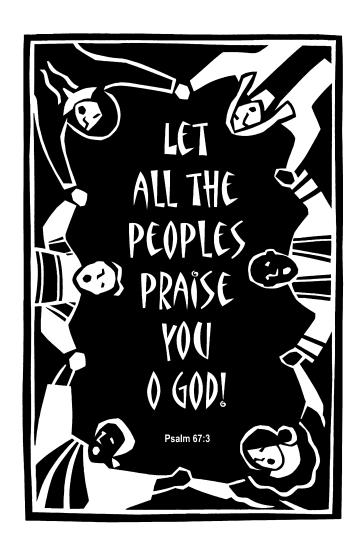
# SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 4856 WAYNE ROAD CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202 (717) 267-2266

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"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 25, 2025

## May 25, 2025

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

## **EASTER PROCLAMATION**

Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed! Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed!

Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia! Amen!

## **GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE** I Know That My Redeemer Lives\* - arr. Raymond H. Haan

## LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ⅓ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

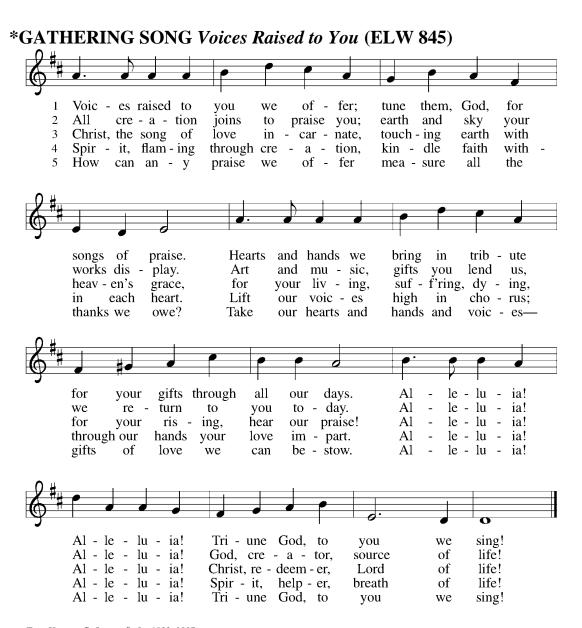
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive 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.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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 Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: SONG OF PRAISE, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### \*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! (ELW 382) Vs. 1



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al le lu ia! Ris en our vic to rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forth nev-er death or hell shall us en thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead! through the o - pen gates of glad-ness he re-turns to life once more; now has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing of to - day. We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver all.



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears; death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now, See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground; All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears. an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow. Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found. hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to-rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

# \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

# Let us pray.

Amen.

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

A reading from Acts.

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

<sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup> When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup> We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup> and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup> On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 67

(read responsively between lector and congregation beginning with the lector)

- <sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to | us and bless us; may the light of God's face | shine upon us.
- <sup>2</sup> Let your way be known | upon earth, your saving health a- | mong all nations.
- <sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.
- <sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth.

- <sup>5</sup> Let the peoples | praise you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you.
- <sup>6</sup> The earth has brought | forth its increase; God, our own | God, has blessed us.
- <sup>7</sup> May God | give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

## SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

A reading from Revelation.

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplants sun and moon.

- <sup>10</sup> And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.
- <sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup> People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup> But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.
- <sup>22:1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

# \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia (ELW s142a)



## GOSPEL: John 5:1-9

The holy gospel according to John.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. <sup>3</sup>In these lay many invalids — blind, lame, and paralyzed. <sup>5</sup>One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" <sup>7</sup>The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." <sup>8</sup>Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup>At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### SERMON Rev. Alan Wilson

\*Please stand as you are able for the final verse

# HYMN OF THE DAY Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes (ELW 381)



- 1 Peace, to soothe our bit ter woes, God in Christ on us be-stows;
- 2 Peace with in the church still dwells in our wel-comes and fare-wells;



Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre-cious blood; and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur-rounds our dy - ing hour.



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt. Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

## \*CREED

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.

# \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Please respond)

P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

## \*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

## \*OFFERTORY Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

# \*OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.

Come among us again,

breathe your life into us,

and enliven us with this meal,

that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW s153)



## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 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

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.

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

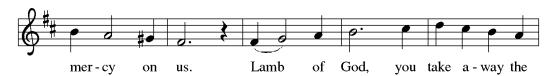
Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

#### **COMMUNION**

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

## COMMUNION SONG Lamb of God (ELW s154)







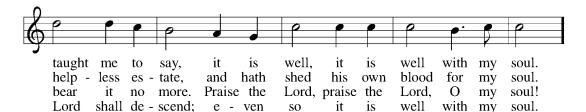
## COMMUNION HYMN When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul) (ELW 785)



- 1 When peace like a riv er at tend eth my way, when
- 2 Though Sa tan should buf fet, though tri als should come, let
- lives— oh, the - ri - ous thought; He bliss of this glo my has - ten the shall be Lord, day when our faith sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast Christ hath re - gard - ed my blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I clouds be rolled back as scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the a





Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888 Music: VILLA DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

## \*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders,

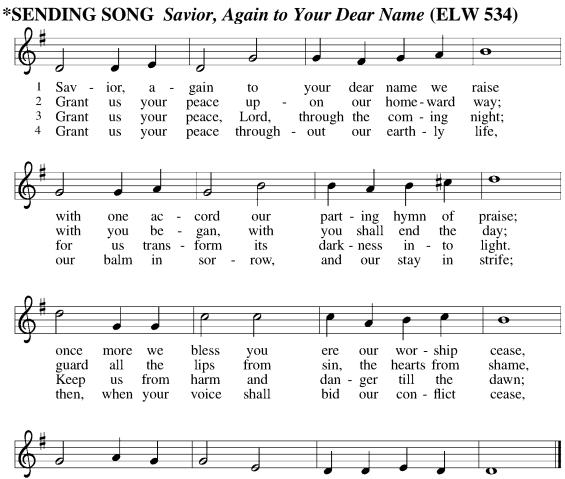
sing of your glory,

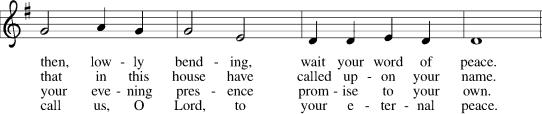
and proclaim your risen life

to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

Dona Nobis Pacem\* - arr. Emily Lund **CHOIR BENEDICTION** 





Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt. Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901

## \*DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

**POSTLUDE** Savior, Again to Your Dear Name - Wilbur Held

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## **SERVING TODAY**

Supply Pastor	Rev. Alan Wilson
Church Office Email Address	<u>office@solomonslutheran.org</u>
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	
Acolyte	Janice McEntire
Lector	
Securing Offering	Wayne Dale & Janice McEntire
Communion Set-Up	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
<u> </u>	
Communion Set-Up	
Communion Set-Up Communion Clean-Up	
Communion Set-Up Communion Clean-Up Communion Bread	

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of Marvin and Steve McKenzie given by the McKenzie family.

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Please welcome Rev. Alan Wilson with a warm thank you for preaching this morning.

**Prayer requests for the following:** Doug Weaver, James Bersch, Evelyn Gomez, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Kaitlyn Dovey, Angela Puchalo, Katelyn Mary Dodge, Charles Carl, Fran Stouffer, Marty Wenger, Don Wildeson, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, Sam Mull, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.

Please Be Aware: We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.

# **Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

May 28 - Qigong/Tai Chi 7pm 29 - Choir 7pm

**SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING ON JUNE 22 AFTER WORSHIP -** Church Council has recommended that Pastor Julia Brown from Solomon's UCC become our shared pastor. This agreement will be in effect for an agreed upon period of 6 months or until we call a permanent pastor. Please plan to attend as we will vote on this agreement.

The Spiritrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary invites you to participate in our annual membership drive. You can join for a contribution of \$1. Information has been placed in your mailbox. All proceeds go to support the Work at The Village at Luther Ridge. Please see Becky Pecha with any questions and to turn in your membership gift. Membership drive is May 1 - June 1, 2025.

Please note that you will no longer receive a 6 month contribution letter. If you would like to have one, please contact Janice McEntire.

The 2025 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information.

The 2025 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

**Power Pack Meals:** The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need is an on-going project. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

**If you are not taking your altar flowers home,** please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

## **Music Notes/Hymn Notes:**

Our gathering hymn this morning, "Voices Raised to You," uses a text written by Dr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. (1923-2007), and a melody composed by Carolyn Jenings. Dr. Stuempfle lived most of his life in Gettysburg, where at one point he served as President of the Lutheran Theological Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary) in Gettysburg. Another prolific hymn writer, Dr. Stuempfle was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Gettysburg. A beautiful hymn of praise, the text praises the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Triune God, as we offer our thanks and praise for all we have been given as part of God's creation. (hymnary.org)

England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was famous for its choral societies. Our sending hymn this morning, "Savior Again to Your Dear Name We Raise" was written by Anglican clergyman, John Ellerton, in 1866 for a Choral Association's festival in Cheshire, England. Originally, the hymn had six verses, but Ellerton later revised it to the four verses we sing today. It first appeared in the 1868 Appendix to Hymns Ancient and Modern. Ellerton, who served parishes in England for four decades, was also a prolific hymn writer, contributing about 50 hymns to Christian worship. He wanted this particular hymn to provide a reflective and peaceful conclusion to worship, using themes of peace and guidance. The hymn has become a staple in many Christian denominations, sung at the end of a service as a prayer for the peace of God...on our way home, through the night, and at the end of our earthly life. (Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins, Austin Lovelace; pptworship.com)

## **Additional Music Notes**

Today's organ prelude is a quiet paraphrase of Handel's *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*, from the Easter portion of *The Messiah*. It is a quiet, contemplative piece which will hopefully help to prepare your hearts for our worship on this 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.

The choir benediction this morning is the familiar hymn, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, which includes the benediction text, "The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you, turn his face unto you and give you peace, grant us peace." We leave worship with the peace of God in our hearts.