

NATIVITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4517 Mt. Royal Blvd., Allison Park, PA 15101 (412) 346-4971 e-mail: NativityLC@verizon.net www.nativitylutheranchurch15101.org *Caring, Witnessing, Serving*



Day of Pentecost10:15 a.m.

June 8, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ELW - SETTING III

INTRODUCTION

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.

_____*____

 $P: = Pastor \qquad W: = Worship Assistant \qquad A: = All in Attendance$ *indicates congregation should stand if able.

PRELUDE

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

P: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship:

(a moment of silence for reflection as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.)

***ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

A: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

A: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism as we confess our sins.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Compassionate One,

A: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

A: Amen.



- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment, nor rootless liberty; turn disquiet to contentment, doubt into certainty.
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness, unswayed by earth's allure. Ever grant us zealous fitness, which you alone assure.

***GREETING**

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

A: And also with you.

***KYRIE**

pg. 138







***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A: Amen

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, amid signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares,

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions,

and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)

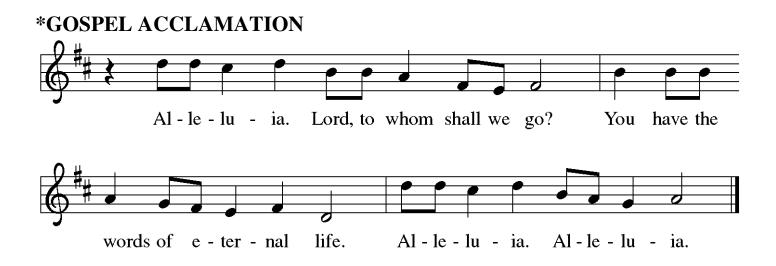
- W: ²⁴ How manifold are your ¹ works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full ¹ of your creatures.
- A: ²⁵ Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man-¹ y to number, living things both ¹ small and great.
- W: ²⁶ There go the ships ¹ to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the ¹ sport of it.
- A: ²⁷ All of them ¹ look to you to give them their food ¹ in due season.
- W: ²⁸ You give it to them; they ¹ gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled ¹ with good things.
- A: ²⁹ When you hide your face, ¹ they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return ¹ to their dust.
- W: ³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they ¹ are created; and so you renew the face ¹ of the earth.
- A: ³¹ May the glory of the LORD en-¹ dure forever; O LORD, rejoice in ¹ all your works.
- W: ³² You look at the earth ¹ and it trembles; you touch the mountains ¹ and they smoke.
- A: ³³ I will sing to the LORD as long¹ as I live; I will praise my God while I¹ have my being.
- W: ³⁴ May these words of ¹ mine please God. I will rejoice ¹ in the LORD.
- A: ^{35b} Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul. Hal-¹ lelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive a new name in our adoption: child of God.

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

- L: The Word of the Lord.
- A: Thanks be to God.



P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter. A: Glory to you, O Lord.

*GOSPEL: John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

⁸ Philip said to [Jesus,] "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."]

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

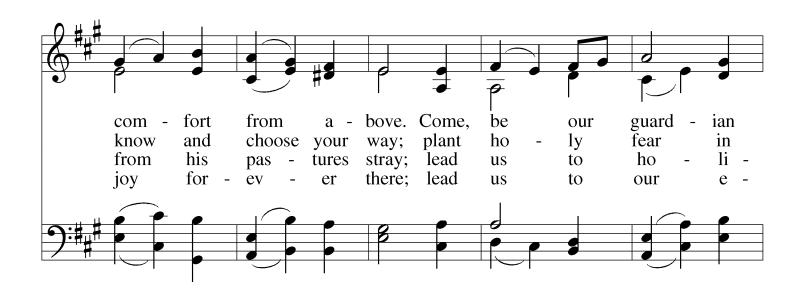
A: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove"

INSERT







***THE NICENE CREED**

P: Let us now confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

A: 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**

W: 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.

W: We pray for the church. Continue to inspire our sharing of the gospel and equip us to tear down the barriers we have erected. Make our welcome expansive, intentional, and open to loving challenge. Hear us, O God..

A: Your mercy is great.

W: We pray for creation. Allow fire to burn safely in habitats where it's needed and quench flames when they threaten to run wild. Protect forests, prairies, and grasslands from destruction by natural forces or human misdeeds. Safeguard firefighters and rescuers in their dangerous work. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

W: We pray for courts and legislatures. Write your commandments on our hearts, and inspire all who govern to lead with love over retribution. Unite judges, lawyers, and systems of justice in a desire for reconciliation. We pray for all those who witness and experience violence, especially the people of Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, the Middle East, regions of Africa, and wherever conflict and war exist in the world. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

W: We pray for the sick in body, mind, or spirit (especially). Lift up all who have been bowed low by circumstances or internal strife. Bring to wholeness those who cry out to you in need, especially for for *Betty Nordquist, Anna Mae Webb, Linda Halcoussis, Andy & Katy Greer, Terry Steinheiser, Carol Bednar, Pr. John Cawkins, Pr. Tony Schneck and the family and friends of Tom Eichenlaub* and all those whom we name in our hearts before you. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

W: We pray for this congregation. Raise up in us a deep desire to live out our baptismal promises and to support those of all ages in our shared journey of faith. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

W: We offer thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in you. Let their lives encourage our own daily living. Console us with the promise of eternal life. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

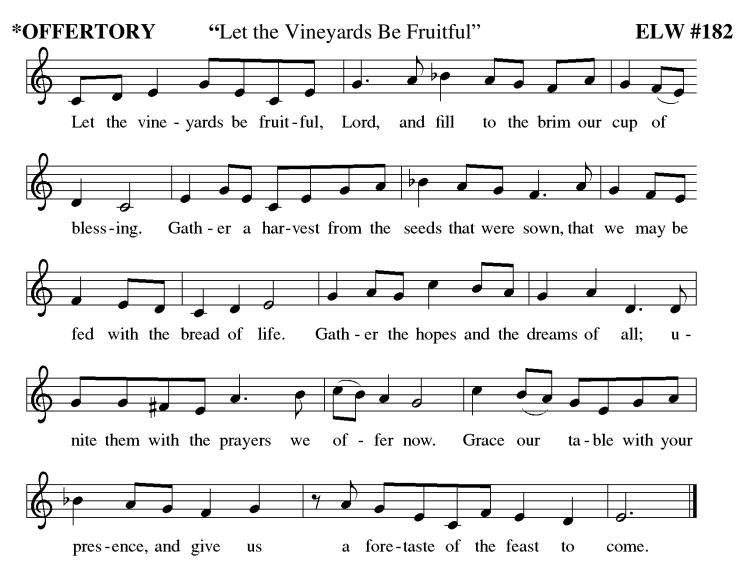
P: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

A: Amen.

*PEACE

- P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
- A: And also with you.

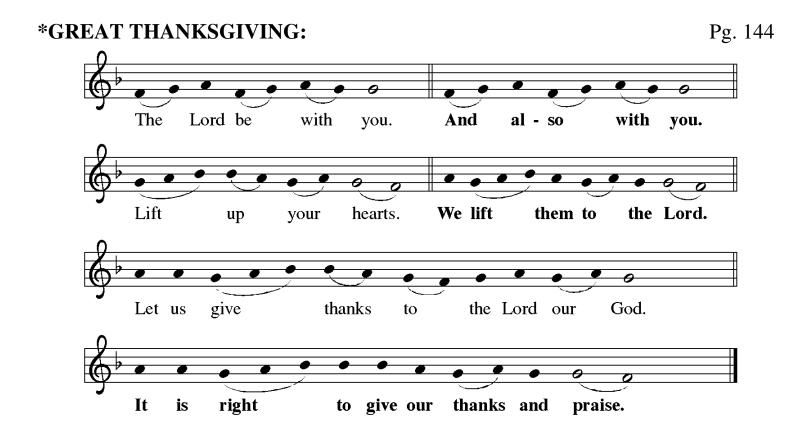




***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

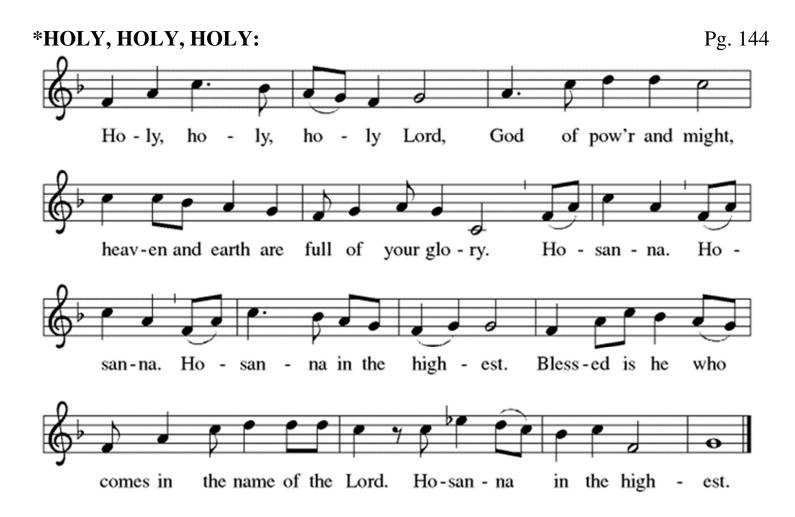
W: Let us pray together.

A: 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.



***THE PREFACE**

P: 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 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:



***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
- A: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- A: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

A: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

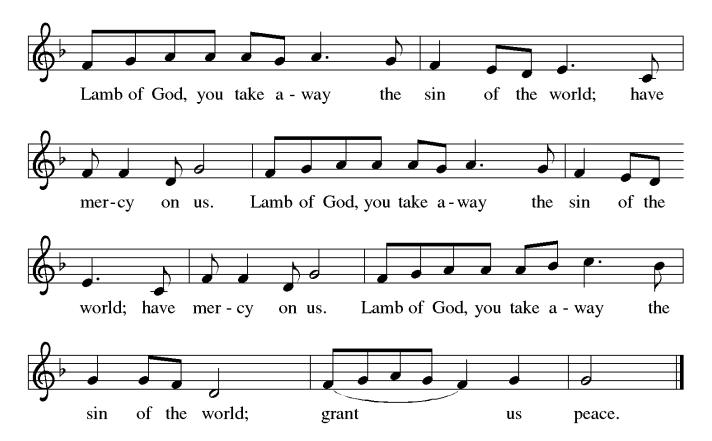
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P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

A: Our Father,

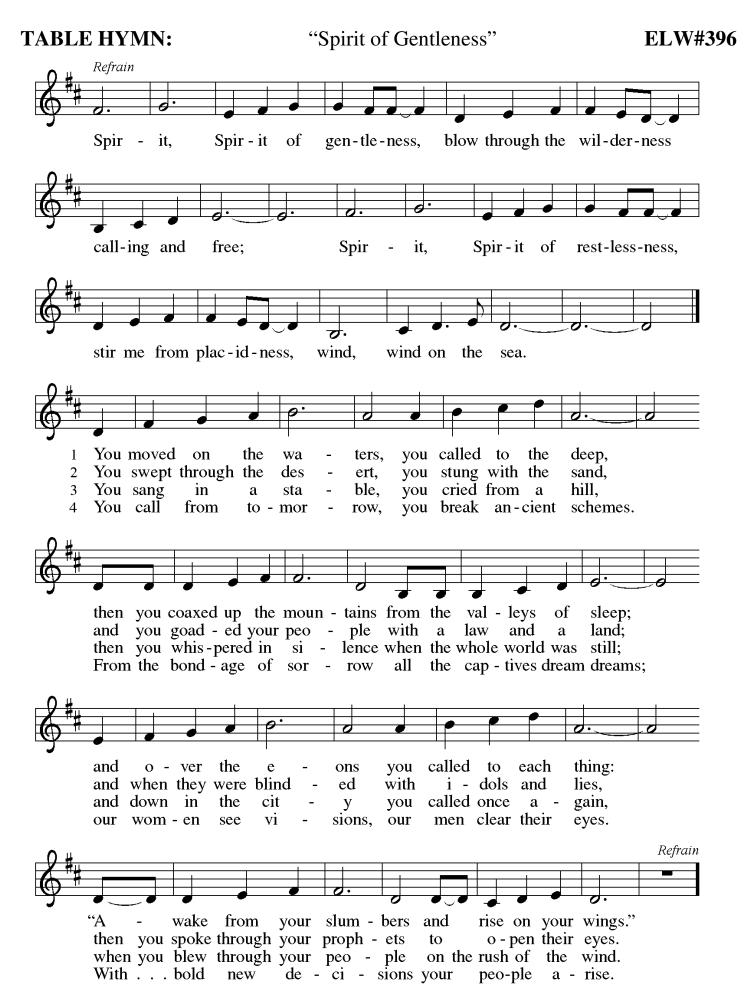
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***THE PRESENTATION:** The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is now ready.



COMMUNION

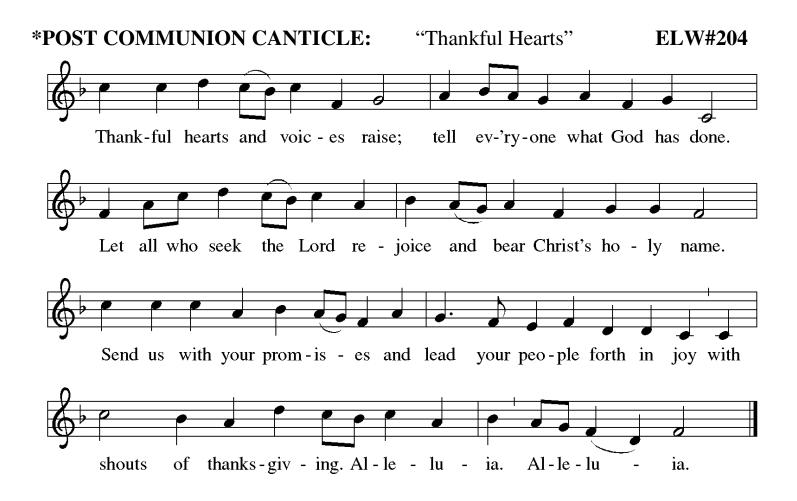
There is a grape juice option in cups located in the communion trays for those who wish to abstain from wine. If you desire a gluten free wafer in lieu of the bread for communion, please let Pastor know.



***TABLE BLESSING**

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

A: Amen



***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

W: 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.

A: 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.

A: Amen.



*DISMISSAL

- P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- A: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

* Announcements *

We welcome back today Pastor Erin Jones! Thank you Pastor Erin for leading us in worship today during Pastor Jennifer's time away.

NATIVITY QUILT SQUARES - During the WELCA sponsored Coffee Hour on May 18 we passed out quilt squares for individuals and families to design. We would like to have these returned to church by the <u>end of June</u> so that they can be sewn together to make our special "Nativity Quilt." If you did not get a square to design, you may still pick up a blank square any Sunday after worship on the table in the Narthex.

If you are interested in learning how to **record our services**, and were not able to make the training sessions, please let ILO know and we'll work with your schedule!

North Hills Community Outreach is starting their **Back to School collection** and will run through the end of July. We will be collecting items starting next week. You can place them in the bins under the coatrack in the hallway. Specific items include: pens, pencils, sharpeners, highlighters, markers, binders, pocket folders, TI graphing calculators, loose leaf paper, notebooks, 24 packs of crayons, erasers, glue sticks, rulers, scissors, colored pencils and new backpacks. See the flyer on the bulletin boards for more information.

Please consider signing up for one of the **worship helper positions and/ or offering counters**. There is a paper sign-up across from the Nursery as well as the on line version through Sign-Up Genius.



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH www.nativitylutheranchurch15101.org The Rev. Jennifer Soltis, Pastor



Organist:

Alex Bednar

Worship Assistant: Lector: Usher: Greeter: Videographer: Altar Guild: Offering Tellers:

Merlinda Bisese Jean Chantz Ed & Carol Banks Kevin & Pam Hoskins

4

Carol Huffman Merlinda Bisese

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The flowers in the sanctuary are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara L Bish by he husband, Pastor Kirk Bish

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	For the Week of June 8-1
MONDAY	Art Group – 1p
	AA meeting – 7p
TUESDAY	WELCA – 10a
	Council Meeting – 7p
THURSDAY	Synod Assembly
FRIDAY	Synod Assembly
SATURDAY	Synod Assembly

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	In-person	YouTube	Offering
June 1	40	22	\$ 883

YTD Financial Summary as of May 31, 2025

Revenue YTD \$ 154,758 <u>Expenses YTD \$ 187,003</u> Difference YTD (-\$32,245)* **includes the \$20,000 roof repair project*