

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Second Sunday after Pentecost  
June 2, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

- Richard Hillert

“Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray”

- Dietrich Buxtehude

“Prelude”

- A. Kehrler

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

To you, O God,

**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you, confessing our sins, known and unknown, what we have done and what we have left undone. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of word and sacrament in the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The congregation may stand.*

**GATHERING HYMN**

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

Red Book #521

**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. Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The congregation may sit.*

**THE WORD**

**FIRST READING                      Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

*This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.*

<sup>12</sup>Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. <sup>13</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>14</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. <sup>15</sup>Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**PSALM 81:1-10**                      (*read responsively*)

- <sup>1</sup>Sing with joy to God our strength  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup>**Raise a song and sound the timbrel,  
the merry harp, and the lyre.**
- <sup>3</sup>Blow the ram's horn at the new moon,  
and at the full moon, the day of our feast;
- <sup>4</sup>**for this is a statute for Israel,**

**a law of the God of Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup>God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the land of Egypt,

where I heard a voice I did not know:

**<sup>6</sup>“I eased your shoulder from the burden;  
your hands were set free from the gravedigger’s basket.**

<sup>7</sup>You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you;

I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the waters of Meribah.

**<sup>8</sup>Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

<sup>9</sup>There shall be no strange god among you;  
you shall not worship a foreign god.

**<sup>10</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.**

**Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.**

**SECOND READING    2 Corinthians 4:5-12**

*When we carry out God’s ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God’s power and promises at work through us.*

<sup>5</sup>We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. <sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. <sup>11</sup>For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death is at work in us, but life in you.

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.  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

## GOSPEL Mark 2:23—3:6

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the second and third chapters.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.*

<sup>23</sup>One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup>The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? <sup>26</sup>He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to them, “<sup>28</sup>The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; <sup>28</sup>so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

<sup>3:1</sup>Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup>And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. <sup>5</sup>He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. <sup>6</sup>The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## **SERMON**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray”

Red Book #743

## **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**

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves,  
and our world.

*A brief silence.*

Guide your church to expressions of faith that bring rest and release. Teach  
your faithful people to be attentive to the spiritual, physical, and societal  
weariness of our neighbors, that we proclaim your grace through tangible  
acts of mercy and justice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Keep us mindful of the rhythms of nature as the days lengthen and the  
seasons shift toward summer. Grant relief to areas facing flooding or

drought and bring favorable weather for the flourishing of crops, gardens, and orchards. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Where there is affliction in our world, bring healing. Where world leaders are perplexed, bring clarity of vision. Give a spirit of discernment to political advisors, institutional researchers, economic analysts, and all vocations that inform the work of governments and policymakers (*especially*). Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Provide wholeness and respite to all who are weary: those who struggle in any way and those who care for them (*especially*). Strengthen first responders and health care workers in their times of exhaustion or frustration. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Stir our hearts toward abundant generosity among neighbors who experience hunger and food insecurity. Bless feeding ministries and community food efforts, especially community gardens, farmers markets, food pantries and Little Free Pantries. Open both our hearts and our tables. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We remember the communion of saints whose lives made visible the saving life of Jesus Christ. Guide us by their example to embody the treasure of your love for the sake of our world, until we come to our final rest in you. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## **THE MEAL**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The congregation may sit.*

## OFFERING

### ORGAN OFFERTORY

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

- Richard Wienhorst

*The ushers present the offerings and gifts of bread and wine for communion.*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

“Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door”

- Spiritual

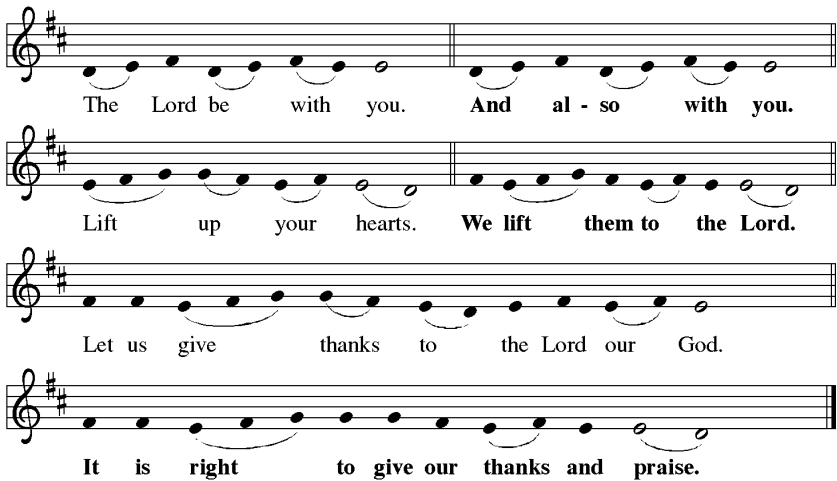
The Three Tenors  
Lois Trimbur, *Percussionist*  
Signe Mitchell, *Pianist*

*The congregation may stand.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

*led by the assisting minister*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

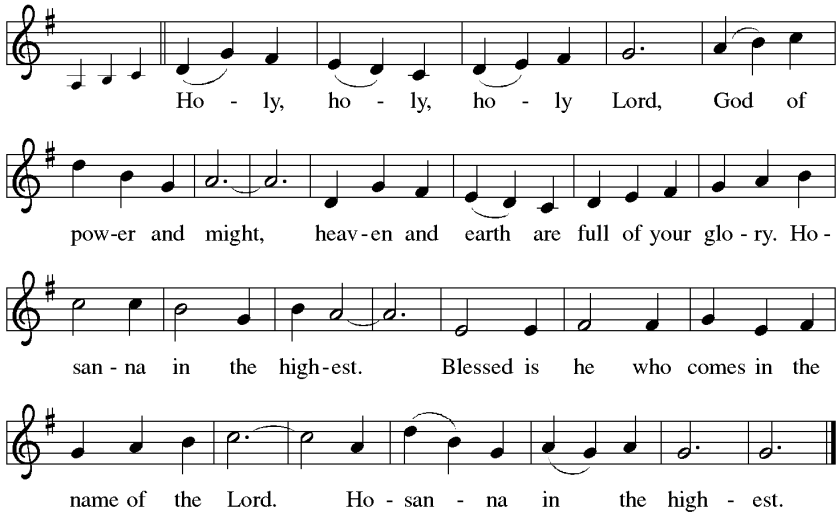
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: "The Lord be with you." followed by "And al - so with you." The second staff also has two measures: "Lift up your hearts." followed by "We lift them to the Lord." The third and fourth staves each have a single long line of music with lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." and "It is right to give our thanks and praise." respectively. The lyrics "And al - so with you.", "We lift them to the Lord.", and "It is right to give our thanks and praise." are in bold.

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. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory....  
 Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all  
 who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our  
 Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now  
 and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

As Jesus our Savior has taught us, let us 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.

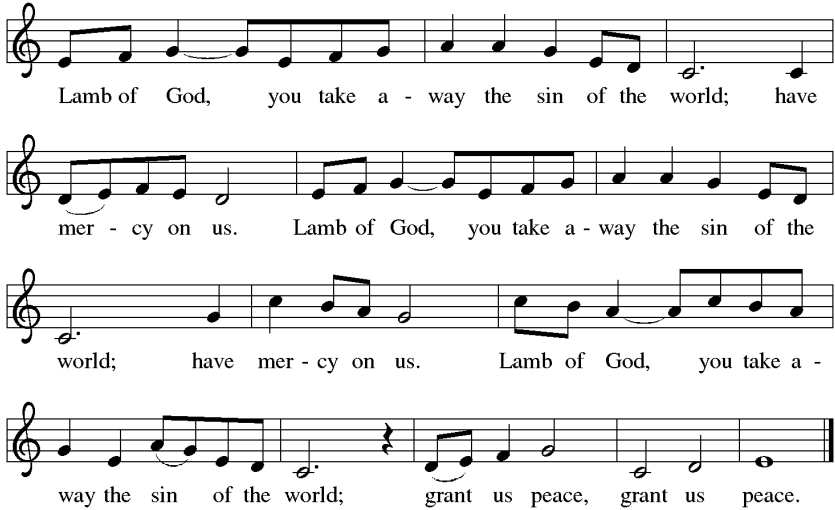
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. **Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The gifts of God given for the people of God. Come to this feast of  
 resurrection and new life.



## 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.

*The congregation may sit.*

## SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*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.*

*After all have received, the congregation may stand.*

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Red Book #490

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*led by the assisting minister*

## THE SENDING

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look with favor upon you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

“Savior, Again to Your Dear Name”

Red Book #534

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

“Now Let Us Thank God, the Lord”

- Johann Pachelbel

**SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor Peter Asplin	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Sharon Heist Miller	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Linda Mathias	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
Yvonne Thickey	<b>Reader</b>
Sharon Heist Miller	<b>Crucifer</b>
Alex Kamerer	<b>Acolyte</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Josh Kamerer	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Melody Kamerer	<b>PowerPoint Minister</b>
Stan Graff, Dan Morrow, Amelia O’Rourke, Andrew O’Rourke	<b>Ushers</b>
Amy and Jack Beiler	<b>Counters</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Schaney family, in memory of Jared.*

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

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH**

Mon., 6/3	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 6/6	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 6/8	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 6/9	10:00 AM	Worship
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pr. Kimberly will be on vacation until June 10.** If there are pastoral emergencies during this time, please contact Pr. Joel Benson at Trinity Lutheran Church at 724-287-1977 or 724-544-3996.

**A card to congratulate Pr. Jim Dollhopf** on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination is in the social hall. Please sign to thank him for his years of ministry!

**Sunday, June 23 is Cruise-a-Palooza** in downtown Butler, and Main Street and the municipal parking lot next to First English will be closed. For worship that Sunday, we will join our friends at Trinity Lutheran Church, 120 Sunset Drive, at 10:15 a.m. Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Liddy Barlow, executive minister of Christian Associates of Southwest PA.

**The Wil Morrow Memorial Bowl** will be on Saturday, June 15 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Family Bowloway Fun Center. For more information, please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the social hall.

**A Summer Music Schedule is posted in the Social Hall.** Please consider signing your name on the schedule for one of the Sundays in **June, 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.

## **PRAYERS**

Pr. Jim Dollhopf and family; Bruce Solomon; Tracy Gullickson; family and friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers

## **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

### **Genesis 3:8-15**

*God confronts Adam and Eve in the garden*

### **Psalms 130**

Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love. (Ps. 130:7)

### **2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1**

*Renewed in the inner nature*

### **Mark 3:20-35**

*Doing the work of God as brothers and sisters of Christ*

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