

6th Sunday of Easter

May 25th, 2025 ~ 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**

P: Those who love Jesus keep His words;

C: Those who love Christ will make their home with God.

P: Those who know Jesus will know His peace;

C: Those who know Jesus will be taught in the ways of peace.

P: Come, follow and love Jesus our Lord, who has come to be among us.

C: Come, worship God, who lives among us, loves us, and calls us home. Amen.

***Opening Hymn #832** "Immortal, Invisible, God ..."

***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. ~ Bountiful God, You gather your people into your realm, and You promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world You have

P: made, 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 16: 9-15

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When Lydia and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.


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

Psalm 67 (selective verses, read responsively)

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.



**⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge
the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

**⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

**⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

**⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.**

The Second Reading ~ Revelation 21: 10, 22—22: 5

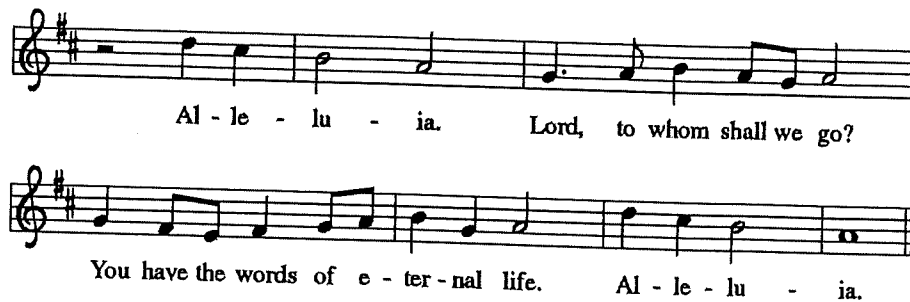
John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

¹⁰ And in the spirit one of the angels carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day — and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

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



*The Holy Gospel ~ John 14: 23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, He promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²³ Jesus answered Judas, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

The Sermon

*Hymn #646

"The Peace of the Lord"

*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.

***Prayer of the Church**

After each prayer petition, please respond:

Hear us, O God ... **Your mercy is great.**

Anthem

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

The Lord's Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)



+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Communion will be distributed by method of intinction,; that is, the wafer will be dipped in the chalice so that both elements are received together.

Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, and Benediction

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection You send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

P: God who fills the creation with abundance; Christ who spreads His arms in forgiveness; Holy Spirit who draws ever near to us, bless you and bring you to life everlasting. **Amen.**

*Hymn #625

“Come, We That Love the Lord”

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Music

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*thank
you*

... to Maureen Wagner for serving as our lector

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

The altar flowers have been sponsored by
Greg and Kelly Lisachenko in loving memory
of their fathers



To be remembered in prayer ... Leona Callahan,
Hope Geary, Helen Kerositz, Jeanne Logan,
Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe
Ulmer, George Williams, Zachary, people living
in war-torn countries, especially Ukraine and
Israel, and others whom we name before God.



Needed items for Betty Lou's Pantry

spaghetti sauce, cereal, meat/tuna helpers

(Please bring items to church any time during the month of May. Thank you!)



The church office will be closed tomorrow
in observance of Memorial Day.