

Bendersville Lutheran Parish

St. James
Wenksville
8:25 am

Christ
Aspers
9:45 am

Bethlehem
Bendersville
11:00 am

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

• April 14, 2024 •



Parish Office:

126 Church St. • P.O. Box 449
Bendersville, PA 17306-0449
Office Phone: (717) 677-9880
Office email:

3churches@bendersvillelutheranparish.com

The Rev. Susan E. Scott:

Phone: (717) 497-1013

Email:

pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com

www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.
Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.
We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Look, here is water!

C: **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

***GATHERING HYMN: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"**


WOV 674

***GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

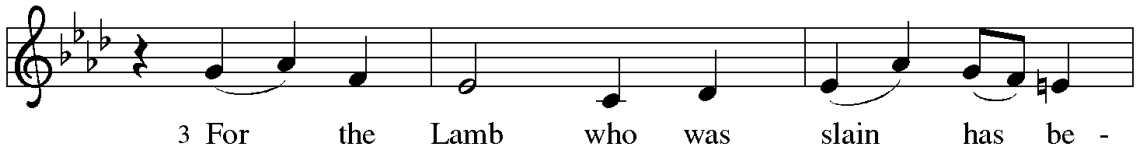
Refrain



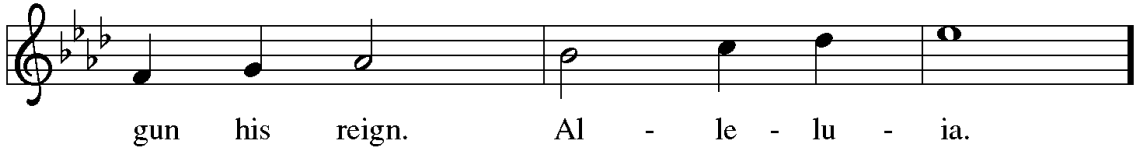
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



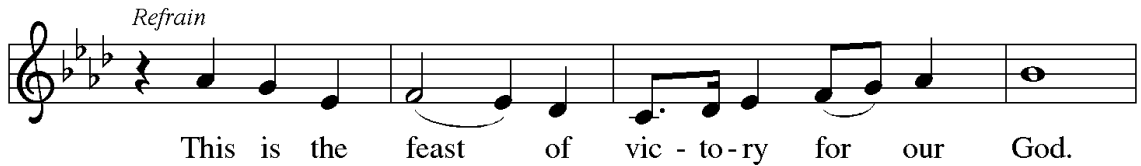
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

C: **Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING:**Acts 3:12-19***The First Reading is from Acts, the third chapter.*

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.**PSALM:****Psalm 4**

L: Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**C: “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

L: Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

**C: Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

L: Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

**C: Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

L: You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

**C: In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

SECOND READING:

1 John 3:1-7

The Second Reading is from First John, the third chapter.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

*GOSPEL:

Luke 24:36b-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*We Who Once Were Dead*”

LBW 207

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;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty, and extend your loving arms to those seeking healing and comfort, especially those on our prayer list and those we silently name in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died, especially Bryan Burns, Donald Patterson, Steve Tuckey, and Larry Wolfe. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: “Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won” **LBW 133**

(Verses 1 & 5)

(“Offertory Hymn” on Next Page.)



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long-er can ap - pall me;
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death but the gate of life im - mor - tal;



Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ re - call me.
this shall calm my trem-bling breath when I pass its gloom-y por - tal.



Bright-er scenes will then com-mence; this shall be my con - fi - dence.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

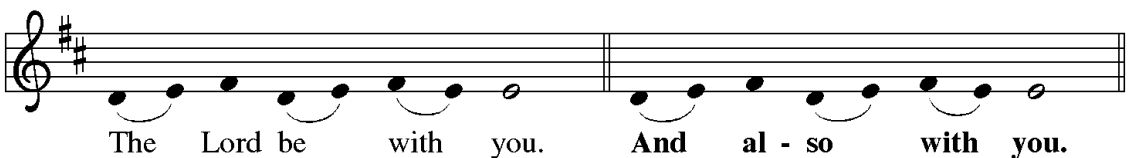
OFFERTORY PRAYER


P: Let us pray.

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.

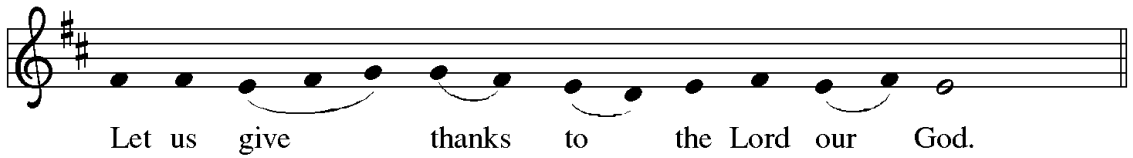
C: Amen.

DIALOGUE





Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



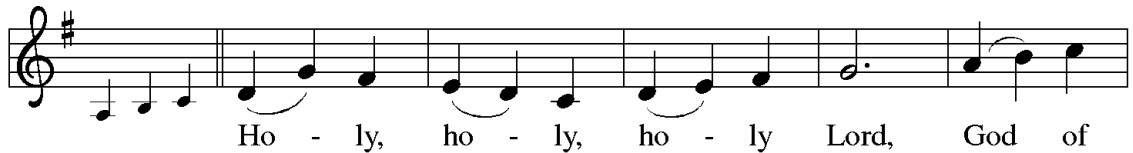
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.




It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE *(sung by the pastor)*

SANCTUS



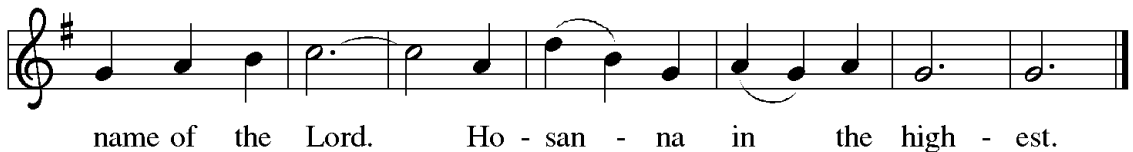
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of



pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: O God most mighty ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen.**]

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen.**]

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen.**]

P: O God, you are Breath ... life in you, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray ...

**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.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to encounter Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to the Table. As directed, please come forward. The elements will be given by Pastor Susan or the Communion Assistant. If you would like a verbal blessing only, please let the Pastor know. Holy Communion may also be received at your seat. Just inform the Pastor or usher. The elements will be partaken at the Pastor's or Communion Assistant's direction:

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION HYMN: “*The Old Rugged Cross*”

SSH 317

***POST-COMMUNION**

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

C: Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

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.

***BENEDICTION**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN: “*Thine Is the Glory*”**

LBW 145

***DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***POSTLUDE**

• APRIL 2024 •

SUN. Apr. 14	MON. Apr. 15	TUES. Apr. 16	WED. Apr. 17	THURS. Apr. 18	FRI. Apr. 19	SAT. Apr. 20
<p>8:25 am: St. James</p> <p>9:45 am: Christ</p> <p>11:00 am: Bethlehem</p>	<p><i>Birthday:</i> Felipe Caloca</p> <p>Gary Bretzman</p> <p>Dan Turner</p> <p> </p> <p><i>Anniversary:</i> Jerry & Barbara Mahoney</p>	<p>7:00 pm: Worship & Music Committee Meeting (Bethlehem)</p> <p> </p> <p><i>Birthday:</i> Michael Wolfe</p>	<p>7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John 4: 'The Woman at the Well'</p> <p> </p> <p><i>Birthday:</i> John Ascencio</p> <p>Brayden Mickley</p> <p>Beverly Slaybaugh</p>			
SUN. Apr. 21	MON. Apr. 22	TUES. Apr. 23	WED. Apr. 24	THURS. Apr. 25	FRI. Apr. 26	SAT. Apr. 27
<p><u>Blessing of The Blossoms</u></p> <p>8:25 am: St. James</p> <p>9:45 am: Christ</p> <p>11:00 am: Bethlehem</p>		<p>7:00 pm: Mutual Ministry Committee Meeting (Bethlehem)</p>	<p>7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem)</p> <p>Matt. 26:6-13 Mark 14:3-9 Luke 7:36-50 John 12:1-8 John 11 Luke 10:38-42: 'Mary & Martha'</p>	<p><i>Birthday:</i> Adam Albright</p> <p>Adam Ascencio</p>		

ON-LINE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is livestreamed on YouTube at 11 AM on our Bendersville Lutheran Parish channel (this info can also be found on our website – www.bendersvillelutheranparish.com).

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector

J Harold Stoner
C Larry Gantz
B Joe Saum

Greeters/Ushers

—
—
Loren & Ginger Mortorff

Altar Guild

Harold & Kathy Stoner
Deb & Dave Copenhaver
Kathy Singley

ALTAR FLOWERS:



St. James, Christ & Bethlehem

To the Glory of God



OFFICE HOURS AND PASTORAL NEEDS

Pastor Susan has office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 pm at the Parsonage. You are welcome to stop by the Parsonage to visit. Her official day off is Friday, but she is available for pastoral emergencies.

For all your pastoral needs, please contact Pastor Susan Scott by phone/text at 717-497-1013 or email pastorsusanscott2022@gmail.com.

◆ BIBLE STUDY ◆



We will gather for Bible Study on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at Bethlehem with a continuation of “Women of the Bible”. The study will be ...

John 4: *The Woman at the Well*

CARE & SHARE CARD MINISTRY: TUESDAY, APRIL 30th

The Care & Share Card Ministry meets the last Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at 896 Upper Temple Road. Call Jackee for more information at 717-321-0979.

*** CELEBRATION ***
50th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION
Pastor Robert McEllroy III
SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024, at 10 a.m.
- Joint Service at Bethlehem -

On Sunday, May 19, we will celebrate Pastor Bob McEllroy's 50th anniversary of ordination with one service at 10 a.m. at Bethlehem, followed by a luncheon. Pastor Bob was ordained on May 21, 1974.

There will be sign-up sheets at each church for side dishes, drinks, and condiments. Also, in order to get an idea of how much food we need, please **RSVP by May 12**. However, if you don't RSVP, you are **STILL invited to come!**

If you would like to send a card for this special occasion to Pastor Bob directly, his address is:

PASTOR BOB McELLROY
2688 Sarah Place • Chambersburg, PA 17202

*In lieu of gifts, Pastor Bob has requested a donation be made to SpiriTrust Lutheran at Luther Ridge for their Compassionate Care fund which helps residents who may have financial challenges. You may donate directly to **Luther Ridge (2998 Luther Dr., Chambersburg, PA 17202)** or with your regular offering. (Just include a note "gift for Pastor Bob" with your envelope.)*

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

• **THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024** •
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Meeting Room
25 Franklin Street • Biglerville, PA 17307

Please sign up using the Red Cross Blood Donor app or call 1-800-733-2767.



Prayer List - Parish Members

Dixie Atha c
Eric Black j
Dot Bosak b
Ruth Bretzman b
Tony Bretzman b
Mary Chronister b
Adam Clapsadl j

Wahnettah Harvey c
Harold Heller j
Linda Heller j
James Lang b
Betty McCauslin j
Loren Mortorff b
Carol Rex j

Lois Rinehart b
Mike Rinehart b
Alan Showers j
Bill Slaybaugh j
Dan Turner c
Mike Wolfe c

Friends of the Parish

Connie Adams
Douglas Barbour
Mary 'Sis' Becker
Adam Black
Barry Black
Gary Black
Jeff Black
Bev Bretzman
Nathan Bretzman
Valerie Bushey

June Cline
Nicole Cline
Dick Cook
Carl Corl
Jeanne Cuttitta
Peter Cuttitta
Helen Daniels
Bonnie DeHaven
Luann Fix
Galen Hartz

Celine Horner
Kinley
Karen Lawson
Emily Maiolo
Bradley Metz
Diane Myers
Zach Pelc
Brian Reed
Ginny Rinehart

With Deepest Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of those who have died in the faith and who are now at rest with their eternal Father (our saints who have gone before us).

Bryan Burns, Donald Patterson, Steve Tuckey, and Larry Wolfe