

3rd Sunday of Easter

May 4th, 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** (by Rev. Nathan Decker)

P: Lord, save us from ourselves.

C: We continue to do the same things over and over, expecting different results.

P: Lord, save us from doing too much.

C: We go fishing every day, not noticing You waiting with a meal on the beach.

P: Lord, save us from doing too little.

C: We say we love You, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.

P: Lord, save us from ourselves.

C: Help us to hear and respond when You say, "Follow Me."

***Opening Hymn #853** "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

***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. ~ Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the

P: angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might.
By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and
inspire us to follow 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 9: 1-6

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

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

Psalm 30 (selective verses read responsively)

¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

² **O LORD my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

³ You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ **Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ **While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.**

⁷ You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear. —————>

⁸ **I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹ **“What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?**

Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ **Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;**

O LORD, be my helper.”

¹¹ **You have turned my wailing into dancing;**

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;**

O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

The Second Reading ~ Revelation 5: 11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is “the Lamb who was slain.”

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)



*The Holy Gospel ~ John 21: 1-19

The risen Christ appears again to His disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, He gives a final reminder of the

cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

The Holy Gospel according to the 21st chapter of St. John.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." The others said to him, "We will go with you." They all went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after day-break, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon

son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because Jesus said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

The Sermon

*Hymn #507

"O God of Light"

*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

"Easter Carol"

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 #392

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the risen Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Music

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*thank
you*

... to Alex Stauffer for serving as our lector

... to Maureen & Ward Wagner for serving as our counters

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



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

The altar flowers are sponsored by Carl Konold in loving memory of Pauline Fogel.



Thank you to everyone who volunteered at or supported our Roast Beef Dinner yesterday afternoon!

Proceeds benefit Meals on Wheels of the LV.



Pentecost Geraniums



Bright red geranium plants will adorn our sanctuary on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th. The cost is \$6 per plant and the deadline to place all orders is Sunday, May 18th.

Name _____

Phone # _____ # of Plants _____

Dedication for bulletin _____
