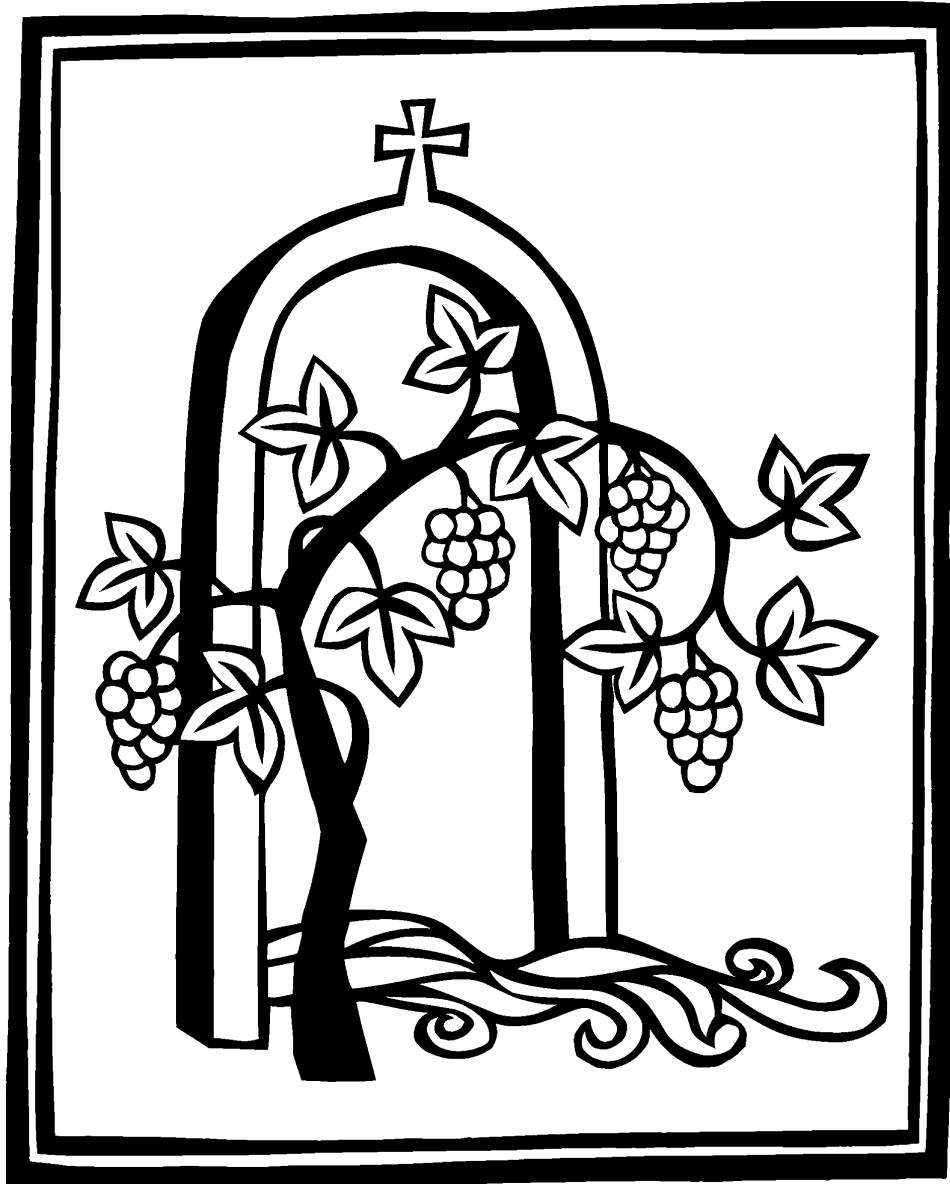


*Sixth Sunday
of Easter*



In-Person/Live Service

May 9, 2021

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9, 2021



*Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.
MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:
For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1*

Call to Worship

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- C We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
- P Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Opening Hymn: LBW 551

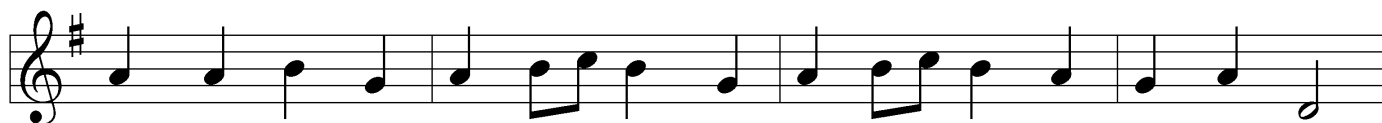
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

P O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I

have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner

Hymn of the Day: WOV 765

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain




Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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Apostles' Creed

A Let's confess the faith of the Church together using the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Prayers of the Church

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, especially the people named on our Prayer List, and those we name either silently or aloud. Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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**



Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Let's go in peace, remember the poor, and serve our risen Lord!

C Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 9-16, 2021

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck at Amherst High School
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 12:30 pm: Staff Meeting via Zoom
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Franasiak/Wisniewski Wedding Rehearsal
- Saturday:** 2:30 pm: Franasiak/Wisniewski Wedding
- Sunday:** 10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Attendance last week: YouTube/Facebook/MeTV: 200+ In-Person: 71 Offering: \$5,069.00

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Marion Alexander: Tennyson Court, #127 in Memory Care Unit, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Chad Israel

Christopher Magin: 22 Dale Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Ira Striejewske; Shirley McNamara (Nancy Simon's sister); Ralph Vahue; Thomas Maier

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: We resumed Sunday in-person worship beginning at 10:00 am. As we previously handled in-person worship, reservations are requested if you plan to attend any of the in-person services. You will still need to wear face masks, maintain limited capacity in the sanctuary, and adhere to current Covid-19 protocols. Please contact the Church Office at 716-835-0407 to make your reservation. If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Covid-19 Restrictions: While zone designations (yellow, orange, red) remain in various areas, we ask that you not stop by the Church Office unannounced. If you need to come to the office or meet with Pastor Steve, please call ahead and make an appointment (716-835-0407). This way we can continue to keep you and our staff safe during this difficult time.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The May Pantry hours are Thursday 5/20 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and Saturday 5/22 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Donations for May are: condiments, rice, and cereal.

Daily Bread Food Truck News: The DBFT will be parked in the Amherst High School front parking lot every Monday from 5:00-7:00 pm, to hand out free meals to the community. A number of neighborhood eateries will be teaming with the DBFT to “host” these meals. If you would like to volunteer to help out on Mondays, please contact Katie at 835-0407.



Council News: Please join us in welcoming Matt Fricano, Kathryn Francis, and Gerri Horton who were elected to the Council at the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 2.

Outdoor Coffee Hour: Beginning in May or June (depending on the weather), we will gather outside following the 10:00 am worship service to share conversation, coffee, and fellowship. This will be a time to renew relationships and meet new missionaries at St. Paul's. If you would be interested in helping us with this (set-up, provide a snack, and break-down), please call the office or sign-up on the board in the Gathering Area.



+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Debbie Regan-Howe Vice-President: Janell Andersen

Secretary: Treasurer: William Niblock

*Susan Epstein Matt Fricano Kathryn Francis Nick Hazlett
Gerri Horton David Schunak Robert Simpson*

Pastor at St. Paul's: Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Parish Administrator: Katie Basham

E-mail: katie@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

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Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org