

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP***

***Day of Pentecost  
May 19, 2024***

***Pastor Rachel Scheible***

***Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
And Nursery School  
2545 Franklin Ave.  
Secane, PA 19018  
Office: 610-544-2707  
Pastor Rachel Scheible: Cell -215-880-4444  
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We welcome and thank Rev. Dr. Jayakiran Sebastian  
for sharing the good news with us today.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WELCOME, WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### + GATHERING +

(please stand)

#### \*GATHERING HYMN

ELW 396 (vs 1 & 2)

### Spirit of Gentleness

*Refrain*



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;

(Cont'd)



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:  
 and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
 and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
 our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”  
 then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
 when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
 With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940

Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley

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## \*CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** Blessed be the Holy Trinity, +  
 the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God,  
 whose rising from the empty tomb  
 brings to us the promise of life eternal.

In the presence of the living God,

**C:** we confess that we set our minds towards things of death,  
 and not on the life that is revealed in the Christ.

**In our fear and trembling**

**we quickly turn from you towards ourselves.**

**Our fear leads us to doubt your promise, harm our neighbor, and  
 neglect your creation.**

**Resurrect us O' God, and bring about the new life in ourselves, in our  
 community, and our world.**

**Through the mercy of you beloved Son, heal us from our sin, and give  
 us the new breath of your Spirit.**

**P:** Our Lord and savior Jesus Christ + proclaims,  
 “Do not be afraid!”

Know that you are washed anew in his rising, and your sins are forgiven.  
 Be at peace, and live in the everlasting love of God. **Amen!**

*(please stand)*

## GREETING

**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.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



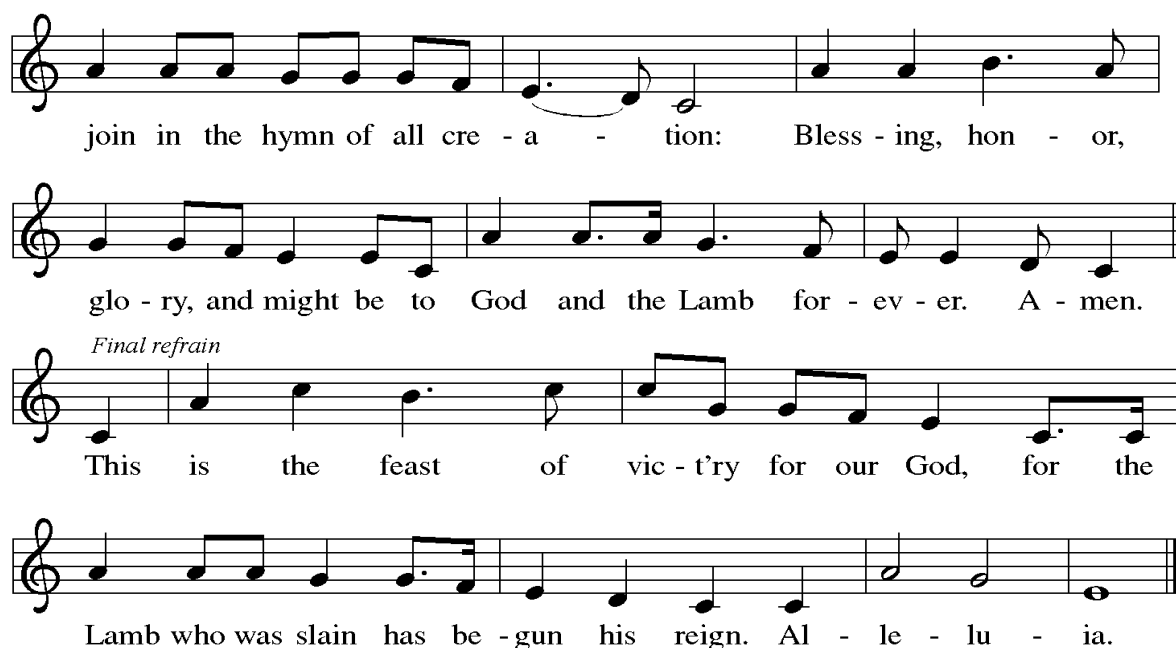
This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be  
 peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of  
 vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -  
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

(Cont'd)



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,  
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the  
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## + THE WORD +

### **FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of

each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”  
Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 104:24-34, 35b**

<sup>24</sup>How manifold are your works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

<sup>25</sup>**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,**

**living things both small and great.**

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships to and fro,  
and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

<sup>27</sup>**All of them look to you  
to give them their food in due season.**

<sup>28</sup>You give it to them; they gather it;  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup>**When you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

<sup>31</sup>**May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**

<sup>32</sup>You look at the earth and it trembles;  
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>**I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

<sup>34</sup>May these words of mine please God.  
I will rejoice in the LORD.

<sup>35b</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING: Romans: 8:22-27**

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for

what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand, as you are able)*

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to John the fifteenth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.



<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

**Rev. J. Jayakiran Sebastian**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## ELW 401(vs 1-3)

## Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



*Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.*

- 1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.
- 2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.
- 3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



*Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.*  
 It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.  
 Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.  
 Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

*Refrain*

*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
 Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,  
 nor rootless liberty;  
 turn disquiet to contentment,  
 doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,  
 unswayed by earth's allure.  
 Ever grant us zealous fitness,  
 which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NJOOKWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila

English and Swahili text and music © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH –NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**+ RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD +**

**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.**

*Let us greet one another from our seats in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘Peace be with you’.*

*Please be seated as we finish singing*

**“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 Father, 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.*

**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.*

**\*OFFERTORY****ELW 481****Come to the Table**

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray:

**A:** Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** It is right to give thanks and praise.

**P:** It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, in the highest.**

### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, 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 in 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.*

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P:** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*In Holy Communion, the church shares the forgiving and renewing presence of the Lord Jesus in bread and wine. We invite all to receive this sacrament. Communion will be offered either by intinction or the prepackaged communion cups. You can pick up your prepackaged communion cup before entering the church and receive that from your seat at the appropriate time or come forward to receive the elements from pastor at the rail. Please discard your cups on the way out. Thank you.*

*(Please be seated)*

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray:

**A:** Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C: Amen.**

+ **SENDING** +

**BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN****ELW 729 (vs 1-3)****The Church of Christ, in Every Age**

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

**DISMISSAL****A:** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.**C:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**Apr's Income: \$14,589****Average Attendance: 31****Apr's Expense: \$17,587**

**Altar flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of our Nursery School teachers by Lois Saunders and in honor of Greg & Kim's 34<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary by her family.

Bulletin covers are dedicated to the health of this congregation by Sonya Baxter.



**MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD****Scheduled to serve this week 5/19 Scheduled to serve next week 5/26***Kathy D. – Assisting Minister**Lydia Yost – Assisting Minister**Lydia Yost – Psalm Reader**Gary – Ushers**The Klines - Ushers**Pysher/Devine – Counters**Downey/Deemer - Counters**Donna D./Joan C. – Altar**Donna D./Joan C. - Altar***\*\*\*\*\*WEEKLY CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\*****Mon, May 20****6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)****Wed, May 22****6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)****7:30pm – AA (Hall)****Thu, May 23****7:00pm – AA (Hall)****7:00pm – DA (Mtg Rm)****Sat, May 25****10:00am – AA (Hall)****11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)****Sun, May 26****10:15am–Worship/Pastor Rachel Farewell****12:30pm – Song of Praise (Sanctuary)**

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

**Healing:**

*Mike Longo*

*Rob Hahn*

*Lisa McDonough*

*Hugh Mullarkey*

*Jean Brown*

*Betty Lake*

*Anne Rainsford*

*Judy McGrane*

*Michael Long*

*Scott Smith*

*Bonnie Wood*

*Lois Saunders*

*Cliff Kellett*

*Trudy McDougall*

*Lynn McGrane*

*Danielle Greeno*

*Jackie Bernduer White*

*Jackie Dewitt*

*Maureen Colahan*

*Ann Ferguson*

*Pete Kanz*

*Ed Shoup*

*Jean Cilurso*

*Phyllis Horton*

*Lou Vallies*

*Geralyn Gerakaris*

*Kathy Shoup*

*Jamal MacDonald*

*Rachel Yost*

*Eileen Maloney*

*Baby Evelyn*

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

**Also please remember in your prayers homebound members:** Betty Oddi, Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Ruth Dukes, Janet Kline and Debra Ulmer.

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

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

**On May 26<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service we will gather in the hall for refreshments to celebrate Pastor Rachel's time with Holy Spirit and wish her well in her new opportunity. Please join us.



### **STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

Please volunteer to help at the Strawberry Festival. This year's date is **Wednesday, June 5**. We will need volunteers for working the games and set up. Help will also be needed with cutting the Strawberries on Wednesday morning. Also, we are asking for filled baskets to raffle and gift cards. Please check with Bill Kline with your raffle ideas. Any questions, please contact Cyndi or Bill Kline.

Just a reminder that all raffle baskets and gift cards are due no later than Sunday May 26th. All items can be given to Bill or Cyndi Kline. Thank you.

**ALTAR HELP NEEDED** –Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Can you cover one or two weeks during June or September? Any help is greatly appreciated.

**BOTTLE CAPS** - Do you drink bottled water? If so, please bring the caps to church to help the veterans at the V.A hospital get prosthetics. There is a box on the table in front of the office. On behalf of those will benefit from your support, Thank you

**ALTAR FLOWERS** - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office.

**BULLETIN COVERS** –There will be 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.



## Strawberry Festival

***Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
2545 Franklin Avenue, Secane  
Ridley Township 610-544-2707***

*Wednesday, June 5, 2024  
5:30-8:00 p.m. rain or shine*

**Family fun for everyone!  
DJ Kevin, Food, Raffles and Games for the kids**



## ***OUR STAFF***

### ***Holy Spirit Lutheran Church***

*Pastor-Rachel Scheible*

*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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## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

### **The Holy Spirit's Groaning**

Few sounds capture a groan like birth pangs. It is the raw sound of life and birth as well as of pain. It is the guttural desire for the end of the waiting for what has been anticipated and desired. For any who have been present through such an event, it is difficult to ever forget. It is in equal parts beautiful, stunning, and holy, as well as raw, painful, and horrific.

“Creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves . . . groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,” writes Paul to the church in Rome. He describes aptly that painful wail of our souls for the redemption we know so well, the restoration of all things promised in Christ. As Lutherans we know this all too well as the “now but not yet” proposition of our faith. We have been told of the return of the Messiah. We prepare for this coming and see how the whole of creation groans for her own restoration. We join this creation waiting for our own hearts, souls, and bodies to be restored. We know this is coming and as in pains of labor groan for this reality. While we wait, we are given a midwife, a Spirit of God to join us in our waiting for the birth of a new world and a new reality. This gift is given this day, the day of Pentecost. May the Spirit join us in our cry to God, eagerly awaiting the begotten, the Son of God, Jesus.