

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, HANOVER, PA
Rev. E. Robert Burkhart, Senior Pastor
Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus
Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries
Lori Rebling, Director of Handbells
Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music
Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's
Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family
Church Office: 717-637-5941
Email: stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net
Website: www.stpaulsyorkst.org

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

Prayer of the Day

Leader: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Cong.: Amen.

The First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The Gospel: John 10:22-30

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

Prayers of the People

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their need.

(A brief silence.)

L: Holy and mighty God, fulfill your saving work on behalf of all who give thanks for your great love for this creation. Make us faithful to invite all people into your family. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Make us ever conscious of how we use the gifts of this good creation that you have given us. Open our hearts to be the good stewards you have intended us to be. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Grant your wisdom to all those who care by their council or position for your needy children. Keep us mindful to do as you have taught us; to love justice and do kindness in our humble walk in this world with you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: Hear the cries of your people who cry out in their grief, loneliness, and despair, and show your mercy in the lives of all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Especially now, we beg your presence with all those we lift before you in the earnest prayers of our hearts. (P-A-U-S-E) Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

L: With your very empowering presence sustain your church in the world, and strengthen us to the struggle against the enemies of your Gospel. Give us courage to confront all who continue to enslave your people, and make us faithful to be obedient to your will and your ways. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

L: You give hope and strength to all the saints in the fulfillment of your promise of eternal life. Lead us ever in the paths of your kingdom's righteousness, that we may know life now and forever more in the age to come. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your son Jesus Christ our risen and living Lord.

C: Amen.