

The 6th Sunday of Easter

May 10th, 2026 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +

2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist



WELCOME



() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

*Opening Litany (from RevGalBlogPals)

P: God of all time and space, You initiated the relationship of love and generosity with creation at a time before and beyond all knowing.

C: **Through the Word and the Spirit, You continue in eternal love for all beings.**

P: Fill us with a deep and abiding awareness of your presence, your call, and your grace in our lives and in our world.

C: **Shape us to into the people you have made us to be — poured out in creative mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ in all creation. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn #408 “Come, Thou Almighty King”

*The Greeting and Prayer of the Day

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. ~ Almighty and ever-living God, You hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The First Reading ~ Acts 17: 22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 66 (selective verses, read responsively)

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.



¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows —**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.

The Second Reading ~ 1 Peter 3: 13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism, we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the build-

ing of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)**



***The Holy Gospel ~ John 14: 15-21**

In final words to His disciples on the night of His arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to His commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

The Holy Gospel according to the 14th chapter of St. John.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

Sermon

*Hymn #781 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

*The Apostles' Creed (professed together)

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.

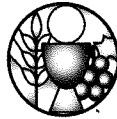
*The Prayers of Intercession

Merciful God ... Receive our prayer.

Anthem

"As the Deer"

Blessing of the Elements



The Lord's Prayer

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

This morning, the sacrament will be distributed by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer into the chalice, hand it to the recipient so that they may place it in their own mouth.

Post-Communion Blessing and Benediction

P: Go from here in the knowledge that you do not go alone:
the power and presence of God go with you. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #392

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

*Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude Music



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*thank
you*

... to Kay Sheerer for serving as our lector

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech

... to Janet Heckman for serving as our organist



**** Mark Your Calendars ****

"A special 250th Celebration of Our Nation"

Saturday, June 13th from 10am-2pm (in lower lot)

Basket raffle, flea market, cake walk, food, + more!

The deadline for ordering "patriotic" peanut butter candy is TODAY. There are blue order slips in the narthex for your use. Please return to Nancy Filler.



To remember in prayer ... Ronald Black, Caitlin Carfagno, Richard Eisenhart, Faye, Hope Geary, Harlan, Jeanne Logan, Lori Remaly, Barb Shanberger, Darrell Tuomela, Kathleen Tuomela May, Tyler and Elizabeth, Joe Ulmer, Monica Wagner, Leon Warmkessel, people living in war-torn countries, victims of oppression, injustice, violence, and natural disasters, and other dear ones whom we name before God. †



Giving thanks for all the beautiful, loving women who've made a positive difference in our lives!

