan Graff, Amelia O'Rourke, Andrew O'Rourke	Ushers
Amy and Jack Beiler	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Brenda Ihlenfeld, in memory of Bob and Florence Ihlenfeld.

All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 7/3	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Tues., 7/4		<i>Office Closed for Independence Day</i>
Thurs., 7/6	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Downstairs)
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 7/7	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 7/9	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

Save the Date for the third Sabbatical Lunch and Presentation next Sunday, July 9th with Jessica Burr, Clinical Director of the Butler County YMCA's Reach & Rise Program. Lunch and presentation were made possible by the sabbatical grant from the Lilly Endowment.

A Summer Music Schedule is posted in the Social Hall. Please consider

signing your name on the schedule for one of the Sundays in **July** or **August**. We look forward to hearing your voice, your instrument, and musical talent as an important part of our worship! Kevin Mathias and Signe Mitchell are available if you have any questions.

Support First English's ministry: In thanksgiving to God, financial contributions to the congregation can be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the worship space or made online at www.firstenglishbutler.org/giving.

PRAYERS

Marj Rogner; Bill Brown; Linda and Joe Randig; James Carlantonio; Carl Devore; family of Jamie McPoyle; Marc Fogel; Jeff Acord; Lida Mason; Rob Mertha; Gregory Reeder; Kirsten Schaney; Gus Keiser; Renee; Liam Cirillo; Lucas; Jonathan Peterson; Maread Magee; Alysia Shaffer; Donny Bayless; Rose Cooper; Sue Lehew; Beth Weber; family of Madaline Golic; family of Joyce Mitchel; Ann Johnson; Jeff Turner; family of Ryan Glagola; family of Pete Huff; Mary & Steve and foster children; Janice Krause; Dave Adams; Tracy Steadman; family of Paul Throm; Jim Cunningham; Gracie Love; Thelma Hassler; family of David Hartle; family of Chris Holman; family of Hazel Warheit; 6-month-old baby girl in Ohio; Karen Knepp; Tony Sequite; Kyle Badger; Brian Salisbury; Mark Vogel & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Stan Graff; Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; Holly Schubert; Ellen Dodge; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Zechariah 9:9-12

The king will come in humility and peace

Psalms 145:8-14

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)

Romans 7:15-25a

The struggle within the self

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The yoke of discipleship

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Pastor Michael Robinson

Pr. Mike will be in the office on Thursdays and Fridays, beginning on Friday, April 21st. He can be reached by email at prmikerobinson@aol.com.

For emergencies, he can be reached by phone:

(724) 444-6314 (home)

(412) 260-4407 (cell)

**Please direct all other congregational concerns to
Council President, Mollie Hibbs.**