

Bendersville Lutheran Parish

St. James
Wenksville
8:25 am

Christ
Aspers
9:45 am

Bethlehem
Bendersville
11:00 am

"We are rooted in scripture, watered in baptism and fed by communion. Our mission is to connect with God in community as we care for one another. Our vision is to bear fruit in the Upper Adams community by showing Jesus' love to our neighbors, planting seeds of kindness, service and hope, trusting the Holy Spirit to grow this fruit in surprising ways."

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY

• April 20, 2025 •



Parish Office:

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE: “A Festive Introit for Easter” – Nancy Price & Don Besig

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

C: **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN: “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**

LBW 151

***GREETING**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE: “This Is the Feast”**



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



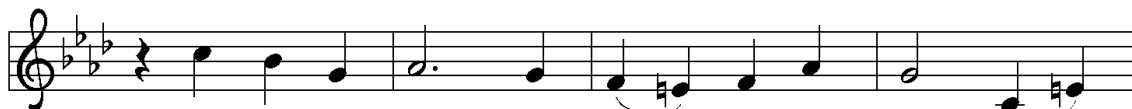
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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.

Go to Verse 2



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: **O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING:

Acts 10:34-43

The First Reading is from Acts, the tenth chapter.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

L: Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

**C: Let Israel now declare,
“God's mercy endures forever.”**

L: The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

**C: Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”**

L: The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

**C: I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

L: The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

**C: Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

L: “This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter.”

**C: I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

L: The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**C: By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING:

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

The Second Reading is from First Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter.

¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***GOSPEL:**

Luke 24:1-12

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

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

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Susan E. Scott

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”*

LBW 130

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer
for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

- P: Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors with out homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving, especially those on our prayer list and those we silently name in our hearts. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead, especially Fay Black, Dorothy Gochenauer, James Taylor, and Suzie Taylor. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunite with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.**
- P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C: Amen.**

PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: *"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"*

ELW 860



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le-lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

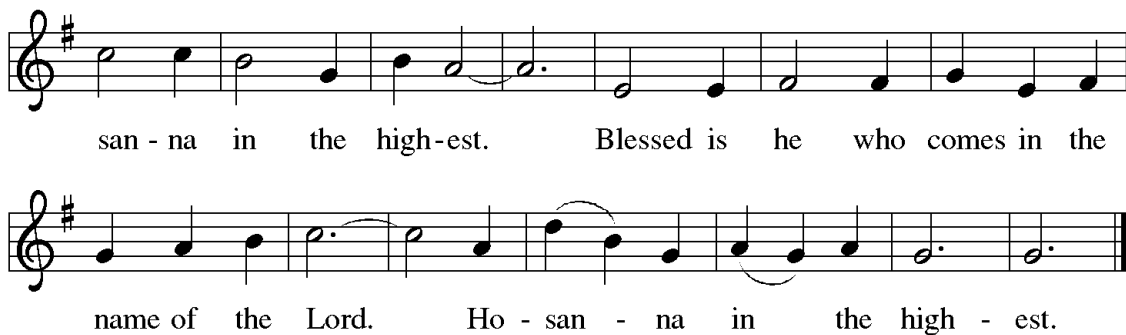
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE *(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 -



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

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: “Now the Green Blade Rises”

LBW 148



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

***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.

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.

C: **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P: The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

C: **Amen.**

***DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

C: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

LBW 145

***POSTLUDE**

• APRIL/MAY 2025 •

SUN. April 20	MON. April 21	TUES. April 22	WED. April 23	THURS. April 24	FRI. April 25	SAT. April 26
<u>Easter Sunday</u> 8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem	<u>VACATION DAY</u> Pastor Susan		7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem) • Amos • 1-5		<i>Birthday:</i> Adam Albright Adam Ascencio	
SUN. April 27	MON. April 28	TUES. April 29	WED. April 30	THURS. May 1	FRI. May 2	SAT. May 3
<u>Blessing of the Blossoms</u> 8:25 am: St. James 9:45 am: Christ 11:00 am: Bethlehem		1:00 pm: Care & Share Meeting (Home of Jackee McCartney)	7:00 pm: Bible Study (Bethlehem) • Amos • 6-9		<i>Birthday:</i> Larry Gantz	<i>Birthday:</i> Mary Chronister

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).

WEEKLY DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

As a reminder, items for the bulletin should be received at the church office by Wednesday noon for that week's Sunday Bulletin.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector

J Harold Stoner

C Larry Gantz

B Tony Bretzman

Greeters/Ushers

—

—

Loren & Ginger Mortorff

Altar Guild

Harold & Kathy Stoner

Deb & Dave Copenhaver

Kathy Singley

ALTAR FLOWERS:



• St. James & Bethlehem Lutheran •

To the Glory of God

* * * * *

• Christ Lutheran •



*The Easter Lilies are presented to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of my mother, Kathryn McCleaf,
by Tony Taylor*

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.

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MONDAY, APRIL 21:

VACATION DAY for PASTOR SUSAN



◆ BIBLE STUDY ◆

Bible Study will resume this week ...

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, at 7:00 P.M.

at Bethlehem

We will be studying the Book of Amos: AMOS 1-5



**American
Red Cross**

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

THURSDAY, APRIL 24th

1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Biglerville

www.redcross.org



Join Us for ...

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 1, 2025 • 6:30 P.M.

At

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

38 North High Street, Arendtsville, PA

All are invited to this special gathering to pray for our nation,
community, and all other needs.

"Praying together is one of the great ways we can care for one another as Christians."

The prayer service is being coordinated by Trinity Lutheran Church and Zion UCC.
Bring a chair for this outdoor event. It will be held indoors if inclement weather.



Prayer List - Parish Members

Adam & Laura Albright b
Dixie Atha c
Tony Bretzman b
Dolly Chronister c
Mary Chronister b
Patsy Gochenauer j

Wahnetta Harvey c
Harold Heller j
Linda Heller j
Lois Rinehart b
Mike Rinehart b
Alan Showers j

Bill Slaybaugh j
Rhonda Slaybaugh c
Dan Turner c
Mike Wolfe c

Friends of the Parish

Douglas Barbour
Mary 'Sis' Becker
Adam Black
Jeff Black
Tracy Brandt
Bev Bretzman
Nathan Bretzman
Valerie Bushey
June Cline
Nancy Cline
Nicole Cline
Dick Cook

Carl Corl
Jeanne Cuttitta
Peter Cuttitta
Bonnie DeHaven
Diane Feters
John Gantz
Galen Hartz
Cody Johnson
Susanna Kidwell
Deb Litten
Nicole Mackey
Barbara Mahoney

Emily Maiolo
Doug Miller
Glenn Mulvey
Diane Myers
Zach Pelc
Brian Reed
Maurine Rickard
Ginny Rinehart
Robert Tate
Marlea Williams

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).

Fay Black, Dorothy Gochenauer, James Taylor, and Suzie Taylor