

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026*



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Website Address:

www.holyspiritsecane.org

Church Email:

Holyspiritsecane@verizon.net

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9am – 2pm

To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn, and need comfort; to all who are friendless and need friendship; to all who are homeless, and need sheltering love; to all who pray, and to all who do not pray; to all who sin and need a Savior; to whomsoever will, this church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus Christ, says Welcome!

Welcome to Holy Spirit! Thank you for joining us today to worship the Living God! Through prayer, music, the proclamation of God's word and the sharing of a meal together we offer praise to God! Please come again and invite others to come with you. You are always welcome here at Holy Spirit!

We welcome the participation of all in worship. This worship bulletin is inclusive and contains the order of worship and all music you will need to participate. We sit and stand where indicated (*) in reverence to God; do what is comfortable for you. The people respond where indicated in **boldface** type.

A: Assisting Minister C: Congregation P: Presiding Minister

If you are having difficulty reading the bulletin, we have enlarged print bulletins available. Please ask the usher.

Visitors, please fill out a communion card and place in the offering plate.

Members, please fill out a communion card at least once per month and place in the offering plate.

OUR MISSION

“KNOW CHRIST! GROW! SPREAD GOD’S LOVE!”

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ GATHERING +

(Please stand as you are able)

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: In the name of the **✝** Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life.
Amen.

P: Let us recite together the Great Commandment.

Jesus said,

C: “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us,

renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

P: Almighty God, in mercy and love, has given God's Son to become one of us, to die and rise again in glory for us and, for Jesus' sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of 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 Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN: Blessed Assurance (ELW 638)**



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word.

C: **By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

(Please be seated)

+ **WORD** +

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,

and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;

instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,

and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 65:9-13

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, as you are able)

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

(ELW 174)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23**

P: The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what

was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P: This is the Good News of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

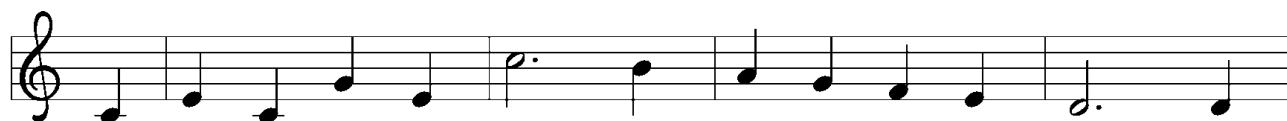
(Please be seated)

SERMON

Rev. Christopher Drummond

(Please stand as you are able)

*HYMN OF THE DAY: On What Has Now Been Sown (ELW 550)



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

P: We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

C: We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is both divine and human.

P: God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;

**C: fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

P: As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

**C: Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

P: One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;

**C: truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

P: For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**C: The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

(from the Athanasian Creed)

(Please remain standing)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(response after: God of grace,)

C: hear our prayer.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, 'Peace be with you'.

“LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Parent, siblings all are we
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

(Please be seated)

OFFERING:

A: We worship through our tithes and offering. Now let us joyfully respond to God's goodness, through our personal giving.

It is only through your giving that the ministry and mission of Holy Spirit continues. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their generous giving. Offerings can also be dropped in the mailbox or mailed in.

As the Offering is presented at the Altar, we sing:

***DOXOLOGY**

(ELW 885)

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

+ TABLE +

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

A: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

C: Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

(Please stand as you are able.)

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: God of new beginnings,

As we prepare to come to this Table, pour out your Spirit in this room.

Allow this meal to feel like a new beginning.

C: Allow us to experience welcome here.

Allow for all to be fed here.

Allow for all to sense your presence here.

P: And may these experiences jumpstart our faith, hope, and love in new ways. With hope we gather. With hope we begin again.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven: we praise your name and join their unending hymn, as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Glory be to you, O God, for the comfort of your creative Spirit.
By your Spirit your Son preached and healed, rebuked and forgave.
Dying on the cross for a wounded world, he gave over his Spirit.
Risen from death, he pours out your Spirit on all who believe.

On the night before he died, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us—on the way, at the table, and to the end, we
proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Send us your Holy Spirit. Come among us in our gathering, within this meal, and among your people.

C: Nourish us with the body and blood of Christ for your service. Renew the world with your healing, your justice, and your peace.

P: Together with all your saints, the earth, and its creatures:

C: All praise and glory are yours, O God, blessed Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: grant us peace.

(Please be seated)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

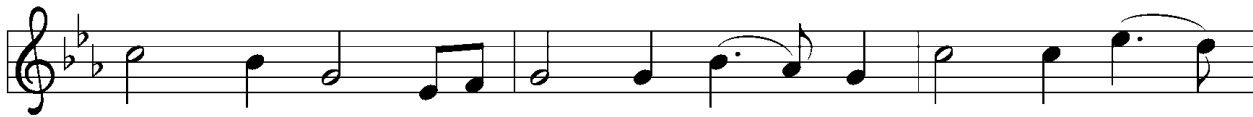
In Holy Communion, we encounter the Real Presence of Jesus Christ as we reverently receive the consecrated bread and wine. Everyone is invited to receive this Sacrament—without exception; however, if you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest and the pastor will know to give you a blessing. Gluten free bread is available.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG: Just As I Am, without One Plea (ELW 592)



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

(Please stand as you are able.)

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. God of abundance,

C: with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BLESSING & DISMISSAL**

P: Please bow your heads. [...] And the blessing of our most-loving God:
✝ Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of life be with you this day and always.

C: Amen.

A: Our worship service has ended. Now go in peace to love and serve the Lord and one another!

C: Thanks be to God!

*SENDING HYMN: Send Forth by God's Blessing (ELW547)



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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June's Income: \$ 10,924

June's Expense: \$ 10,247

Average Attendance: 20

MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD

Scheduled to serve 7/12

Greg C. – Assisting Minister

Alan S./Alan D. – Ushers

Greg C. – Counter

Nancy H. – Altar

Scheduled to serve 7/19

Donna G. – Assisting Minister

Colahans - Ushers

Colahans - Counters

Nancy H. - Altar

*******WEEKLY CALENDAR*******

Wed, Jul 15

7:30pm - AA (Hall)

Thu, Jul 16

7:00pm – AA (Hall)

8:00pm – AA (Mtg Rm)

Sat, Jul 18

10:00am – AA (Hall)

11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)

2:00pm – Hall Rental

Sun, Jul 19

10:15am – Worship

Ice Cream Social

12:30pm – Song of Praise

HOMELESS MEAL – Wednesday, July 29th. See Nancy or Gary on how you can help.

*****PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS*****

Healing:

*Annie Berner
Eileen Maloney
Lisa McDonough
Hugh Mullarkey
Lois Saunders
Betty Lake
Anne Rainsford
Dolores Maurer
Marie Schall
Jack Bierling
Joan & Harry Chaykun
Nikki Miller
Michelle Bracken
Cookie Heaps
Pahira Family*

*Jackie Bernduer White
Jackie Dewitt
Maureen Colahan
John Turner
Lynn McGrane
Sue Thomas
Jean Cilurso
Phyllis Horton
Lou Vallies
Linda Martin
Bill McVian
Suzie Thomas
Scott Ferguson
Johnathan Igoe*

(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list for July, please call the office)

Also please remember in your prayers homebound members: Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Hank Kuhn, Janet Kline, and Bob Kerns.

Men & women in our armed forces, firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR – The Nursery School is looking for a new Director (President). It is a very rewarding experience to oversee the Nursery School and watch the children grow. If you are interested in this position, please let Pastor or the office know.

COUNCIL MEETING – No meeting in July.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL - July 19th after service.

OFFICE CLOSED: Jeanne will be on vacation July 20st thru 23rd.

ALTAR – We are in need of volunteers for Sep to set up and take down altar each week. Can you volunteer for a week? Please see sign up list on bulletin board in front of office.

ALTAR FLOWERS - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. 2026 Flower Chart is now on the bulletin board. Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office. **Flowers are \$20 per vase. Many openings for July.**

BULLETIN COVERS –There is a sponsor sign-up sheet to sponsor special bulletin covers for **special occasions**. The cost is \$15.00. Please see sign-up sheet outside the office.



Backpack School Supply Collection 2026
Collection Ends August 2, 2026
3 Ways to Contribute

It's time for the Backpack School Supply Collection. We hope to again be able to supply stuffed backpacks to students in the Chester and Upper Darby Communities. Last year 605 backpacks were filled by 18 faith communities in Delaware County. Here are 3 ways you can support the collection this year.

One way to make a contribution this year is to use the links below to an Amazon Wishlist – School Supplies. Place an order and it will be shipped directly to the crew that will assembly the backpacks.

Link to Amazon Wishlist: <https://tinyurl.com/Interfaith-School-Supples> or use the QR code: You can also make a monetary contribution. Checks can

be mailed to School Supplies c/o Jody Troyan, 1201 Swarthmore Ave., Folsom, PA 19033. Checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Church – Broomall. Dave Ehret is again serving as Treasurer of this effort. **As in past years you can do the shopping and drop off the supplies at your congregation. See the suggested list of supplies on table in back of sanctuary**

DELCO CONFERENCE EVENTS

St. Matthew in Springfield is holding VBS **July 27-31** from 9:00 - 11:30 AM for ages Pre-Kindergarten through 5th Grade. The theme is *Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God*.

Temple Lutheran Church in Havertown presents *Emerald Crossing* VBS. Children ages 4-10 are \$20 for the week, or \$40 max per family. VBS will be **August 3-7** from 9 am to Noon. Sunday, August 9th is TLC's VBS Sunday. We sing songs from the week and children are invited to teach the congregation the hand motions learned at camp! templelutheran.org/vbs

St. Timothy's in Aston is hosting VBS "*Under Construction*" **August 10-13**, from 6-8:15p. Ages 3-years-old to 5th Grade.

Immanuel in Norwood is hosting VBS "*Snowball Mountain Challenge*" on **August 10-14** from 9-11:30am. ImmanuelNorwood.org/calendar

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Life in Every Direction

We can identify death in every direction. We see war, hunger, addiction, poverty, a dying planet, and broken hearts. This is not a new story. The children of Israel surely saw death in every direction, wandering in the desert and at least occasionally wondering about their next meal. Paul looks at his own life and, at first, sees nothing beyond spiritual death. He reminds us that death is not just physical, but also spiritual. Then, in the parable of the sower, three-fourths of the seeds die and three-fourths of the sections of the field are inhospitable to flourishing life. Sometimes, life isn't even given a chance. We might look at the world and ourselves and only see the places that are inhospitable to God's love.

Today's texts all go a step further, however, to articulate or reveal God bringing forth life where there is only death in every direction. Cypress and myrtle trees rise up in the place of thorns and briars (Isa. 55:13). "Christ Jesus has set [us] free from the law of sin and of death," and the life-giving Spirit dwells in us (Rom. 8:2, 10). The parable of the sower elicits reflection, repentance, and, ultimately, new life from its readers and hearers in considering the sort of spiritual life they practice. Are we hospitable or inhospitable to God's word? This parable is a vivid reminder of all God has overcome—rocks, scorching sun, thorns, and snatching—to bring life to the world. God brings forth life in places where people see only death.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church and Nursery School
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Office: 610-544-2707

OUR STAFF

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Pastor – The Rev. Christopher Drummond
Director of Music – Samuel Stevenson
Office Secretary – Jeanne Warner

Holy Spirit Nursery School

Pre-K Teacher – Nancy Harris
Teaching Assistant – Colleen Hall
Pre-School & MMO Teacher – Shelly Avila
Teaching Assistant – Michelle Brackin

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