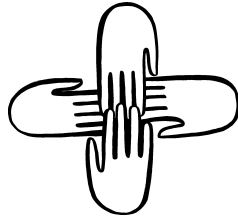


*Fifth Sunday
of Easter*



May 15, 2022

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022*



“Returning to the Lord”

Prelude Music

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation.

C For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, our Risen Savior and Lord.

(water is poured into the font)

P We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne of mercy: through the earth, through the city, through Amherst, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through.

C In Jesus Christ, you calm the troubled waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In the ups and downs of life, you are with us. You have become our salvation.

P Now Holy Spirit, breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more.

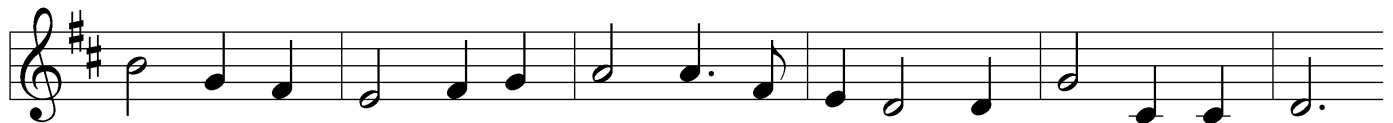
C Claim us again as your graced and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear; inspire us to be forgiven and loved people of Easter. Amen

Opening Hymn: WOV 664

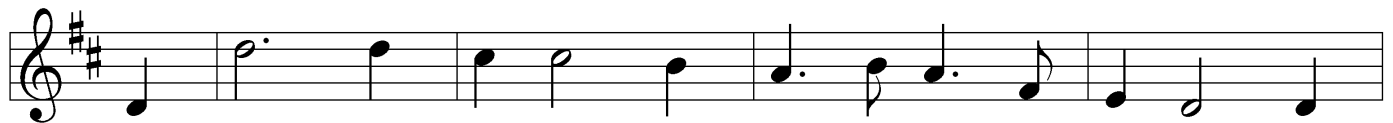
A New Commandment



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo-ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

Text: John 13:34–35

Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

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.

Children's Time

Salutation Prayer of the Day

P O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

A The Word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God.



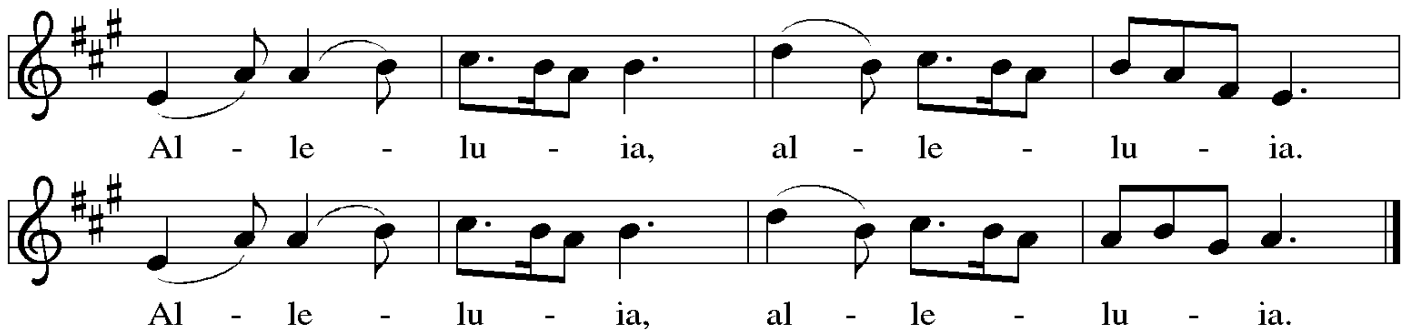
Psalm 148 (read responsively)

A Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
C Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
A Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
C Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
A Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
C who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
A Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
C fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
A mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
C wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
A sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
C young men and maidens, old and young together.
A Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
C The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

A The Word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (on the following page)

Celtic Alleluia



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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes on both staves.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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- P** The Holy Gospel according to John the 13th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner

Hymn of the Day: LBW 315 (on the following page)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - mighty - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Prayers of the Church

A Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Loving God, lead us to follow your Spirit, rather than our own prejudices or desires, as the church cares for one another. Open us to perceive your gifts in those we least expect. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Humble the rulers of nations before your splendor. Direct them to the people who need their attention most, and turn them from the temptation to hoard wealth or power. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Protect those in Ukraine. We ask for your hand of protection to be with all of those affected by the war. Bring peace to our world and help us to be instruments to make that happen. Let light overcome the evil. Give leaders across the globe hearts of compassion, understanding and grace. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Hasten to dwell among those who are in pain or distress, especially the people on our Prayer List and those we name now either silently or aloud. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Bring an end to racism in our churches and communities. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. God, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- A Give us a place in the diverse company of your beloved saints. Teach us the value of each person's identity, and bless us with a shared identity as your children, kindred of Christ. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- A In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not be able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

- P Let us pray.
- C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence, and your love. Amen

Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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 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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

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 We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

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.

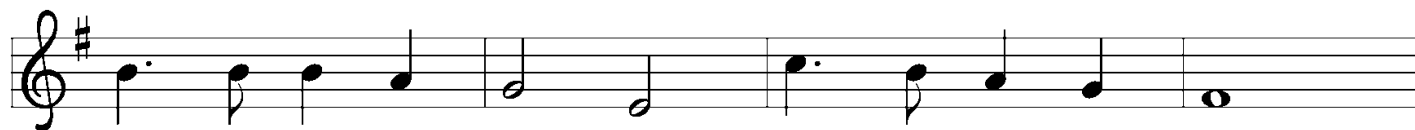
Closing Hymn: ELW 260 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Let us go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

On Our Way Rejoicing



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 15-22, 2022

- TODAY:** 9:00 am: Sunday Series: No Meeting Today
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:30 pm: Burrito Project
- Wednesday:** 8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
6:00 pm: Alanon
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church Worship Service
- Sunday:** 9:00 am: Sunday Series: What's the Brain Got To Do With It? Host Sue Epstein
10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
11:00 am: Annual Congregational Meeting and Church Council Elections
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

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

Neal DeLeo: Bristol village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

*Marilyn Emerson: 364 Burroughs Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

Chad Israel and Hayley Israel

David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214

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 14031

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Kenneth Moser (Eileen Moser's husband); Sandy Shaw (Leslie Boynton's sister-in-law); Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske

Deacon Schedule: 5/15: John Schunak; 5/22: Sara Gallagher

Usher Schedule: 5/15: Ben Brown & Matt Fricano; 5/22: Todd Vahue & Scott Vahue

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Masks are now optional while you are in the building. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also being livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

WNY Church Unleashed: 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.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The remaining Pantry hours for May are: 5/19 from 3:00-6:30 pm and Saturday 5/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for May: oil, sugar, salad dressing, and facial tissues.

Daily Bread Food Truck: If you would like to help with the Food Truck please contact the office at 716-835-0407 or email at dailybreadfoodtruck@gmail.com

Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine: If you would like to donate, you can go to donate.lwr.org for additional information and the donation form, or mail your donation to P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. You can also call 1-800-597-5972 to make a secure credit card donation.

Annual Congregational Meeting and Church Council Elections: Following the 10:00 am worship service next week, Sunday, May 22, the Church Council will present the annual committee reports, followed by the elections for new Church Council members. An email will be sent out during the week that will provide a link to the Annual Report and the bios for those being nominated for election. Copies of the Annual Report and the bios will also be available at church on May 22.

IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD



Boy Scout Troop 261 will be hosting a Chiavetta's chicken barbeque this afternoon from 3:00-6:00 pm across the street in the St. Benedict's parking lot. Each meal costs \$15.00 and includes 1/2 chicken, sides, and roll and butter. For pre-sale, please contact Lorry at goldhawk1@verizon.net. (Members of Boy Scout Troop 261 have volunteered to help out at Tiger's Den, and have conducted several food drives for the pantry. They are also the owners of the white trailer parked near the old food truck in the back parking lot.)

WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

CRAFT BEER & WINE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

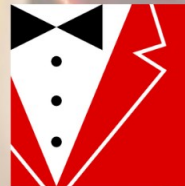
7:00 - 9:00 PM

at Tewksbury Lodge

249 Ohio Street, Buffalo

Enjoy a Taste of Buffalo's Finest,
Spend Time with Friends,
& Hear Great Music!

REGISTER ONLINE @
www.wnylutherancharities.org



with Special Guest the
**RED BLAZER MEN'S
CHORUS OF BUFFALO!**

After a busy week, what can be better than relaxing with friends
by the water at Canalside while sampling some of
WNY's best brewery and winery offerings!

Did we mention special musical guest
RED BLAZER MEN'S CHORUS of BUFFALO?!!

Your \$49 registration fee includes:
light hors d'oeuvres, and samplings from each brewery and winery
(the picturesque view and live entertainment are included at no charge!)

And...you could go home with a prize from our Basket Raffle!

Come Wet Your Whistle; Make It a Fun Night Out - Invite Family & Friends!

We can't wait to see you there!



+ 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: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: David Schunak

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Gerri Horton

*Janelle Andersen Susan Epstein Matt Fricano
Nick Hazlett Debbie Regan-Howe Robert Simpson*

Pastor Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfér

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org